

Telangana Rising Global Summit 2025: All Set For Global Investment Showcase

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The stage is set for the ambitious Telangana Rising Global Summit (TRGS) 2025, a two-day mega event scheduled for December 8 and 9 at the meticulously prepared Bharat Future City near Hyderabad. Organized by the state government, the summit's core mission is to aggressively attract massive international investments by showcasing the vast, untapped potential within Telangana and creating substantial employment opportunities for the state's youth. The preparations have been executed with world-class precision, aiming to host an event on par with the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos. Over 154 international delegates from more than 44 countries have confirmed their participation, including a large contingent of 46 company representatives from the United States alone, alongside high-profile representatives from international organizations like the WHO, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and UNICEF.

The summit will be formally inaugurated on Day 1 (December 8) at 1:30 PM by Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev



Verma, with approximately 2,000 domestic and international guests expected to attend the opening ceremony. The speaker line-up is impressive, featuring Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Kailash Satyarthi, alongside global business and thought leaders such as Eric Swider (CEO of Trump Media-Technology Group), Jeremy Jurgens (CEO of the World Economic Forum), and Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw.

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ing diverse, high-growth sectors such as IT and semiconductors, energy, green mobility, health, education, tourism, urban infrastructure, agriculture, the gig economy, and women entrepreneurship. Industry and institutional heavyweights like TERI, BCG, Micron India, Hitachi Energy, Apollo Hospitals, IIT Hyderabad, NASSCOM, Skyroot, GMR, and Tata Realty are set to participate in these discussions. Furthermore, prominent figures from the sports world, including PV Sindhu, Anil Kumble, and Pullela Gopichand, and the film industry, such as filmmaker SS Rajamouli and actor Riteish Deshmukh, will feature in dedicated sessions on soft power and entertainment. The city of Hyderabad itself has been transformed, with lighting projections on structures like Charminar and the Secretariat, and a floating globe projection in Durgam Cheruvu. The summit will culminate on Day 2 with the unveiling of the Telangana Rising 2047 Vision Document, which outlines a roadmap for achieving a USD three trillion economy by 2047. The extensive arrangements reflect the state's determination to establish itself as a dominant growth engine on the global stage.

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Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy reflected on the completion of two years of the Congress-led 'People's Government' (Praja Palana), expressing heartfelt gratitude to the four crore people of Telangana for their mandate and continuous support. In a strong message, he asserted that the journey was fueled by the people's courage and commitment, positioning Telangana to soar to new heights. The Chief Minister highlighted the significant strides made in transforming the state from a condition of "economic crisis" inherited from the previous administration, into a welfare-oriented state focused on development and transparency. This progress is substantiated by the success in recent by-elections, including the Cantonment and Jubilee Hills seats, which Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy cited as a clear referendum on the government's performance. Minister Srinivas Reddy noted that while the previous rule bankrupted the state, the current go-

vernment has steered it towards development and welfare within two years.

Key achievements over the past two years include initiating a 'Job Fair' (Koluvula Jathara) to provide fresh opportunities for the youth, establishing support systems for farmers burdened by debt, and providing financial backing to women entrepreneurs to participate actively in the business world, challenging established norms. Crucially, the government initiated steps towards addressing long-standing aspirations by conducting caste-based counting (Kula Lekkalu) and providing official recognition to the state anthem "Jaya Jayade Telangana" by poet Ande Sri. Furthermore, the administration prioritized education by laying the foundations for Young India Integrated Model Schools and establishing a Skill University and a Sports University. The core of the Congress government's commitment rests on the Six Guarantees. While four guarantees have been fully implemented—including Sannabiyam (fine rice), free bus travel for women, 200 units of free

High-Tech City Decor And Cultural Showcase Ready For Global Summit Delegates

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In the final hours leading up to the Telangana Rising Global Summit (TRGS), Hyderabad has been transformed into a visually spectacular city, decked out with state-of-the-art technology to welcome international and domestic delegates. The city's decor is a key component of the state's strategy to showcase its cultural heritage and futuristic vision. Special lighting projections are adorning iconic structures like the Charminar and the Kacheguda Railway Station to highlight Telangana's cultural splendor. High-tech visual displays include a 3D projection screening at the Secretariat complex to illustrate the state's development goals, a captivating floating globe projection set up in Durgam Cheruvu, and a water projection in Hussain Sagar that highlights the government's key programs and the three trillion dollar economy target.

The State Tourism Department has made over 1500 colorful flags bearing the Global Summit logo have been displayed across the city, and modern 3D anamorphic designs are created along the entire route from the airport to the Bharat Future City venue, with huge digital LED screens on the approach road providing directions and information. Beyond the technological displays, the summit is poised to deliver a rich cultural experience. Following the day's panel discussions, attendees will be treated to a special cultural evening. This includes a musical concert by the famous Indian Music Director MM Keeravani, known for enthralling audiences globally. The program will also feature vibrant performances of Telangana's special and diverse dance forms, such as Kommu Koya, Banjara, Kolatam, Gussadi, Oggu Dollu, Perini Natyam, and Bonalu presentations, showcasing the state's deep cultural roots.

The State Tourism Department has made

special arrangements to ensure the delegates' visit is memorable, including an excursion to Buddhananam near Nagarjuna Sagar, renowned as the world's largest heritage Buddhist theme park. For the two days of the summit, guests will be served a luxurious spread featuring both the globally famous Hyderabad Biryani and an array of authentic, famous Telangana dishes. The state government is also offering a special souvenir gift package to all delegates. This unique gift includes mementos representing Telangana's handicrafts and produce: a Pochampally Ikkat shawl, Cheriyala artwork, Hyderabad attar, and pearl jewelry. A separate, special basket of popular Telangana snacks, such as Ippa Puvvu Laddu, Sakinalu, Chekkalu, Badam Ki Jali, Nuvvula Laddu, and local popcorn, will also be presented to the guests, ensuring a lasting, positive impression of Telangana's rich heritage and warm hospitality.

Global Leaders And Industry Giants Headline TRGS Panel Discussions



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The Telangana Rising Global Summit (TRGS), commencing on December 8, is poised to host a remarkable assembly of global leaders, top industrialists, experts, and representatives from prestigious international organizations. The two-day event will feature a dense schedule of 27 special panel discussions across a wide spectrum of high-growth and strategically important sectors crucial for Telangana's future development. These sectors include energy, green mobility, IT and semiconductors, health, and education, alongside tourism, urban infrastructure, agriculture, the gig economy, and the promotion of women entrepreneurs and startups.

A substantial number of institutional participants are confirmed, indicating serious interest

from the global and national corporate world. These include leading names such as TERI, BCG, Micron India, Hitachi Energy, O2 Power, Greenko, Apollo Hospitals, IIT Hyderabad, NASCOM, Safran, DRDO, Skyroot, Dhruba Space, Amul, Laurus Labs, GMR, and Tata Realty. The financial sector representation is equally strong, with participants from Kotak Bank, Goldman Sachs, Blackstone, Deloitte, CapitalLand, Swiggy, AWS, and Taj Hotels, signaling potential interest in investment and corporate expansion within the state.

The summit will also

attract top talent from fields beyond business and technology. A dedicated session, 'Olympic Gold Quest', will feature prominent sports personalities like PV Sindhu, Anil Kumble, Pullela Gopichand, Gagan Narang, and Jwala Gutta, underscoring the state's focus on sports and hu-



Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Reviews Security For Messi Friendly Football Match

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Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Sunday conducted a comprehensive review of the security and logistical arrangements for the highly anticipated friendly football match featuring global icon Lionel Messi, scheduled for December 13 at the Upal Stadium in Hyderabad. Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu joined the Deputy CM in inspecting the preparations for the exhibition match, which is part of the broader Telangana Rising Global Summit celebrations. The review focused on ensuring foolproof security arrangements, given the massive global popularity of Messi and the expected influx of football enthusiasts from all corners of the country.

The Deputy CM noted that the match, which will see Messi play a friendly game against the CM Revanth Reddy Team, is attracting extraordinary attention. He highlighted that Lionel Messi himself had expressed keen interest in participating in the Telangana Rising festivities. Given the scale of attendance, Vikramarka emphasized the need for robust safety and convenience measures for the thousands of fans. He advised supporters to arrive at the stadium well before the designated time to secure their seats smoothly. Discussions with senior officials, including the Rachakonda Commissioner of Police Sudhir Babu, focused on key logistical issues. The Deputy CM paid special attention to the routes to be used by the VVIPs, including the Chief Minister and Ministers, as well as the entry and exit paths for Messi and the players. He also reviewed the total number of fans expected, the sufficiency of the entrance gates, and the available parking facilities. Crucially,

CM REVANTH REDDY INSPECTS GLOBAL SUMMIT ARRANGEMENTS AT BHARAT FUTURE CITY

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Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alongside Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jagga Reddy, meticulously inspected the large-scale, international-grade preparations for the "Telangana Rising Global Summit," scheduled for December 8 and 9, 2025, at the expansive Bharat Future City near Meerkhanpet. The summit is a key strategic event aimed at positioning Telangana as a global investment magnet, culminating in the unveiling of the Telangana Vision Document, which outlines the state's path to a \$3 trillion economy by 2047.

The CM spent over an hour reviewing the 70-acre main venue, which features infrastructure inspired by the World Economic Forum in Davos, including a 3,200 sq meter main hall and VVIP lounges. He specifically instructed officials to install a Telangana Thalli statue at the venue entrance. The city itself is being decked out with high-tech visuals.

including 3D projection mapping at the Secretariat and a floating globe projection at Durgam Cheruvu. The CM stressed the absolute necessity of seamless logistics, including security, fire safety, vehicular flow, accommodation, and uninterrupted internet, given the expected attendance of international delegates, Union Ministers, and Chief Ministers.



TPCC CHIEF MAHESH KUMAR GOUD ATTENDS PADMASALI STUDENTS HOSTEL EVENT IN NIZAMABAD



TPN Bureau | Dec 07 2025

TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud was the chief guest at the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected executive committee of the Padmasali Students Hostel Organization in Nizamabad. The hostel, officially known as Padmashali Vidyarthi Vasthi Gruhamu, is located in Shivaji Nagar and is a crucial institution for the community's youth pursuing higher education. Mahesh Kumar Goud personally administered the oath of office to the new members, urging them to dedicate their efforts toward the holistic advancement and welfare of the students, emphasizing the need for continuous

improvement and modernization of the hostel infrastructure. The event saw significant political and community representation, including Government Advisor Shabbir Ali and Corporation Chairman Eravathri Anil. Speakers at the function underscored the government's continued commitment to providing support that enables Padmasali students to excel in higher education and compete nationally. The newly constituted committee responded by formally pledging to upgrade the hostel facilities, striving to ensure a safe, conducive, and modern living environment that supports the academic and personal growth of its resident students.

TELANGANA TO NAME 100 METER GREENFIELD RADIAL ROAD AFTER RATAN TATA

The Telangana government has officially cemented its decision to name the upcoming 100-meter greenfield radial road after the highly respected industrialist Padma Bhushan Ratan Tata. This crucial new arterial corridor is designed to significantly improve connectivity, specifically linking the Nehru Outer Ring Road (ORR) at Ravivirala directly with the proposed Radial Ring Road (RRR) and the massive Future City development. The preparatory step for this honor has already been taken, with the Ravivirala interchange officially designated the 'Tata Interchange'. This recognition is part of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's visionary initiative to globally position Telangana as an innovation hub by paying tribute to distinguished individuals and corporations. By dedicating infrastructure to global names, the government intends to project a world-class, globally connected image, a theme that ties directly into the 'Telangana Rising Global Summit'. This move, along with the proposed 'Donald Trump Avenue' and 'Google Street', is designed to inspire local business leaders and the youth while enhancing Hyderabad's global brand equity.



TELANGANA'S FERTILITY RATE PROJECTED TO FALL TO 1.5 BY 2035, NECESSITATING AGEING POLICIES11

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Telangana is projected to rapidly transition into one of India's most demographically mature states, with its Total Fertility Rate (TFR) expected to plummet to a critically low 1.5 by the period 2031-35. This data, highlighted in the Census of India's 'Population Projections for India and States 2011-35' report, places Telangana significantly below the replacement level of 2.1, signaling a near-zero population growth. The state's Population Growth Rate, which was 7.1 per thousand in 2011-15, is projected to collapse to just 0.3 per thousand by 2031-35. This dramatic shift is attributed to successes in socio-economic development, better health access, and improved education, leading to smaller family sizes and increased longevity. The report, supported by data from the UNFPA's 2025 'State of World Population' report, underscores that the real challenge is not overpopulation but managing the changing age structure. The decline will inevitably lead to a smaller young workforce and a rising elderly dependency ratio, making the urgent implementation of robust, ageing-focused social security, pension, and healthcare policies essential for the state's long-term economic stability.

BRS TO CELEBRATE DECEMBER 9 AS VIJAY DIWAS MARKING TELANGANA STATEHOOD ANNOUNCEMENT

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Brat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has directed all party leaders and workers to observe December 9 as Vijay Diwas (Victory Day) across the state. This date commemorates the landmark 2009 announcement by the Congress-led UPA Government at the Centre, which officially initiated the process for the formation of a separate Telangana State.

KTR, during a teleconference with senior BRS functionaries, emphasized that this historic success was a direct outcome of BRS President K. Chandrashekhar Rao's (KCR) 11-day fast-un-to-death. He urged the cadre to celebrate the day with the same fervor used for Deepavali Diwas (November 29), describing it as the moment the 60-year-old dream of the Telangana people finally took concrete shape through KCR's supreme sacrifice. Given the ongoing local body elections, KTR instructed that the celebrations be strategically confined to constituency headquarters to maximize impact while accommodating the workers' busy schedules. The day's events will prominently feature cultural and symbolic acts, including offering Palabhishekam (milk bath) at Telangana Thalli statues, paying floral tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, distributing fruits in government hospitals, and releasing pink balloons, the party's color, into the sky at major junctions to symbolize the successful political victory.

TELANGANA TO NAME ROADS AFTER RATAN TATA, DONALD TRUMP, AND GLOBAL TECH GIANTS6

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Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's unique proposal to name key Hyderabad roads after global innovators and corporations is moving forward, aiming to brand Telangana as a symbol of innovation-driven India. The prestigious 100-meter greenfield radial road connecting the Nehru Outer Ring Road (ORR) at Ravivirala to the new Future City will be named after Padma Bhushan Ratan Tata, with the interchange already designated the 'Tata Interchange'. In a highly unconventional move, and a potential global first, the key thoroughfare adjacent to the US Consulate General in Hyderabad's Financial Dis-

Harish Rao Challenges CM On Farmer Debt And Kaleshwaram Project

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Former Minister and MLA T. Harish Rao launched a severe verbal and practical challenge against Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, centered on the government's alleged failure to support maize farmers and its continued criticism of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP). Harish Rao visited a maize procurement center in Chinakkadur mandal headquarters, where he met with distressed farmers. He highlighted that 450 farmers in Chinakkadur alone have been waiting for payment for 59 days, with outstanding dues amounting to 45 crores.

Harish Rao demanded the immediate release of the total outstanding



amount of 450 crores owed to maize farmers across the state. He also criticized the Congress government's approach to welfare, noting that while the previous KCR government provided saries consistently, the current government gave the benefit only once and is taking undue credit. He stated that for CM Revanth Reddy to ask for votes from women, he must first clear the pending 60,000 payments owed to them. Furthermore, he emphasized that for farmers to receive the promised bonus on their crops, the Congress-supported candidates must

be utterly defeated in upcoming elections, arguing that the bonus will only materialize if the Congress is removed from power. He also took aim at Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao's statement that Rythu Bandhu will only be given to farmers who cultivate their land in the upcoming year, suggesting a lack of commitment to comprehensive farmer welfare.

I will tie a rock to you and hoist you up in Ranganayaka Sagar. Let's see if you sink or float." He dramatically concluded: "If you sink (meaning there is water), Kaleshwaram exists. If you float, Kaleshwaram has collapsed." He dismissed all of Revanth Reddy's statements as lies and petty talk, demanding that the Chief Minister stop his "cheap remarks."

Jagadish Reddy Condemns CM Revanth Reddy's Remarks, Cites HILT Scandal And SLBC Failures

TPN Bureau | Dec, 07, 2025

Former Minister and MLA G. Jagadish Reddy, speaking at a press meet at Sundaraiah Vignana Kendram, launched a fierce counter-attack against Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, labeling his ascension to power as the "destiny of the people of Telangana." Jagadish Reddy addressed the CM's recent aggressive stance, noting that some critics believe

ed the CM had changed his attitude, but his language seems to have only worsened following the exposure of the alleged HILT scam (Hilt Ghatala). Jagadish Reddy specifically challenged Revanth Reddy's statement that the people "punished" KCR by voting him out. He retorted that if winning and losing in politics is considered a "punishment" from the people, then the CM's

own leader, Rahul Gandhi, has been subjected to such punishments repeated by the public. This comparison was intended to undermine the CM's moral authority in claiming a definitive mandate based on electoral victory alone.

The MLA then brought the focus back to the CM's performance in the Nalgonda region. He demanded that Revanth Reddy detail what exactly he has accomplished

for Nalgonda in the two years of his administration. Jagadish Reddy made a deeply emotional and political point by citing the tragic incident at the SLBC (Srisailam Left Bank Canal) project, where eight people died in an unfortunate accident. He slammed the CM, calling him a "daddamma" (incompetent person) for failing to recover the bodies of the deceased even after such a long

time, suggesting a profound failure of leadership and governmental priority.

In contrast to the perceived lack of progress under the current government, Jagadish Reddy highlighted the achievements of the previous BRS government in generating employment. He specifically mentioned the Yadadri Thermal Power Station, asserting that the pro-

ject successfully created job opportunities for 10,000 people. This was framed as evidence that the previous administration prioritized tangible development and job creation, in stark contrast to the current government which, according to Jagadish Reddy, only engages in rhetorical attacks and fails to deliver on critical responsibilities, thereby degrading the state's governance standards.



Harish Rao's Public Letter To Speaker: Alleged Violations of Assembly Rules And Democratic Norms

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Former Minister T. Harish Rao penned an open letter to Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, congratulating him on completing two years in office but expressing deep distress over the alleged severe failures and violations of assembly rules and democratic spirit during his tenure. Harish Rao argued that the integrity and prestige of the Assembly have been significantly compromised.

A major concern raised was the drastic reduction in the number of Assembly working days, which he noted is a violation of Rule 12, requiring the Assembly to convene for the necessary duration to conduct business. He also cited violations of Rule 13 and Rule 16, criticizing the frequent and sudden adjournment of the house without proper cause, which disrespects the sanctity of Assembly time and procedures.

Harish Rao detailed critical violations concerning the rights of members to question the government. He lamented the sidelining of the crucial Question Hour and Zero Hour, stating that rules (specifically Rules 52 to 53 and 62) are

being ignored. He alleged that Starred Questions, which require direct oral answers from Ministers, are being suppressed, thereby trampling on the members' right to question (Rule 38). Furthermore, the denial or curtailment of Supplementary Questions—a member's right to seek clarity and deeper discussion—violates the primary intent of Rule 50. He asserted that the constant reduction of the Zero Hour, meant for raising urgent public matters, severely damages the rights of the members.

Another serious lapse highlighted was the failure to provide written answers to Unstarred Questions. As per Rule 39, written answers must be tabled in the house, and Rule 41 requires them to be provided to members within a fixed deadline. Harish Rao contended that the failure to adhere to these rules results in a critical lack of government accountability and transparency. He stressed that these systematic deviations from established procedures are eroding the functional capacity of the Assembly and must be immediately rectified to restore public trust and constitutional decorum.

Centre's Fiscal Formula Leaves High-Performing Telangana Short-Changed Despite Surge in Tax Contribution

TPN Bureau, Hyderabad: Over the past five years, the tax contributions from Telangana to the Union's divisible pool have surged nearly fourfold — yet the returns from the Centre tell a starkly different story. Between 2020-21 and 2024-25, Telangana's contribution rose from around 35,243 crore to over 1.33 lakh crore. In total, the State contributed 4.32 lakh crore to the Union in direct taxes and domestic GST, accounting for nearly 3.87 per cent of the country's shareable pool.

Yet, during the same period, Telangana received only 1.84 lakh crore in return through central tax devolutions, Finance-Commission grants, and the Centre's share in centrally sponsored schemes — just 2.45 per cent of total national transfers. In other words, for every 100 contributed by Telangana, the Centre returned only around 42. Even after factoring in indirect benefits — such as Central projects (e.g., national highways) and loans — total funds flowing back to Telangana over five years amount to only around 3.27 lakh crore. That marks an increase of just 6,300 crore over the five-year span (from 60,590 crore in 2020-21 to approximately 66,295 crore in 2024-25), signaling a worrying stagna-

tion in net benefit to the State despite the skyrocketing contribution. In contrast, states like Uttar Pradesh — which contributed about 4.6 per cent to the national tax pool — secured a disproportionate 15.82 per cent of central transfers. Similarly, Bihar got 8.66 per cent of funds against just 0.68 per cent contribution, and Madhya Pradesh obtained 7.4 per cent with only 1.94 per cent contribution. Even neighboring Andhra Pradesh reportedly received nearly 97 back for every 100 contributed — a stark contrast with Telangana's fate.

Economists and policy analysts argue that a key factor behind this disparity is the growing reliance of the Union government on cesses and surcharges. These levies, unlike regular taxes, are not part of the constitutional "divisible pool" and therefore are not shared with States. This allows the Centre to generate significant revenue while bypassing the devolution mechanism. Over the past decade, the share of cesses and surcharges in the Centre's gross tax revenue has risen sharply — shrinking the divisible pool and thereby reducing what gets transferred to states.

Specifically, the share of cesses and surcharges grew from roughly 10-15 per cent during 2011-2020, to an estimated 24 per cent to 50 per cent — a move many see as essential to restoring fiscal balance and ensuring that high-performing states are not penalized for effective tax collection.

Unless New Delhi revisits its growing dependence on cesses and restructures the tax-devolution formula, the current trends risk undermining the fiscal autonomy of states like Telangana, weakening cooperative federalism, and concentrating financial power in the hands of the Centre.



Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy Fires At Kishan Reddy

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Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy launched a scathing attack on Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, challenging his claims regarding central funds allocated to Telangana and accusing the previous BRS regime of mismanagement while the Union Minister remained silent. Kiran Kumar Reddy highlighted that the state government, led by CM Revanth Reddy, is focused on hosting the Telangana Rising Global Summit to project the state's potential to the world, aiming to attract investments worth 3 lakh crores and create employment opportunities for the youth. He praised CM Revanth Reddy for restoring the systems that were allegedly ruined during the BRS's decade-long "family rule."

The MP specifically questioned Kishan Reddy's claim that the Central Government had provided 13 lakh crores to Telangana. He challenged the Union Minister to provide accurate documentation and details for which departments received these funds, rather than making what he termed "false accounts" using a microphone in a public square. Kiran Kumar Reddy pointed out the contradiction in Kishan Reddy's claim, asking if 13 lakh crores came from the Centre, why did Telangana's debt surge to 8 lakh crores? He revealed that the current government is forced to pay 8,000 crores every month just to service the debts accumulated by the previous BRS government. The MP questioned why Kishan Reddy, a representative of Telangana, did not intervene using Central Government mechanisms to protect the state when it was allegedly being looted and sliding into debt under the BRS regime.

Kiran Kumar Reddy also raised a critical state issue, demanding an explanation from Kishan Reddy for the sudden, overnight shifting of the promised Semiconductor Project from Telangana to Andhra Pradesh. He rhetorically asked if this project was given to AP in the 18th Lok Sabha to appease Chandrababu Naidu, questioning the loyalty of the BJP leaders to Telangana's people who elected them. Furthermore, he challenged Kishan Reddy to name any BJP-ruled state that provides schemes equivalent to the Six Guarantees being implemented in Telangana, such as free fine rice (Sannabiyam), free bus travel for women, or two lakh loan waivers for farmers. He accused the BJP leaders,

Home Guards Raising Day Celebrated; DGP Pledges Swift Action On Welfare Issues

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The Home Guards Raising Day was commemorated with a special and respectful ceremony held at the DGP office in Hyderabad on Saturday, December 6. The event was organized by the Home Guards currently working at the DGP office, who invited Director General of Police (DGP) B. Shivadhar Reddy to be the Chief Guest. In a gesture of high recognition and respect, DGP Shivadhar Reddy had the ceremonial cake cut by senior Home Guards, including women personnel, who have com-

pleted over 30 years of dedicated service to the state and the police department. The DGP began his address by extending his heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all Home Guards across Telangana on their foundation day, acknowledging their critical and primary role in the state police force.

DGP Shivadhar Reddy offered high praise for the Home Guards, emphasizing their commitment by stating that they perform their services with dedication and often "without seeking substantial returns." He lauded them as the "bac-



kbone" of the police department, noting that their work conditions have improved considerably since his initial days in

service. Crucially, the DGP addressed key welfare matters that are currently pending. He informed the gathering

that several issues related to Home Guards are under the government's active consideration and expressed a strong sense

of optimism that they would soon receive "good news." He specifically highlighted the urgency of resolving the issue of compassionate appointments (Karunya Niyamakalu) for the families of those who die in the line of duty, viewing it as a necessary tribute to their ultimate sacrifice. The DGP further announced that he has initiated discussions with several banks to provide life insurance coverage to the Home Guards. He pointed out that HDFC and Axis Bank are already contributing by providing ex gratia payments to the families of personnel

deceased in the line of duty, demonstrating existing external support. Additional DGP for Home Guards, Smt. Swati Lakra, supplemented the DGP's remarks by detailing the current welfare schemes being implemented by the government. She confirmed the recent distribution of 15,075 raincoats and 4,700 woolen jackets to the Home Guards and assured the gathering that discussions with the relevant government officials regarding other pending issues are actively underway. The ceremony saw the participation of several senior

police officials, including Additional DGP (Law and Order) Mahesh M. Bhagat, Additional DGP (CID) Charu Sinha, and IGPs S. Chandrasekhar Reddy and Dr. M. Ramesh, underscoring the collective departmental commitment to the Home Guards' welfare and service recognition. The event successfully combined commemoration with concrete assurance of future support, celebrating the Home Guards' invaluable service while addressing their need for improved welfare and security.

DGP Inaugurates Modern PTO Fuel Outlet And Lays Foundation For New 59 Cr Mobility Hub

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Director General of Police, Telangana, B. Shivadhar Reddy, IPS, inaugurated a modern retail fuel outlet and laid the foundation stone for a state-of-the-art Police Transport Organisation (PTO) facility on December 7, marking two pivotal developments aimed at significantly enhancing police welfare and upgrading the force's mobility infrastructure.

The new fuel outlet, designated as the TG Police Welfare Society - PTO Fuel Outlet, is strategically located on a 2025 sq. metre site

abutting National Highway-44 within the existing PTO campus in Hyderabad. The project was conceived under the guidance of Dr. M. Ramеш, IPS, Inspector General of Police, PTO, and was developed in a collaborative partnership with the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) Ltd. This initiative represents an optimal utilization of government land to boost welfare resources and provide essential convenience to both police personnel and general commuters. The project demonstrated impressive efficiency, securing all necessary statutory approvals within a mere

30 days and completing construction in just four months. The new outlet is expected to generate significant footfall and contribute substantially to welfare-oriented institutional growth for the police force. This expanded facility is projected to nearly quadruple the existing capacity, which will dramatically enhance the department's in-house maintenance capabilities. A key economic benefit projected is the significant reduction in dependence on external, authorized workshops, which is expected to generate substantial savings for the

State exchequer. Furthermore, the new hub will ensure a faster and far more efficient fleet readiness for all routine police operations and critical emergency response scenarios. Dr. M. Ramesh, IPS, IG of Police, PTO and Managing Director, TGPICS, participated in both programs, alongside Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, SP, PTO Sri Rajesh, and several senior personnel from IOCL, highlighting the collaborative and institutional nature of these landmark infrastructure investments for the Telangana Police.

Alwal Leaders Pay Homage To Ambedkar; Corporator Inaugurates CC Road Works

The 69th death anniversary (Vardhanthi) of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the principal architect of the Indian Constitution, was solemnly and actively observed across the Alwal area on December 6. Malkajgiri MLA Marri Rajasekhar Reddy and GHMC Corporator Raj Jethender Nath led separate events, honoring Ambedkar while simultaneously focusing on local development.

Corporator Raj Jethender Nath (Division 133, Machabollarum GHMC) began his day by participating in the tribute program at Ambedkar Nagar Colony, offering floral tributes and



paying homage to Dr. Ambedkar's immense service to the nation. Later, the Corporator moved on to inaugurate crucial infrastructure projects. He launched the much-needed Cement Concrete (CC) Road wor-

ks valued at 35.5 lakhs at Balaji Enclave Road Nos. 1, 2, and 3, located near Motkulakunta lake. These long-pending works are set to significantly improve connectivity and convenience for the residents of these fully occupied colonies, delivering tangible developmental results. During a visit to the nearby colony park, which his team had previously developed, residents requested the installation of lighting. The Corporator immediately discussed the requirement with officials on-site and assured the residents that the lighting project would be positively tak-

en up and implemented soon. Separately, Malkajgiri MLA Marri Rajasekhar Reddy also paid rich tributes, starting with floral offerings at Dr. Ambedkar's portrait in his camp office. He then proceeded to conduct Pushpanjali (floral offerings) at the Ambedkar Circle in Bhudevi Nagar (Venkatapuram Division) and at the Ambedkar statue in Venkatrapet (Alwal Division). Speaking on the occasion, the MLA emphasized the enduring guidance of Ambedkar's philosophy, stating that his path of "equality, justice, and social justice... is an eternal inspiration for

every Indian." Both the Corporator's program, attended by Congress leaders and residents, and the MLA's event, attended by local BRS leaders and corporators, saw wide participation. While the MLA's event involved local Corporators Smt. Chinthu Srinivas Reddy and Sabitha Anil Kishore Goud, the combined efforts underscored a unified focus across party lines on honoring the constitutional values championed by Dr. Ambedkar and simultaneously fulfilling the infrastructure and development needs of the Alwal constituency.

Hundreds Of Drunk Drivers Booked And Drug Trafficking Ring Busted

TPN Bureau | Dec,07 , 2025

Law enforcement agencies across the state, specifically in the Hyderabad and Cyberabad Commissionerates, conducted extensive and rigorous weekend checks, resulting in a dual crackdown on drunk driving and narcotics trafficking. The se operations were strategically aimed at bolstering public safety, ensuring road discipline, and combating the proliferation of illegal drug sales. Intensive Drunk Driving Checks

Police executed a Weekend Special Drunk & Drive campaign, which resulted in the booking of 426 cases against drivers operating vehicles under the influence of alcohol. The offenders included 323 two-wheeler riders, 85 car drivers, 17 auto drivers, and 1 heavy vehicle driver. An alarming statistic from the campaign was that 15 individuals recorded extremely high Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) levels, ranging from 301 mg/100 ml to 550 mg/100 ml. Concurrently, the Hyderabad Traffic Police

also conducted checks, apprehending 474 persons for driving drunk on Saturday. The overwhelming majority of those caught were two-wheeler riders (381), with nine individuals recording critically high BAC levels above 300 mg/100 ml. Collectively, over 900 individuals were booked for drunk driving in the city region alone over the weekend.

Narcotics Trafficking

In a separate, targeted operation, the STF Unit 18 personnel, led by Anji Reddy, acted on intelligence regarding ganja (marijuana) sales near Nampally Railway Station and Afzalgunj's Major Basti. The raid was successful.

day's commemorative program is set to be comprehensive, featuring the main Public Meeting, a detailed review of development progress, direct dialogue and interaction with the general public, and various cultural programs to celebrate the anniversary and engage the community.

Adam Santosh Kumar provided a detailed and positive summary of the government's two years in power, emphasizing that the administration has consistently maintained public welfare as its central goal and operational focus. He highlighted the successful implementation of the party's core promises and key schemes, including the effective execution of public guarantees. He specifically cited the distribution of Gruhalakshmi cheques (for housing assistance), the provision

of Rythu Bandhu payments, robust protection of farmers' rights, the successful rollout of various schemes tailored for students, the timely distribution of health pensions, and the continuous creation of employment opportunities through focused development programs. He affirmed that these critical initiatives are running smoothly and have brought tangible benefits to the people.

Looking ahead to the start of the third year, the Congress leader outlined the next phase of the government's strategic focus. He stated that special attention will be dedicated to accelerating the completion of various development projects, implementing critical GHMC schemes across the city, efficiently resolving pending public grievances and local issues, and, most importantly,



BRS MLC Dasoju Sravan Attends Funeral Of Sai Eswara Chary

TPN Bureau | Dec,07 , 2025

The final rites for Sai Eswara Chary, a young man who tragically committed suicide after reportedly becoming profoundly distressed over the Congress government's alleged betrayal regarding BC reservations, were held and concluded at the burial grounds in Jagadgirigutta. The deeply sorrowful event drew significant political attention, with BRS leader and Member of Legislative Council (MLC) Dasoju Sravan attending the funeral ceremony to express his party's solidarity and personal condolences to the grieving family.

MLC Sravan fully involved himself in the traditional funeral process, demonstrating deep respect by carrying the bier (Pade Morsu). His commitment to the family was evident as he remained at the burial site until the

Secunderabad To Host Grand Celebrations Marking Congress Government's Two Years

TPN Bureau | Dec,07 , 2025

Congress leader Adam Santosh Kumar officially announced that large-scale and elaborate celebrations will be organized across the Secunderabad constituency to mark a significant milestone: the successful completion of two years of the Congress government in Telangana and its subsequent entry into the third year of administration. The planned events are specifically designed to showcase the government's achievements, reinforce public trust, and outline future developmental roadmaps.

A major Public Meeting (Praja Sabha) is scheduled to take place on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 4:00 PM. The key event will be held at a symbolic location—near the Ambedkar statue in Seethapalmandi, Secunderabad. The

Amrabad Residents Boycott Panchayat Elections Over ST Reservation Anomaly

TPN Bureau | Dec, 07, 2025

Residents across four Panchayats in Amrabad Mandal, Nagarkurnool district—specifically Laxmapuram (BK), Vanguronipalle, Kalmunipalle, and Prashanth Nagar—have taken the drastic collective decision to boycott the third phase of local elections. This powerful act of protest is directly linked to a long-standing, critical issue concerning the reservation of Sarpanch seats for Scheduled Tribes (STs) under strict Agency rules, despite the geo-

graphical reality that no tribal populations reside in any of these villages.

The four villages were officially constituted as Panchayats in 2018. In the 2019 Panchayat elections, the prescribed reservation structure dictated that the Sarpanch seats and four out of the eight ward member seats in each village be allocated to ST candidates. However, due to the complete absence of ST residents in these areas, both the Sarpanch posts and all the four reserved ward member seats have remained permanently

vacant since the elections. Consequently, only four non-tribal ward members were successfully elected.

The people are unified in their deep dissatisfaction, arguing that this reservation anomaly causes severe injustice to their villages. They point out that a governing body composed of only four elected ward members cannot effectively administer any development or execute any form of robust governance, leaving the community vulnerable. The resi-

dents allege that development has severely suffered and stagnated under the protracted rule of Special Officers (Prathyekadhikarulu) due to the inability to form a full and legitimate governing council.

The voter turnout across these villages is significant (Laxmapuram (BK): 618; Vanguronipalle: 923; Kalmunipalle: 590; Pra shanth Nagar: 599). Nasaraiah, Convenor of the Uranium Anti-Agitation Committee IKAAS, confirmed to the press that the decision to boycott

was reached after widespread discussion and consensus among all the villagers. The effectiveness of the protest was underscored by the official record: even after the deadline for nominations had passed, not a single nomination was filed in any of these four Panchayats. This collective action is a powerful, non-violent demand for the government to urgently address the legal technicality that is obstructing basic democratic governance and necessary development in their communities.



Knowledge Sharing Session Boosts English Skills At Kondakal Government School

TPN Bureau | Dec, 07, 2025

A highly successful Knowledge Sharing Session (KSS) was conducted at the Government School in Kondakal, located in Shankar Pally Mandal of Ranga Reddy district, with the goal of significantly enhancing the English language skills of students from classes 6 to 10. The educational event was met with enthusiastic participation, drawing in over 100 students eager to improve their communication abilities. The session was meticulously organized and expertly guided by a group of 22 dynamic student volunteers from IBS Hyderabad, representing their dedicated clubs: Club Aiena, Club Speak Up, and Club Analytics. The core team of volunteers included Gabu, Harshit, Hari Keerthana, Namrata, Anurag, Hari, Sparsha, Nikhila, Maheshwari, Harsh, Audhara, Chandru, Kavya, Ashish, and Shivan, all committed to community education.

The program's curriculum was strategically designed to focus on multiple facets of language mastery and personal development.

The session was to instill courage in the students, specifically encouraging them to speak without fear or hesitation and to confidently express their thoughts and opinions in English. The teaching faculty of Kondakal Government School expressed their sincere appreciation for the initiative. They lauded the student volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the educational development of students attending government schools. The entire session successfully cultivated an atmosphere of high enthusiasm, keen interest, and a universally positive educational environment within the school premises. This KSS stands as a meaningful and significant stride towards empowering young students with essential communication tools and highlighted the immense importance and impact of student-led community education programs. The visit concluded with a clear and shared commitment to sustain and expand similar educational outreach and service activities in the future, fostering a long-term impact on the school community.

The student volunteers were highly effective in their teaching methodology. They used simple, accessible language, integrated real-life examples, and maintained a friendly, approachable conversational style throughout the session. This technique ensured that fundamental elements of English communication were easily understood and absorbed by students across all grade levels. A primary objective of the volun-

Harish Rao Assures Full Financial Support To MBBS Student From Siddipet

TPN Bureau | Dec, 07, 2025

Former Minister and prominent political leader T. Harish Rao has stepped forward with a substantial commitment, pledging his full financial support to Perka Sreeja, a determined MBBS student hailing from Siddipet. This critical intervention is aimed at enabling Sreeja to pursue her medical career without the burden of financial stress, a challenge she faced due to severe economic hardship. Sreeja's family background is modest; her father, Srinivas, supports the entire family through various petty jobs. Despite these significant financial constraints, Sreeja displayed exceptional determination and academic resilience. She successfully completed her schooling, spanning from Class 5 to Intermediate, at the Social Welfare Residential School in Mittapalli, Siddipet. Her academic success culminated in her cracking the highly competitive NEET examination, securing a coveted admission seat at the

Chalmeda Anand Rao Medical College in Karimnagar.

Upon learning that Sreeja's father, Srinivas, was desperately struggling to arrange the necessary tuition fee for her first year of medical school, Harish Rao acted promptly and compassionately. He personally invited Sreeja and her father to his camp office to address their financial predicament directly. During their meeting, Harish Rao presented them with a sum of 60,000, which was meticulously calculated to cover the entire tuition fee for her first academic year. Crucially, his commitment did not end there; he provided a firm assurance that he would personally undertake the responsibility of funding her tuition for all four remaining years of the medical course. This unwavering support guarantees that Sreeja can dedicate her focus entirely to her studies, free from economic worries, thereby realizing her lifelong dream of becoming a doctor.

Harish Rao took the opportunity to comment on the broader impact of educational policy, stating that the substantial increase in the number of medical colleges and available seats across the state, which occurred during the previous BRS regime, played a vital role. He asserted that this expansion has directly enabled many aspiring students, including those from economically weaker sections like Sreeja, to achieve their dreams of entering the medical profession. This gesture of aid is not an isolated incident; Harish Rao has a notable history of extending similar financial and educational support to several other deserving students within his constituency in the past. His commitment to Sreeja is seen as both an act of individual compassion and a reaffirmation of the importance of supporting merit in the face of economic adversity, reinforcing the value of education and healthcare accessibility.

Singareni Forges Global Path: Reserves Names For Green Energy And Critical Minerals Subsidiaries

TPN Bureau | Dec, 07, 2025

The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has officially announced a pivotal step in its strategic corporate expansion, signaling its intent for global growth and diversification into new sectors. The company has secured the reservation of names for two new subsidiary companies, a move that will position SCCL as a significant player in the rapidly evolving Green Energy and Critical Minerals markets. This strategic decision is a part of SCCL's ongoing business expansion activities aimed at moving beyond its traditional core of coal mining and entering diverse, future-oriented sectors.

The names for the two



officially reserved with the Registrar of Companies under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, following a formal application submitted last month. The names are:

1. Singareni Green Energy Company Limited (SGECL): This subsidiary is specifically reserved for the operation of solar power and other renewable energy plants. Its scope of operations is slated to be both within India and internationally, demonstrating a commitment to global sustainability goals and renewable power generation.

2. Singareni Global Limited (SGL): This entity is strategically established to carry out the international mining of minerals. Its focus will be particularly on acquiring and mining criti-

cal minerals, rare earth elements, and managing other specialized global mining businesses.

Officials confirmed that the process of reserving the names was expedited and successfully completed thanks to the special initiative and unwavering efforts of the SCCL Chairman and Managing Director, N. Balram. The company, which has operated solely under the name Singareni Collieries Company Limited for the past 13 years, is now expanding its institutional footprint to an international level with the establishment of the two additional subsidiaries. This development was proudly termed by officials as a significant "matter of pride for Telangana", showcasing the state-owned entity's ambitious

vision for global enterprise. The Union Coal Ministry, through its Under Secretary Pradeep Raj Nayan, responded positively to the notification regarding the establishment of the two subsidiaries. The Ministry acknowledged the expansion and, in a letter to the Singareni Company, suggested that the new companies should strive to carry out their businesses profitably. This global expansion strategy is set to diversify SCCL's revenue streams, reduce its dependence on coal, and strategically position the organization in high-demand, technologically critical global resource sectors, ensuring long-term institutional stability and growth in line with international economic trends.

Garsakurthi: The Village That Gave 29 Soldiers To The Armed Forces

TPN Bureau | Dec, 07, 2025

The village of Garsakurthi, nestled in the Gangadhara Mandal of Karimnagar district, holds a distinctive and proud identity for its extraordinary contribution to national defense. The village is unique because 29 individuals from its population are currently actively serving in various highly demanding wings of the country's armed and border defense forces. This exceptional commitment to military service is driven by a deep-rooted, shared belief among the youth that there is no greater opportunity or service than protecting the motherland (Janma bhumi).

The tradition of military service in Garsakurthi was pioneered by Chandrasekhar Rao, the first youth from the village to serve as a soldier in the country's armed forces. Following his path, an impressive total of 32 individuals from the village have joined various defense departments over time. Currently, the 29 active personnel are distributed across India's premier defense and paramilitary organizations, demonstrating the wide scope of their dedication.

The entire region and the nation are invited to join in giving a collective salute to the dedicated youth of Garsakurthi for their extraordinary commitment and continuous service at the country's borders and in internal security operations, embodying the highest ideals of selflessness and national pride.

DECEMBER 10

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY



RECLAIMING DIGNITY: THE UNFINISHED JOURNEY OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN AP

By:
Rammohan Nimmarraju
 Senior Social Worker

Reclaiming Dignity: The Unfinished Human Rights Journey of Trafficked Women and Girls in Andhra Pradesh

International Human Rights Day is a reminder of humanity's collective promise that every individual—regardless of class, caste, gender, or circumstance—is entitled to dignity, equality, and freedom from violence. Yet in Andhra Pradesh, the lived experiences of thousands of women and girls who are trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation reveal how distant this promise remains.

Their lives are shaped by economic distress, unsafe migration, entrenched gender inequality, and weak enforcement mechanisms that allow violence and exploitation to become daily realities instead of exceptional violations.

Survivors repeatedly describe a continuum of harm that spans physical, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse. Traffick-

ers, brothel operators, clients, intimate partners, and private moneylenders exert relentless control, and in some cases even law enforcement or custodial institutions become sources of further degradation. Rescue, far from guaranteeing safety, often introduces a new cycle of surveillance, moral policing, and humiliating treatment. Many women speak of unsafe shelter conditions, long periods of institutionalisation, and routines that strip them of autonomy, reinforcing trauma and violating their fundamental right to live free from cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

Long after exiting exploitation, stigma continues to shadow survivors. Once labeled, they face persistent exclusion from housing, employment, healthcare, and public services. The denial of these entitlements—guaranteed under the Constitution—cuts at the core of their right to equality and non-discrimination, pushing them back toward the very vulnerabilities that facilitated their trafficking in the first place.

The history of anti-trafficking efforts in Andhra Pradesh shows that meaningful progress is possible when political will aligns with community needs. In 2003, under the leadership of then Chief Minister Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu, the government introduced India's first state-level anti-trafficking policy through G.O. Ms. No. 1. This pioneering measure established a state mechanism chaired by the Chief Secretary to ensure coordinated responses to rescue, rehabilitation, and reintegration. Even after state bifurcation in 2014, the policy continued effectively until 2018. However, from 2019 onward, its implementation faded, leaving the order largely confined to paper. Government data reveals that of 2,460 survivors rescued between 2016 and 2022, barely five to ten percent received support under the order or related schemes—an alarming indicator of institutional neglect.

The consequences of such gaps are devastating. Survivors released from shelters without financial assistance or rehabilitation often return to unsafe

environments where traffickers retain influence. Without victim compensation or livelihood support, many borrow money at exorbitant rates from private lenders, entering debt bondage that deepens their vulnerability. In numerous cases, survivors are unable to testify in court due to intimidation, financial distress, or lack of support, resulting in low conviction rates—barely eight percent according to NCRB data. This cycle of failed prosecution empowers traffickers and undermines justice.

Compounding these challenges is a troubling legislative vacuum. Andhra Pradesh currently lacks any enforced law regulating private moneylenders after the repeal of the Debtors' Protection Act, 1934, and the non-enforcement of the A.P. Moneylenders Bill, 2017. The absence of legal safeguards has allowed predatory lending to flourish, particularly affecting sex workers and trafficking survivors. The recent floods in and around Vijayawada further wors-

ened their socio-economic distress, forcing many back into exploitative borrowing mechanisms that risk retrafficking.

While Andhra Pradesh was once recognized as a frontrunner for progressive anti-trafficking policy, today it is identified as the state with the highest number of sex workers in India—1.33 lakh, according to a recent Ministry of Health and Family Welfare study. This alarming statistic underscores the urgency of re-establishing comprehensive, community-based rehabilitation models. Successful examples from West Bengal demonstrate that empowering local structures—such as Andhra Pradesh's village and ward-level Sachivalayam system—can transform access to services and reduce retrafficking by ensuring support within the survivor's community.

Livelihood security, financial inclusion, and protection from moneylenders remain critical pillars of human rights restoration. Sex workers frequently face intimidation in banks and government

offices, making financial services inaccessible without institutional support. Many attempt small businesses but fail due to lack of mentoring and technical guidance. Ensuring that SRLM and SULM actively include sex workers in livelihood planning is essential for long-term economic empowerment. Similarly, access to health services must extend beyond HIV care to include mental health support, as emotional trauma, depression, and stigma significantly impact the well-being of survivors and their children.

Children of sex workers continue to face high levels of stigma, exclusion, and violence in schools and communities, yet remain invisible within the state's child protection systems. Without targeted interventions, many are pushed toward substance abuse, exploitation, or early entry into the sex trade, perpetuating a cycle of vulnerability that spans generations.

Anti-Human Trafficking Units, though established as specialized mechanisms by the Ministry of

Home Affairs, operate in only half of Andhra Pradesh's districts and suffer from inadequate infrastructure, inconsistent training, and weak inter-departmental coordination. Poor investigation and lack of witness protection continue to produce low conviction rates, undermining the deterrent effect of the law.

As Sri Chandrababu Naidu resumes office as Chief Minister, survivors across the state voice a collective plea: to revive the spirit of the 2003 policy, restore accountability, ensure 100 percent compensation, rehabilitate every rescued victim, and rebuild systems that uphold their rights rather than prolong their suffering. On this International Human Rights Day, their struggle stands as a powerful reminder that human rights are not abstract ideals. They are lived realities measured in safety, dignity, justice, and opportunity—and the true test of governance lies in ensuring that these rights reach those who have been denied them the longest.

Telangana Rising... Global Summit - Local Efforts

Telangana Rising Global Summit on December 8–9, 2025 is more than a meeting; it is Telangana's clear pitch for a better future. Launched under Telangana Rising 2047, the summit shows how the state plans to become a global centre for business and innovation by India's 100th year of independence. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has driven this effort, meeting leaders, shaping plans and inviting investment so that growth reaches every part of the state, not only its

big cities. The government's aim of becoming a three-trillion-dollar economy is about jobs, education, infrastructure and green growth across regions. At the heart of this plan is clean transport. Rising pollution and crowded cities make Zero Emission Vehicles urgent. Telangana is building policies, incentives, charging stations and battery-swapping networks, and planning to use EVs in public transport and logistics. The goal is to develop an entire EV ecosys-

tem - manufacturing, recycling and startups - so the state attracts global investment instead of relying on imports.

Environment Minister Smt Konda Surekha has stressed that sustainability must be fair. Drivers, mechanics and small businesses that depend on conventional vehicles need training and support so the green shift creates jobs and not hardship. Green mobility can cut pollution and create new industries, but its benefits

must reach towns and rural areas as well. Telangana backs these promises with facts. The state covers 1,12,077 sq. km. Forests cover 21,179 sq. km, which is 18.89% of the land, and trees outside forests add roughly 3%, making total green cover about 22%. The target is 33% green cover - this needs about 12,303 sq. km more and a plan to plant around 2.5 billion trees between 2026 and 2047.

Plantation drives are already large under the

leadership of Telangana's Forest Minister Smt Konda Surekha. In Vana Mahotsavam 2024–25, Telangana planted 19.03 crore saplings against a target of 20.02 crore (95% achievement). In 2025–26 so far, 15.71 crore saplings have been planted against an 18.02 crore target. Urban greening is moving fast: 109 Urban Forest Parks have been developed and 73 are open to the public. The Nagar Van programme has 45 approvals and 44 parks completed. These green spaces

cool cities, clean air and support biodiversity. Eco-tourism projects - safari routes, nature trails, birdwatching and PPP ventures - are creating green jobs and helping local communities. For wildlife protection, the state relocated 142 families from the Kaval Tiger Reserve core and set up a 5 crore fund for human-wildlife conflict relief. The "Uchchunu Pattukondi" drive seized 1,429 illegal snares, reducing poaching. Today, Telangana's forests absorb

about 658 million tonnes of CO each year. If green cover reaches 33%, absorption could rise to nearly 986 million tonnes, a major help to India's climate goals. Citizens also contribute: Haritha Nidhi has raised 41.30 crore and projects worth 79.73 crore have been sanctioned. Telangana Rising Global Summit must turn plans into real investment and fair action. If leaders, industry and citizens work together with clarity and purpose, Telangana can become a national model

of green, inclusive and prosperous development by 2047 as aspired to by our Hon'ble Chief Minister.



Sagar Vanaparthi, Policy Analyst.

IndiGo Operations Stabilise as Government Steps In to Protect Passengers

New Delhi:

India's largest airline, IndiGo, is steadily returning to normal operations after days of widespread disruptions, operating over 1,650 flights today, up from 1,500 the previous day. In a late-evening update, the airline confirmed that 137 out of its 138 destinations are now functioning, with on-time performance improving sharply to 75 per cent from just 30 per cent a day earlier.

IndiGo reiterated that it will continue to provide a full waiver on cancellations and free rescheduling for all bookings made until December 15. The airline said the process of issuing refunds and sorting delayed baggage is progressing rapidly. "We are working round the clock to resume normal service. Please bear with us," the airline said in its latest statement.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has taken swift and decisive steps to handle the disruption caused by IndiGo's operational crisis and to ensure that passengers are not subjected to further inconvenience. According to officials, multiple emergency measures were introduced to stabilise the situation and protect consumer interests.

Airfare Caps to Prevent Overcharging

Following a spike in airfares due to cancellations and a sudden shift in demand, the ministry im-



posed an immediate cap on ticket prices across affected routes. This intervention was aimed at preventing overcharging and ensuring air travel remained fair and affordable. Officials said fare levels have already moderated and all airlines have been directed to strictly comply with the revised fare structure.

Refunds and Rescheduling Relief

To safeguard passengers financially, MoCA directed IndiGo to complete all refunds for cancelled or heavily delayed flights by 8 pm today. So far, the airline has processed refunds amounting to ₹610 crore. The ministry also prohibited the levy of any additional fees for rescheduling tickets impacted by the disruption.

Baggage Delivery Accelerated

The ministry instructed IndiGo to trace and deliver all baggage that had been separated from passengers within 48 hours. Continuous communication with affected travellers has been made mandatory. IndiGo has already delivered more than 3,000 pieces of stranded baggage across the country as of yesterday, reflecting visible progress in clearing the backlog.

Normalcy Returns at Airports

Airport directors from major hubs, including Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, and Goa, confirmed that terminal operations have largely returned to normal. Passenger movement has remained smooth, with no overcrowding reported at check-in counters, security points or boarding gates.

On-ground assistance has been strengthened with enhanced monitoring and timely deployment of support staff by airport operators and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

24x7 Monitoring and Passenger Assurance

MoCA's 24x7 control room continues to function as an integrated coordination centre, close-

ly monitoring flight operations, airport conditions and passenger grievances. Calls are being handled in real time, while teams remain on the ground to supervise operational planning, crew rostering and customer handling.

The ministry reassured passengers that safety, comfort and dignity remain the government's top priorities. It said India's aviation network is moving quickly towards complete normalcy and that corrective measures will remain in force until operations stabilise fully. Continuous monitoring will ensure passenger rights are protected, with further updates to be shared as required.

Goa Nightclub Fire During Bollywood Event Kills 25, Triggers Probe

Goa: A devastating fire broke out at the popular nightclub Birch By Romeo Lane in north Goa's Arpora late last night, claiming at least 25 lives and injuring six others, during a crowded "Bollywood Banger Night" event that had drawn around 100 tourists.

According to eyewitness accounts and circulating videos, the incident unfolded while a dancer was performing to the iconic song "Mehbooba O Mehbooba" from the classic Hindi film Sholay. The video shows the performer on stage, surrounded by musicians and cheering guests, when flames

suddenly erupted behind the console area. Initially, the seriousness of the situation was not realised, with some spectators even making light-hearted remarks, but panic set in as the flames spread rapidly.

Within moments, fire engulfed the ceiling and upper portions of the club. Musicians abandoned their instruments, and both staff and guests rushed towards the exit. However, the club's narrow entry and exit points caused severe bottlenecks, trapping many people inside. Several tourists reportedly ran towards the kitchen locat-

ed on the lower floor in search of an escape route, only to become trapped due to poor ventilation and thick smoke.

Rescue operations were also severely hampered by infrastructure challenges. Firefighters said the narrow lanes leading to the club were inaccessible to large fire engines, forcing them to park nearly 400 metres away from the site. This delay complicated efforts to control the blaze and evacuate stranded victims. Officials confirmed that most victims died of suffocation, while others sustained critical burn injuries.

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant termed the tragedy unprecedented in the state. In his statement, he said preliminary findings suggest the fire began on the upper floor and that congested exits prevented many people from escaping in time. He also pointed out serious ventilation failures in the underground areas, which proved fatal for those who fled there.

The state government has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident. An FIR has been registered against the hotel's general managers and the owner, and arrest war-

rants have been issued. The investigation will focus on whether the establishment complied with mandatory fire safety and building regulations.

Expressing condolences, the Chief Minister assured that financial assistance would be provided to the families of the victims. He added that the government is committed to taking strict measures to prevent such tragedies in the future.

The incident has sent shockwaves across the country, once again highlighting the critical need for strict enforcement of fire safety norms in public venues.

India Plans Possible Zelenskyy Visit After Putin Talks, Walks Diplomatic Tightrope

New Delhi: Even as Russian President Vladimir Putin wrapped up his two-day visit to India on December 5, New Delhi has begun preparations for a possible visit by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, highlighting India's careful diplomatic balancing act amid the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. According to officials, the Ukrainian leader's visit could take place as early as January 2026.

The proposed visit is part of India's long-standing effort to remain engaged with both Moscow and Kyiv. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has consistently maintained that India is "not neutral" but firmly "on the side of peace". This stance was reiterated during Putin's visit and reflects the same approach Modi conveyed to Zelenskyy during his Ukraine trip last year.

Diplomatic sources said talks between Indian and Ukrainian officials have been underway for several weeks, with New Delhi coordinating with Zelenskyy's office even before Putin arrived in India. However, the final timing and scope of the visit will



depend on multiple factors, including developments on the battlefield and evolving international peace initiatives.

One significant variable is the proposed peace plan by former US President Donald Trump, which is being closely monitored in New Delhi. Domestic political developments in Ukraine are also likely to influence the situation, as President Zelenskyy's government faces pressure amid a major corruption controversy.

Putin's India visit has drawn close attention from European countries, with several envoys urging India to leverage its influence to persuade Moscow to end the conflict. India, however, has remained consistent in its messaging, arguing that dialogue and diplomacy are the only

sustainable solutions. Modi's remark during talks with Putin — "India is not neutral, India is on the side of peace" — echoed similar language he used during his Ukraine visit in August 2024.

Since the war began in February 2022, Modi has remained in contact with both Putin and Zelenskyy, speaking to the Ukrainian leader by phone at least eight times and meeting him on four occasions. Their most recent conversation took place on August 30, when Modi was in

China for a summit and was preparing to meet Putin.

The conflict has also started affecting India's economic interests directly. Secondary sanctions and tariff pressures, including penalty tariffs imposed by the United States over Russian oil purchases, have forced India to reduce its imports of Russian crude since September.

Notably, recent official statements from both leaders avoided using the words "war" or "conflict", instead referring to the situation as a "crisis". This marked a shift from Modi's earlier blunt messaging in 2022, when he famously told Putin that "this is not the era of war".

While no reference to the Ukraine situation appeared in the latest joint statement, India remains quietly active behind the scenes, positioning itself as a potential bridge for dialogue. A Zelenskyy visit, if finalised, would further underline India's evolving role as a global diplomatic mediator seeking peace rather than taking sides.

Pakistani Woman Appeals to PM Modi, Alleges Husband Abandoned Her and Planned Second Marriage



New Delhi: A Pakistani woman from Karachi has made an emotional public appeal seeking justice, alleging that her husband abandoned her and began preparations for a second marriage in India while still legally married to her. The woman, identified as Nikita Nagdev, released a video message that has drawn widespread attention on social media and sparked strong reactions from social and legal groups in both India and Pakistan.

In her appeal, Nikita directly addressed Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stating that women risk losing faith in the justice system if such cases are ignored. She urged people to stand with her and highlighted the physical and emotional abuse that women often face after marriage.

She also made serious allegations about her treatment at her in-laws' home, claiming that her husband was involved in an affair. When she raised the issue, she alleged that her father-in-law dismissed the matter, telling her that such behaviour by men was normal.

During the COVID-19 lockdown, Nikita claimed she was again pressured to remain in Pakistan permanently and was stripped of any chance to reunite with her husband. She further alleged that she later discovered Vikram was planning a second marriage with a woman from Delhi while still married to her.

Distressed by these developments, Nikita filed a written complaint on January 27, 2025. Her case was taken up by the Sindhi Panch Mediation and Legal Counsel Centre, which is authorised by the Madhya Pradesh High Court to facilitate mediation in such disputes. Notices were sent to Vikram and the alleged prospective bride, and a hearing was conducted, but mediation failed.

In its report dated April 30, 2025, the Centre stated that since neither spouse holds Indian citizenship, the case falls under Pakistan's legal jurisdiction. It also recommended that Vikram be deported to Pakistan for further legal proceedings.

Earlier, in May 2025, Nikita approached the Indore Social Panchayat, which also recommended Vikram's deportation. Indore Collector Ashish Singh confirmed that an official inquiry had been initiated and that appropriate action would be taken based on the findings.

The case continues to draw public attention as legal and administrative authorities in India and Pakistan consider the next steps, while Nikita continues to seek justice and reunification or legal closure.

Mandhana Calls Off Wedding, Refocuses on Cricket Career



Indian women's cricket star Smriti Mandhana has officially called off her wedding with music composer Palash Muchhal, ending weeks of speculation around her personal life. The cricketer confirmed the decision through a heartfelt statement on Instagram, saying it was "important for me to speak out" after continuous rumours following the postponement of the ceremony.

Mandhana, who is known to maintain a private personal life, said she felt compelled to clarify the situation due to growing public interest.

In her post, she wrote that while she prefers to stay away from personal publicity, she wanted to make it clear that the wedding has been called off. Her statement has brought closure to weeks of uncertainty surrounding the high-profile relationship.

The wedding had originally been scheduled for November 23, 2025, and was preceded by months of pre-wedding celebrations that had gained widespread attention across social media. The ceremony was abruptly postponed last month after Mandhana's father, Srinivas Mandhana, suffered a sudden medical emergency. Around the same time, reports emerged that Palash Muchhal was also hospitalised due to stress-related health issues.

"I believe there is a higher purpose driving us all and for me that has always been representing my country at the highest level," she wrote, adding that she hopes to continue winning tro-

phies for India for as long as possible.

Mandhana also appealed to fans and the media to respect the privacy of both families during this difficult period. She requested space for everyone involved to process the situation and move forward with dignity.

The development comes at a crucial stage in Mandhana's career. She is expected to play a key role for India in upcoming international matches and is set to lead Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Women's Premier League. Her teammate and close friend Jemimah Rodrigues had earlier withdrawn from the Women's Big Bash League to support her, highlighting the strong backing she has within the cricketing community.

As she turns the page on her personal life, Mandhana appears fully focused on her cricketing journey ahead.

FIFA Peace Prize to Trump Sparks Controversy



FIFA President Gianni Infantino has sparked global debate after awarding the newly established FIFA Peace Prize to former U.S. President Donald J. Trump during the 2026 World Cup draw in Washington, D.C. The decision has raised questions about the organization's commitment to political neutrality and its credibility as an international sports governing body.

During the high-profile ceremony, Infantino praised Trump for his international diplomatic efforts, including his support for agreements such as the Abraham Accords, which normalized relations between Israel and several Arab nations. "This is your prize, this is your peace prize," Infantino declared, lauding Trump as a leader who promoted peace and unity. Trump accepted the award, calling it "one of the great honors of my life," and claimed his tenure as president had "saved millions of lives worldwide."

However, the decision has drawn sharp criticism from human rights organizations, sports commentators, and political observers. Critics argue that Trump's controversial domestic and foreign policies, including military interventions and restrictions on civil liberties, are inconsistent with the ideals of peace and humanitarian leadership that such an award is meant to recognize.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) has questioned the legitimacy of the prize, demanding transparency regarding the nomination and selection process. The organization called for clarity on whether nominees were evaluated for their adherence to international human rights standards, pointing out that Trump's record on conflict resolution and humanitarian issues is mixed at best. Some analysts have suggested that awarding the prize to Trump reflects a politicization of FIFA itself, challenging the long-standing principle that football should remain separate from political disputes.

As the world prepares for the 2026 World Cup, the awarding of the FIFA Peace Prize to Trump continues to spark debate. For many, the decision underscores the delicate intersection of politics and sports, raising difficult questions about FIFA's role, responsibilities, and the limits of its neutrality on the international stage.

Gaza Ceasefire at Risk as Israeli Raids Resume

Israeli air raids targeted the Maghazi camp in central Gaza on Sunday, December 7, 2025, raising alarms that the fragile ceasefire could collapse. The strikes came just days after a truce aimed at ending years of violent conflict, underscoring how tenuous the current calm remains. Japan's Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi described similar tensions in East Asia, though in Gaza the focus is on civilian safety amid renewed Israeli military activity.

Reports indicate that Israeli forces killed seven Palestinians in northern Gaza during the day, including a 70-year-old woman and her adult son. These casualties have intensified fears that the ceasefire, which was mediated with international oversight, may be short-lived. The incidents occurred despite ongoing negotiations and limited truce arrangements designed to stabilize the region temporarily.

Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani emphasized the fragile nature of the ceasefire, calling it a temporary pause rather than a durable peace. Speaking at the Doha Forum, he stressed that a stable truce requires a full withdrawal of Israeli forces, the restoration of mobility for Palestinian civilians, and comprehensive guarantees for sustained peace. "The current calm is not permanent," Al Thani warned, highlighting the critical need for immediate international engagement to prevent escalation.

Regional powers have echoed these concerns. Türkiye's foreign minister cautioned that without urgent intervention, particularly from the United States, progress toward a stable ceasefire could quickly falter. The renewed airstrikes illustrate the high risk of resuming full-scale conflict, particu-

larly given the densely populated nature of Gaza and the widespread destruction from previous operations.

Humanitarian conditions remain dire. Millions of civilians continue to face displacement, restricted access to essential services, and the psychological toll of living under constant threat. Aid and reconstruction efforts are moving slowly, and any new surge in violence could exacerbate the already severe humanitarian crisis. International organizations have warned that renewed hostilities could undo months of relief work and prolong suffering for Gaza's population.

The ceasefire plan, negotiated with international mediators, included phased steps such as limited withdrawal of forces and hostage exchanges. While initial phases were largely observed, the resumption of air raids has underscored the fragility of these arrangements. Observers note that the situation remains highly volatile, with both sides needing to uphold commitments to avoid a return to large-scale hostilities.

Analysts warn that the current truce's stability hinges on continuous monitoring, adherence to agreed terms, and meaningful dialogue between Israeli and Palestinian representatives. Without these measures, the risk of escalation remains high, potentially drawing in regional actors and complicating international efforts to maintain peace in the Middle East.

As the situation develops, the people of Gaza remain caught between fragile diplomacy and the harsh realities of renewed military action. While mediators continue to push for progress, the fragile calm is a reminder that achieving lasting peace will require sustained international commitment and genuine political will on all sides.

Japan has raised concerns after Chinese fighter jets directed fire-control radar at Japanese aircraft over international waters near the Okinawan islands on Saturday, December 6, 2025. The incidents, which occurred in two separate encounters, prompted strong condemnation from Japan's Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi, who described the actions as "dangerous."

"These radar illumination went beyond what is necessary for the safe flight of aircraft," Koizumi said in a post on X, emphasizing that Japan had lodged a formal protest with China over the "regrettable" events. The encounters took place in a sensitive region near disputed territories claimed by both Japan and China, heightening existing tensions between the neighboring countries.

Relations have been strained following comments from Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi, who warned that Japan could respond militarily if Chinese actions against Taiwan threatened Japan's security.

Taiwan, a democratically governed island, is claimed by Beijing and lies just 110 kilometers (68.4 miles) from Japan's westernmost Yonaguni Island.

China's military did not respond to calls made to its defense ministry outside office hours on Sunday, December 7. Analysts suggest the incident could further escalate tensions in the East Asian region, where both Japan and China maintain significant military presence and influence.

Japan hosts the largest concentration of U.S. military forces outside the United States, including warships, aircraft, and thousands of Marines stationed in Okinawa. The proximity of U.S. forces adds another layer of stra-

tegic complexity, with potential implications for regional security. The U.S. State Department was not immediately available for comment.

The Chinese aircraft involved were J-15 fighter jets, launched from the Liaoning aircraft carrier. Japan reported that the carrier was operating south of the Okinawan islands alongside three missile destroyers during the incidents. These movements coincide with a broader Chinese naval build-up in East Asian waters, which, according to Reuters citing intelligence sources, included more than 100 naval and coast guard vessels earlier in the week.

Taiwan's government has expressed concern over the Chinese military build-up, describing it as a potential threat to security across the Indo-Pacific region. Japan confirmed it is closely monitoring Chinese activities in its surrounding waters to ensure the safety of its air and maritime routes.

These incidents mark another chapter in a growing pattern of regional military posturing. Japan and China have long-standing disputes over territory and security influence in the East China Sea, particularly regarding islands claimed by both nations.

Observers warn that repeated close encounters between military aircraft carry the risk of accidental escalation, underscoring the fragile nature of regional security dynamics.

With tensions continuing to simmer near Taiwan and Okinawa, the international community is closely watching the situation. Both Japan and its allies, including the United States, are expected to maintain vigilance to prevent any miscalculations that could destabilize the broader Indo-Pacific region.

Rising tensions between the United States and Venezuela have sparked fears that any U.S. military action could destabilize the country and trigger far-reaching consequences across Latin America. Experts warn that even a limited strike could set off a chain reaction of violence, political upheaval, and humanitarian crises.

Since early September 2025, the U.S. has conducted targeted strikes on at least 21 Venezuelan boats, reportedly linked to drug trafficking, resulting in at least 87 deaths.

Washington justifies the operations as necessary to curb drug flows threatening U.S. national security, although critics contend that evidence connecting Venezuela directly to major narcotics exports is limited.

While some U.S. officials have not ruled out a full-scale invasion, analysts believe any intervention would likely be limited to air and naval strikes rather than ground operations.

Logistical challenges, legal hurdles, domestic opposition, and the risk of protracted occupation make a full invasion improbable. Nonetheless, even short-term strikes carry significant risks for both Venezuelans and the broader region.

One of the most pressing concerns is the potential for armed groups to exploit the chaos. Analysts warn that any disruption of Venezuela's military or paramilitary structures could empower factions to seize control in parts of the country. Such fragmentation would likely exacerbate violence and make governance nearly impossible, threatening civilians already enduring severe hardship.

The political opposition in Venezuela may also lose ground. Experts note that external aggression often triggers a "rally-around-the-flag" effect, consolidating support for incumbent governments and providing justification for crackdowns on dissent. This dynamic could make meaningful political change more difficult, undermining U.S. objectives of promoting democracy or stability.

As Washington weighs its options, the international community is watching closely. Diplomats, human rights advocates, and regional governments are urging restraint, emphasizing the need for dialogue and multilateral solutions to avoid triggering a "Pandora's box" of instability. For the Venezuelan people, the coming weeks may determine whether the nation remains on the brink of chaos or manages to navigate through rising tensions without a catastrophic conflict.

Benin Foils Coup Attempt, Heavy Security Deployed in Cotonou

The government of Benin said it has successfully foiled a coup attempt after a group of soldiers tried to overthrow the country's leadership early Sunday, triggering gunfire, military deployments and heightened security across the capital.

Interior Minister Alasane Seidou announced in a televised address that loyal forces remained committed to the republic and neutralised the uprising. "The Beninese armed forces and their leadership, true to their oath, remained committed to the republic," he said, confirming that the situation was under control.

Earlier in the day, a faction of soldiers made a broadcast claiming they had ousted President Patrice Talon. Eyewitnesses reported hearing gunshots in parts of the city, while journalists working for the state broadcaster were briefly held hostage. A presidential adviser later confirmed that President Talon was moved to a secure location. French officials denied reports that he had taken shelter at France's embassy.

According to Seidou, the mutiny began on the morning of December 7, when a small group of soldiers attempted to destabilise state institutions. Loyalist troops quickly moved

in, regaining control and foiling the attempt. Helicopters were seen flying over Cotonou, while key roads were blocked and a strong military presence was deployed around strategic locations.

Benin, a former French colony, has long been regarded as one of West Africa's more stable democracies, despite being one of the world's poorer nations and heavily dependent on cotton production.

The mutineers also accused President Talon of neglecting fallen soldiers' families, cutting healthcare funding, raising taxes and restricting political freedoms.

President Talon, 67, is nearing the end of his second term and is due to step down next year, with elec-

tions scheduled for April. First elected in 2016, he has promised not to seek a third term and has backed Finance Minister Romuald Wadagni as his preferred successor. His government has been praised for economic reforms but criticised for limiting dissent and opposition activities.

The attempted coup comes amid growing regional instability. It follows the recent overthrow of Guinea-Bissau's president and a wave of military takeovers in Burkina Faso, Mali, Guinea and Niger. Russia has increased its influence in many Sa-

hel nations in recent years, while Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger have exited ECOWAS to form the Alliance of Sahel States.

The African Union and ECOWAS strongly condemned the attempted coup. AU Commission Chair Mahmoud Ali Youssouf reiterated the organisation's zero-tolerance policy toward unconstitutional changes of government.

Authorities in Benin have urged calm while maintaining heightened security as investigations into the incident continue.

China Targets Japanese Jets with Radar Near Okinawa

TOKYO: Japan has raised concerns after Chinese fighter jets directed fire-control radar at Japanese aircraft over international waters near the Okinawan islands on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

The incidents, which occurred in two separate encounters, prompted strong condemnation from Japan's Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi, who described the actions as "dangerous."

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These incidents mark another chapter in a growing pattern of regional military posturing. Japan and China have long-standing disputes over territory and security influence in the East China Sea, particularly regarding islands claimed by both nations.

Observers warn that repeated close encounters between military aircraft carry the risk of accidental escalation, underscoring the fragile nature of regional security dynamics.

With tensions continuing to simmer near Taiwan and Okinawa, the international community is closely watching the situation. Both Japan and its allies, including the United States, are expected to maintain vigilance to prevent any miscalculations that could destabilize the broader Indo-Pacific region.

US Strike on Venezuela Could Trigger Regional Chaos

Rising tensions between the United States and Venezuela have sparked fears that any U.S. military action could destabilize the country and trigger far-reaching consequences across Latin America.

Experts warn that even a limited strike could set off a chain reaction of violence, political upheaval, and humanitarian crises.

Since early September 2025, the U.S. has conducted targeted strikes on at least 21 Venezuelan boats, reportedly linked to drug trafficking, resulting in at least 87 deaths.

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While some U.S. officials have not ruled out a full-scale invasion, analysts believe any intervention would likely be limited to air and naval strikes rather than ground operations.

Logistical challenges, legal hurdles, domestic opposition, and the risk of protracted occupation make a full invasion improbable. Nonetheless, even short-term strikes carry significant risks for both Venezuelans and the broader region.

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Humanitarian consequences would likely be severe. Venezuela's population is already grappling with hyperinflation, food shortages, and mass displacement.

The United Nations estimates that nearly eight million people need humanitarian assistance. Even limited strikes could further disrupt electricity, water, medical services, and food distribution, intensifying suffering and displacement.

International ramifications are also a concern. Countries such as China and Russia, key allies of Caracas, could increase diplomatic or logistical support to Venezuela, complicating the situation. While direct military intervention by these powers seems unlikely, their backing could prolong conflict and heighten regional tensions.

Beyond immediate regional risks, analysts warn that a U.S. attack could set a dangerous precedent. By framing a domestic crisis as a threat warranting extraterritorial force, it could weaken international norms against unilateral military interventions and embolden similar actions elsewhere in Latin America.

Experts caution that what might be intended as a short, targeted operation could instead become a long, destabilizing conflict.

The combination of political uncertainty, armed group activity, and humanitarian vulnerabilities could turn Venezuela into a protracted crisis zone, with ripple effects across neighboring countries.

As Washington weighs its options, the international community is watching closely. Diplomats, human rights advocates, and regional governments are urging restraint, emphasizing the need for dialogue and multilateral solutions to avoid triggering a "Pandora's box" of instability.

For the Venezuelan people, the coming weeks may determine whether the nation remains on the brink of chaos or manages to navigate through rising tensions without a catastrophic conflict.

Fed Rate Decision, FII Flows to Shape Indian Markets

As the new week begins, Indian financial markets are set for a critical period, with investor attention focused on the U.S. Federal Reserve's upcoming policy decision and foreign institutional investor (FII) trading activity. Analysts say these two factors are likely to steer market momentum, while domestic economic indicators add an additional layer of uncertainty.

Last week, Indian indices closed largely flat after a week of mixed trading. The BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty 50 showed limited movement as investors adopted a cautious approach amid global and domestic uncertainties. Currency volatility further contributed to market caution, with the Indian rupee weakening past ₹90 against the U.S. dollar, raising concerns about capital flows and import costs.

The Federal Reserve's Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting, scheduled for December 9–10, is expected to be the week's defining event. Investors will closely monitor both the Fed's interest rate decision and its forward guidance on monetary policy, which could significantly influence global risk sen-

MS Dhoni Builds ₹1,000-Crore Business Empire Post-Cricket

New Delhi — Former Indian cricket captain MS Dhoni, widely celebrated as "Captain Cool" for his calm and strategic approach on the field, has quietly built a sprawling business empire worth approximately ₹1,000 crore, showcasing a shrewd mix of investments, brand management, and long-term planning. Even after stepping away from international cricket, Dhoni's earnings and business ventures continue to make him one of India's wealthiest and most influential sports icons.

As of 2025, Dhoni's net worth is estimated around ₹1,000 crore (roughly US\$120 million), with an annual income reportedly close to ₹50 crore. A significant portion of this wealth stems from strategic investments and endorsements, rather than just cricket contracts or prize money. Analysts note that his post-retirement financial strategy reflects the same calm and calculated approach that characterized his captaincy.

Diversified Business Ventures

Dhoni's investments span multiple sectors, highlight-

ing both diversity and careful selection:

- Food & Dining:** He invested ₹32 crore in a restaurant chain with a build-your-own meal concept, which has gained traction amid rising consumer demand.
- Technology & Startups:** His portfolio includes stakes in fitness brands, electric mobility, and used-car marketplaces, reflecting an eye for emerging sectors and innovation.
- Sports Franchises:** Dhoni remains involved in sports business, co-owning a football club and supporting various athletic initiatives, demonstrating his continued engagement with sports beyond cricket.
- Real Estate & Assets:** His property holdings include a lavish farmhouse in his hometown of Ranchi, along with residences in major cities. These holdings reflect both personal wealth and strategic real estate investments.

Dhoni's business philosophy emphasizes sustainable growth, long-term potential, and careful selection of ventures, rather than short-term, high-risk gambles. Even ventures that under-



global sentiment could attract fresh investment into Indian equities.

Domestic fundamentals also continue to influence investor sentiment. Corporate earnings announcements, inflation data, and macroeconomic trends are all under scrutiny. Analysts suggest that until clear signals emerge from both the Fed and FIIs, market participants are likely to maintain a cautious approach, balancing risk and opportunity carefully.

Ponnudhi R, CEO of wealth-tech firm Enrich

Money noted that "If global fund flows rotate back into emerging markets, India could benefit, but it largely depends on clear and supportive cues from the U.S. Fed." Currency stability will also be critical, as a weakening rupee could deter foreign investors and increase volatility in equity markets.

Overall, the market mood can be described as "watchful wait." Investors are closely monitoring external and domestic developments, seeking indications on interest rates,

foreign flows, and macroeconomic stability before making major investment decisions.

As the week progresses, the interplay between global monetary policy, FII activity, domestic inflation data, and currency movements will determine the trajectory of Indian stock markets. Analysts caution that while opportunities exist for gains, heightened volatility is likely, emphasizing the need for prudent trading and investment strategies in the coming days.



"Captain Cool" on the cricket field to a business magnate illustrates a rare combination of strategic thinking, brand management, and entrepreneurial foresight. While many sports stars see their influence fade after retirement, Dhoni's careful investments, strong brand presence, and engagement with emerging sectors position him as a lasting business icon in India.

In conclusion, Dhoni's success off the pitch demonstrates that with vision, discipline, and diversified investments, athletes can transform their personal brand and wealth into a sustainable business empire. His ₹1,000-crore net worth stands not only as a testament to his cricketing brilliance but also as a blueprint for sports stars aiming to translate fame into long-term financial success.

Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim: Billionaire Royal with Global Economic Clout



New Delhi — Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar, stands out not only as a royal figure but also as a powerful economic player with personal and sovereign wealth estimated at over \$400 billion. From real estate and tech investments to energy holdings and luxury assets, Sheikh Tamim's economic influence extends well beyond Qatar, affecting global markets, diplomatic relations, and high-value investment flows. The Emir recently made headlines after gifting a \$300 million Boe-

cended the throne on June 25, 2013, at the age of 33, becoming one of the youngest rulers in the Gulf. His youth, combined with strategic vision, has allowed him to modernize Qatar's economic policies while maintaining the country's longstanding regional influence.

Sovereign Wealth and Global Investments

Qatar's economic power stems primarily from its vast natural gas reserves and oil wealth. Under Sheikh Tamim, the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) — the country's sovereign wealth fund — manages over \$450 billion in global assets, including equities, real estate, infrastructure projects, and technology startups. The fund's diversified strategy enables Qatar to reduce dependency on hydrocarbons while creating steady international revenue streams.

Sheikh Tamim's personal portfolio mirrors this strategic diversification. He owns multiple luxurious properties, including a 15-palace complex in Doha, international residences in

London and Sardinia, and a fleet of private jets and yachts. These assets, while symbols of wealth, also serve as platforms for global investment and high-level economic interactions.

Economic Diplomacy and Strategic Influence

The Emir's \$300 million jet gifted to the United States highlights how wealth and diplomacy intertwine. Beyond symbolism, such gestures are tools of soft power, enhancing bilateral relations and reinforcing Qatar's role as a key player in global geopolitics. Sheikh Tamim's wealth enables Qatar to act as a major investor in global markets, giving the country leverage in international economic and political affairs.

Diversification and Risk Management

Sheikh Tamim emphasizes diversified investments, both at the sovereign and personal level, mitigating risks associated with oil price fluctuations. His ventures include technology startups, luxury real estate, and global infrastructure projects, balancing high-

value opportunities with long-term economic stability.

Global Economic Impact

The Emir's wealth and investments impact international markets. QIA investments support job creation, stimulate innovation, and stabilize key sectors worldwide. Qatar's strategic hosting of major global events, including the FIFA World Cup 2022, further solidifies its role as a hub for capital inflows, tourism, and global investment.

In conclusion, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani exemplifies how modern monarchy can shape global economics. Through strategic sovereign wealth management, diversified personal investments, and diplomatic gestures, he not only secures national prosperity but also positions Qatar as a pivotal player in the global financial and geopolitical landscape. His wealth, influence, and strategic investments underscore the growing economic significance of Gulf monarchies on the world stage.

TCS, Infosys Lead ₹72,285 Crore Market-Cap Surge Among Top Firms

New Delhi — The combined market capitalization of five of India's top ten most-valued firms surged by ₹72,284.74 crore last week, led by TCS and Infosys, according to market data. The gains underscore selective investor interest in IT and financial sector blue-chips, even as some heavyweight firms witnessed declines.

Among the top performers, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) posted the biggest gain, adding ₹35,909.52 crore to reach a market valuation of ₹11,71,862.37 crore. Infosys followed with an increase of ₹23,404.55 crore, taking its market cap to ₹6,71,366.53 crore. Other contributors included Bajaj Finance, which rose ₹6,720.28 crore to ₹6,52,396.39 crore; Bharti Airtel, gaining ₹3,791.90 crore to ₹12,01,832.74 crore; and ICICI Bank, up ₹2,458.49 crore to ₹9,95,184.46 crore. Collectively, these five firms drove a significant portion of market momentum among India's large-cap stocks.

However, not all top firms participated in the rally. Reliance Industries led the declines, falling ₹35,116.76 crore to ₹20,85,218.71 crore. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) dropped ₹15,559.49 crore to ₹5,50,021.80 crore, while State Bank of India slipped ₹7,522.96 crore to ₹8,96,662.19 crore. HDFC Bank and Larsen & Toubro also recorded losses of ₹5,724.03 crore and ₹4,185.39 crore, respectively. These contrasting movements highlight the selective nature of recent investor interest, focused on firms with strong earnings visibility and sectoral tailwinds.

Despite the sharp gains in individual firms' market caps, broad-



er indices showed muted performance. The BSE Sensex rose marginally by 5.7 points, while the NSE Nifty 50 fell 16.5 points over the same period. This divergence indicates that gains were concentrated in select high-performing stocks rather than a broad market rally. Analysts suggest that stock-specific factors — including recent quarterly results, earnings guidance, and sectoral developments — drove the momentum rather than overall market trends.

The market-cap surge also illustrates the growing dominance of certain firms in shaping overall investor sentiment. TCS and Infosys, in particular, continue to attract foreign and domestic portfolio inflows due to their strong fundamentals and global business presence. Similarly, companies in the financial sector remain attractive to investors seeking growth combined with relative stability.

For investors, these developments underline the importance of selective stock picking. While broader indices may show muted gains or volatility, targeted investments in high-quality large-cap firms with strong earnings visibility and sectoral tailwinds can deliver substantial returns. The performance of TCS, Infosys, and other top gainers is expected to continue to influence market sentiment in the near term, highlighting the evolving dynamics of India's equity market.

In summary, last week's ₹72,285 crore surge in market capitalization among five top firms demonstrates concentrated investor optimism, with IT and financial services stocks leading the gains, while several heavyweight firms faced declines. The selective nature of these movements emphasizes the need for strategic stock selection amid mixed market performance.

Midcaps Likely to Lead Market Gains in 2026, Says Kotak AMC



New Delhi — Mid-cap stocks are expected to outperform both large-cap and small-cap equities in 2026, according to Nilesh Shah, Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company (AMC). In its recently released market outlook for the calendar year, Kotak AMC highlighted improving domestic consumption, strong earnings growth, and renewed foreign investor interest as key drivers for mid-cap outperformance.

Shah noted that corporate earnings are projected to remain robust in FY2026, with many companies expected to report double-digit growth in FY2027. This growth, coupled with a more stable macroeconomic environment, is anticipated to attract foreign portfolio investments, providing liquidity and supporting mid-cap valuations.

"While mid-caps are likely to outperform, investors should adopt a balanced approach, moderating return expectations and diversifying across sectors," Shah advised.

Drivers for Mid-Cap Outperformance

Kotak AMC emphasized that mid-cap stocks benefit from greater exposure to domestic demand-driven sectors. Financial services, consumption-oriented industries, healthcare, and e-commerce are expected to offer significant growth opportunities. Rising rural incomes, favorable regulatory policies, and increasing discretionary spending are likely to boost revenue streams for companies in these sectors.

The fund house specifically highlighted mid-cap firms linked to vehicle demand, household consumption, and retail as poised to benefit from domestic economic trends. Analysts suggest that these segments, which are closely tied to consumer spending and credit growth, are better positioned to capitalize on earnings expansion than their large-cap counterparts.

Valuation and Risk Considerations

While mid-caps show promise, Kotak AMC cautioned that small-cap stocks could face challenges in 2026 due to expensive valuations relative to historical norms.

Small-caps remain highly sensitive to market volatility and global fund flows, making them a riskier option for investors seeking stable returns. Conversely, mid-cap stocks are seen as reasonably valued, offering a balance between growth potential and manageable risk.

Large-cap equities, while more stable, are expected to deliver modest returns relative to mid-caps. Investors are advised to combine large-caps for stability, mid-caps for growth potential, and selectively include small-caps to maintain a diversified equity portfolio.

Broader Market Outlook

Kotak AMC also discussed broader asset-class opportunities, noting that commodities like gold and silver may see upside due to ongoing global uncertainty and central bank demand. The recommendation for investors is to maintain a diversified portfolio across equities, precious metals, and fixed-income instruments to navigate market fluctuations and optimize risk-adjusted returns.

Investor Implications

For investors seeking growth in 2026, mid-cap equities represent a middle ground between the stability of large-caps and the high-risk, high-reward nature of small-caps. While the margin of outperformance may not be dramatic, careful stock selection within the mid-cap segment could yield meaningful gains.

In summary, the Kotak AMC outlook suggests that mid-cap companies, supported by domestic consumption trends, earnings growth, and favorable investor sentiment, are likely to take the lead in market performance in 2026. However, prudent diversification, disciplined investing, and selective stock-picking will remain critical for navigating risks and achieving optimal returns in the evolving market landscape.

Global Glaciers Accelerate in Summer, Raising Climate Concerns

A landmark study has produced the first-ever global map of glacier speeds, revealing that glaciers worldwide flow significantly faster during summer months than in winter. Scientists warn that this seasonal acceleration, driven by surface meltwater, could foreshadow longer-term glacier loss and contribute to rising sea levels. The research underscores the urgent need to understand glacier dynamics as the planet warms.

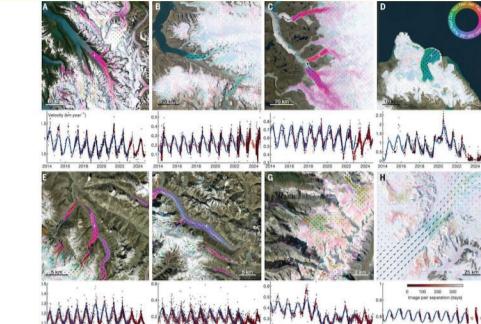
Mapping Ice Across the Globe

Researchers analyzed nearly a decade of satellite data, covering millions of images of glaciers around the world. The dataset spans all glaciers larger than approximately 5 km², providing an unprecedented view of glacier movement across diverse regions, from the Arctic to high-altitude mountain ranges.

Advanced satellite imaging techniques were used to track surface features, including crevasses and debris, enabling precise measurement of ice displacement over time. The result is a series of "velocity mosaics" that illustrate how glacier speeds vary seasonally and regionally.

Seasonal Acceleration and Meltwater Impact

The study confirms a distinct seasonal rhythm: glaciers accelerate in spring and summer when melting occurs and slow considerably during winter. Meltwater seeps through cracks to the glacier bed, reducing friction and allowing ice to slide faster. This phenomenon, known as basal lu-



blication, explains why some glaciers exhibit pronounced summer surges.

Glaciers with high seasonal variability appear particularly susceptible to long-term acceleration, meaning that summer surges could indicate future faster ice loss. Such behavior is concerning because it amplifies glacier contribution to sea-level rise.

Implications for Sea-Level Rise and Water Supply

Glaciers store a substantial portion of the world's freshwater. Faster ice flow accelerates the delivery of ice to glacier termini, where it can calve into oceans or melt, adding to sea-level rise. Communities dependent on glacial meltwater for drinking, irrigation, and hydropower may face water instability and increased flood risks.

Looking Ahead

Scientists suggest that monitoring seasonal glacier velocities can serve as an early-warning system for glaciers most at risk from climate change. Understanding which glaciers have high seasonal variability will help policymakers, researchers, and communities plan for water resource management, flood mitigation, and coastal adaptation strategies.

As glaciers continue to respond to a warming planet, the study highlights the urgency of climate action. Faster summer flows are not just a seasonal pattern — they signal the accelerating pace of environmental change with far-reaching global consequences.

Regional Variations

Not all glaciers behave identically. In Alaska,

Hearing Aids Gain Popularity in India: What to Know Before Buying



Hearing difficulties are increasingly being recognized as a common health concern in India, affecting people of all ages due to age-related decline, noise exposure, or medical conditions. As a result, hearing aids have grown in popularity as a solution to improve communication and overall quality of life. Among these, the Horizon series of hearing aids has attracted attention for its modern features and promise of clearer hearing.

Benefits of Modern Hearing Aids

Hearing aids like Horizon are designed to enhance speech recognition and overall hearing ability. They help users pick up conversations, phone calls, and ambient sounds that would otherwise be missed, especially in noisy environments. This can improve social interactions and boost confidence in daily life.

Modern devices include advanced features such as directional microphones that focus on voices, noise reduction modes, and smartphone-controlled customization.

Many models offer rechargeable batteries for all-day use, Bluetooth streaming for calls and music, and discreet designs that are comfortable for extended wear. These features aim to provide a natural listening experience and convenience for users.

Why Professional Guidance Matters

Despite the advantages, experts emphasize that hearing aids should not be viewed as a cure for hearing loss. Unlike glasses that correct vision, hearing aids ampli-

fy sounds but do not restore normal hearing. Users may need several weeks or months to adjust to new devices, as the brain adapts to the amplified sounds.

Improperly fitted or programmed hearing aids can cause discomfort, distort sounds, or amplify background noise excessively. This can lead to fatigue, irritation, or even worsen the perception of hearing difficulties. Proper assessment and professional fitting by a qualified audiologist ensure the device meets the user's specific needs.

Maintenance and Cost Considerations

High-quality hearing aids are an investment. Beyond the initial purchase, users should consider ongoing costs such as servicing, battery or charging-case maintenance, and regular adjustments. Not all types of hearing loss respond equally well to hearing aids, making professional testing critical before committing to a device.

Making an Informed Choice

For anyone considering a hearing aid, following a few essential steps can ensure success:

1. Get a hearing

test to understand the type and severity of hearing loss.

2. Consult a qualified audiologist to get a properly fitted and programmed device.

3. Set realistic expectations regarding the improvement hearing aids can provide.

4. Plan for maintenance and follow-up care, including periodic check-ups and device adjustments.

Bottom Line

Hearing aids like Horizon can dramatically improve quality of life by restoring the ability to hear conversations, alerts, and ambient sounds. They enable better social engagement, communication, and overall well-being. However, success depends on professional assessment, correct fitting, and realistic expectations. When used wisely and maintained properly, these devices are a powerful tool for those experiencing hearing difficulties.

As awareness of hearing health grows in India, hearing aids are increasingly seen as an essential device rather than a luxury, offering a practical solution for millions seeking to maintain their auditory health and stay connected in daily life.

Apple, Google, Samsung Push Back Against India's "Always-On" Location Tracking Proposal



peak speeds typically occur in spring, while in Arctic Europe and Russia, acceleration peaks in summer or early fall. High-altitude glaciers often display less pronounced seasonal changes, but even minor summer surges contribute to cumulative ice loss. This variability makes global predictions challenging but emphasizes the pervasive impact of warming temperatures on glacier systems.

Looking Ahead

Scientists suggest that monitoring seasonal glacier velocities can serve as an early-warning system for glaciers most at risk from climate change. Understanding which glaciers have high seasonal variability will help policymakers, researchers, and communities plan for water resource management, flood mitigation, and coastal adaptation strategies.

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Pushback from Technology Companies

Proposal Details

The proposal, submitted by the industry lobby Cellular Operators Association of India, calls for Assisted-GPS (A-GPS) on smartphones to remain active by default. Pop-up notifications that currently alert users when their location is being accessed would be removed, reducing transparency and potentially

eliminating user consent.

Supporters argue that the measure would help law enforcement agencies track criminals more accurately, assist in locating stolen or fraudulent devices, and improve emergency response. Tower-based triangulation, which is less accurate than GPS, could be supplemented by always-on GPS, providing authorities with meter-level location data when needed.

Current Status

As of now, Indian authorities have not made a final decision. Meetings between phone makers and government regulators intended to discuss the proposal have been postponed, indicating

that deliberations are ongoing. The issue follows recent controversies over other government directives involving pre-installed security apps, which were later withdrawn after privacy concerns were raised.

Critics emphasize that the proposal could turn every smartphone into a potential surveillance device, raising safety concerns for vulnerable groups such as journalists, judges, defense personnel, and human rights activists. The removal of consent mechanisms, combined with continuous tracking, could expose individuals to risks they cannot control. Experts note that no other country has implemented a similar policy, making it a unique and potentially troubling move in global privacy standards.

Conclusion

The ongoing debate in India underscores the tension between security concerns and digital privacy. While authorities cite crime prevention and device tracking as benefits, technology companies and privacy advocates warn that mandatory, always-on location tracking could erode citizens' rights and set a troubling global example. The final decision will have significant implications for smartphone users, privacy norms, and the broader relationship between technology and governance in the country.

POCO C85 5G to Launch in India with 6.9 Inch 120Hz Display



POCO is preparing to launch its new budget-friendly smartphone, the C85 5G, in India on December 9. Ahead of its official debut, the company has revealed key specifications, highlighting a large 6.9 inch display, a long-lasting battery, and essential performance features aimed at consumers looking for an affordable 5G device.

Display and Design

The POCO C85 5G is equipped with a 6.9-inch HD+ display, featuring a high 120Hz refresh rate for smoother scrolling, gaming, and video playback. The screen can reach a peak brightness of 810 nits, making it easier to use under bright sunlight. The display also comes with eye-care features such as Low Blue Light mode, Flicker-Free technology, and a Circadian mode designed to reduce eye strain during extended use.

Design-wise, the phone has a water-drop notch on the front to house the selfie camera. The rear sports a dual-tone back panel with a square dual-camera module and subtle POCO branding. The device is expected to come in multiple RAM and storage configurations, catering to different user needs.

Camera Setup

The phone features a dual-camera setup on the rear, headlined by a 50-megapixel primary sensor. This camera system supports AI enhancements, enabling better low-light performance

and image processing. A front-facing selfie camera is positioned in the water-drop notch, suitable for video calls and casual photography. While it may not compete with flagship devices, the camera setup is well-positioned for a budget 5G smartphone segment.

Battery Life and Charging

One of the C85 5G's most attractive features is its large 6,000mAh battery, which promises long-lasting usage for streaming, gaming, and general smartphone activities. The device supports 33W wired fast charging, allowing users to recharge quickly, and it also offers 10W reverse charging, enabling the

phone to serve as a power source for other devices in a pinch. The combination of high-capacity battery and efficient processing ensures users can get through a full day or more without frequent charging.

User Experience

The large display, high refresh rate, and bright screen enhance user experience for media consumption, reading, and gaming. Eye-care features make it suitable for long sessions, while the battery and 5G connectivity ensure uninterrupted use for users who rely heavily on their devices. POCO's focus on balancing performance, battery life, and display quality

makes the C85 5G appealing to first-time 5G phone buyers and those seeking a budget-friendly device with essential features.

Conclusion

The POCO C85 5G is shaping up to be a strong contender in India's budget 5G segment. With a 6.9-inch 120Hz display, robust battery, capable processor, and functional camera setup, it promises to deliver a satisfying combination of performance and value. As the launch date approaches, consumers will be eager to see how the device performs in real-world usage and how its pricing compares to other budget 5G smartphones in India.

Gambhir Slams Split Coaching Idea After Test Setback



India head coach Gautam Gambhir launched a strong rebuttal against calls for a split coaching system following India's recent Test series defeat against South Africa, insisting that outsiders have no right to interfere in the team's internal decisions. His comments came after an IPL team owner publicly suggested that India should appoint separate coaches for red-ball and white-ball formats.

Speaking after India's impressive limited-overs comeback against South Africa, Gambhir made it clear that coaching decisions are the responsibility of the national team management, not franchise owners. He stressed that while everyone is entitled to their opin-

ions, crossing professional boundaries is unacceptable. "If we don't step into someone else's domain, they don't have the right to step into ours," he said in a firm message aimed at those questioning his methods.

The controversy began after India suffered a disappointing Test series loss, with critics questioning the team's preparation, strategy, and coaching structure. Some voices from within the cricketing ecosystem argued that India needed specialist red-ball and white-ball coaches to improve consistency across formats.

The suggestion sparked widespread debate, but Gambhir was quick to shut it down. He also defended his team

by highlighting the circumstances surrounding the Test defeat. According to Gambhir, India were forced to play the series without key players due to fitness concerns, which significantly impacted performance and balance. He questioned why such crucial facts were ignored in post-series criticism, saying that fair analysis must consider context instead of looking for easy targets.

Gambhir further expressed frustration with what he described as selective criticism. He pointed out that success and failure are part of sport, and the same voices praising the team during victories often turn excessively harsh during brief downturns. He

urged former players, franchise owners, and commentators to be more responsible and constructive in their public assessments.

Despite the tension, India's strong showing in the limited-overs series against South Africa helped shift focus back to their on-field performance. The team displayed renewed confidence, discipline, and clarity, which Gambhir said was a result of the current coaching setup working effectively.

He maintained that there was no need to overhaul the system based on one disappointing result in the longest format.

The episode has once again highlighted the growing divide between franchise cricket and national

team priorities. With the Indian Premier League becoming increasingly influential, voices from the franchise world are becoming louder in shaping debates about the national side.

Gambhir's strong response reflects a pushback against that trend, reinforcing the importance of clear boundaries.

As India prepares for upcoming international assignments, Gambhir's message is clear: decisions about the national team will be made within the dressing room, not from outside boardrooms. Whether the debate over split coaching will fade or intensify remains to be seen, but the head coach has firmly drawn his line in the sand.

Starc Stars as Australia Crush England in Pink-Ball Ashes Test



Australia produced a dominant all-round performance to defeat England by eight wickets in the day-night pink-ball Test, with left-arm pacer Mitchell Starc delivering a match-winning display to put his side firmly in control of the Ashes series.

Playing under lights in challenging conditions, Starc was the standout performer from the very start. He made immediate inroads with the new ball, troubling England's top order with pace, swing and bounce. His incisive spell reduced England to a fragile position early in their first innings, setting the tone for the match. England eventually posted a modest total, never truly recovering from Starc's early burst.

Australia responded with authority in their first innings. The batting unit showed patience and discipline, building strong partnerships to seize command of the game. Starc, often known primarily for his bowling, added valuable runs with the bat, showcasing his growing importance as an all-round contributor. His aggressive yet controlled innings pushed Australia to a commanding total and handed them a substantial first-innings lead.

Under the floodlights, the pink ball once again became a nightmare for England's batters in their second innings. Starc returned with another fiery spell, extracting movement in the air and off the surface. Wickets fell at regular intervals as England

struggled to cope with the relentless pressure applied by the Australian pace attack. Despite some resistance from the middle order, England were bundled out for a below-par score, leaving Australia with a small target to chase.

In the final innings, Australia showed calmness and clarity. The openers provided a steady start, neutralising any early threat. The target was chased down comfortably with minimal drama, as the home side sealed an emphatic eight-wicket victory. The win not only underlined Australia's superiority in home conditions but also highlighted their clinical approach in day-night Tests.

Starc was deservedly named Player of the Match for his exceptional all-round performance, which included a haul of crucial wickets and valuable runs with the bat. His ability to influence the game in multiple facets has once again proven why he remains one of the most dangerous fast bowlers in world cricket.

With this convincing victory, Australia have taken firm control of the Ashes series, placing England under immense pressure heading into the next Test. For England, major improvements are needed in both batting technique and mental resilience if they hope to mount a comeback. For Australia, confidence is sky-high as they continue their march in one of cricket's most fiercely contested rivalries.

Neser's Maiden Five-For Powers Australia to 2-0 Ashes Lead



Australia tightened their grip on the Ashes series with a dominant performance in the pink-ball Test, defeating England to go 2-0 up, thanks largely to a sensational spell by fast bowler Michael Neser, who claimed his maiden five-wicket haul in Test cricket.

Returning to the Test side after a long absence, Neser made an unforgettable impact under lights. England, hoping to build some momentum in their second innings, were undone by his relentless accuracy and movement. He consistently hit probing lengths, extracting seam and bounce from the surface, and broke crucial partnerships that England desperately needed to stay alive in the contest.

Earlier in the match, Australia had built a commanding position with the bat. Their top and middle order displayed patience and authority, piling up a big first-innings total that put England on the back foot from the outset. The depth in Australia's batting lineup once again showed why

they remain one of the most formidable sides in home conditions, especially in day-night Tests.

When the time came to chase, Australia approached the small target with calm confidence. The openers ensured there were no early scares, playing positively while respecting the conditions. The target was reached comfortably, sealing a convincing victory and underlining Australia's complete dominance across all phases of the match.

Neser's five-wicket haul was the defining moment of the Test. It was not just a personal milestone but also a statement about Australia's bench strength and fast-bowling depth. His performance earned praise from teammates and crick-

et experts, with many calling it one of the finest spells seen under pink-ball conditions.

With a 2-0 lead in the series, Australia now have a firm upper hand heading into the remaining matches. England, on the other hand, face mounting pressure. They will need a complete turnaround in their batting approach and greater discipline with the ball if they hope to fight back in the series.

For Australia, the win is a strong signal of intent. Their combination of disciplined bowling, solid batting, and bench strength is proving too strong for their traditional rivals, as they continue their quest to retain the Ashes in dominant fashion.

Yashasvi Jaiswal Matches MS Dhoni's Historic Feat, Joins Elite Indian Club

India's rising batting star Yashasvi Jaiswal etched his name into the record books by matching a remarkable milestone first achieved by former captain MS Dhoni nearly two decades ago. Jaiswal became only the sixth Indian cricketer to score international hundreds in all three formats — Tests, One Day Internationals, and T20 Internationals — cementing his status as one of the country's most promising young talents.

The landmark moment came after Jaiswal produced a brilliant century in an ODI, showcasing his trademark mix of composure and aggression. His knock not only anchored the innings for India but also underlined his growing maturity as an international cricketer. With that innings, he completed the rare feat of centuries across formats, a list that includes some of Indian cricket's greatest modern-era batters.

Jaiswal's journey to this achievement has been nothing short of inspirational. From humble beginnings and early struggles in Mumbai's maidans to becoming a mainstay in India's top order, his rise reflects years of hard work and resilience. His fearless stroke play, sharp cricketing brain, and ability to adapt to different match situations have made him a vital asset for India across formats.

By equalling MS Dhoni's long-standing record and joining an elite club, Jaiswal has highlighted the changing face of Indian batting — where young players are seamlessly transitioning between the demands of Tests, ODIs, and T20 cricket. His performances in red-ball cricket have already been impressive, while his impact in the shorter formats

has added a new dimension to India's batting depth.

Cricket experts have praised Jaiswal's technique and temperament, noting that he combines classical shot-making with modern attacking flair. His ability to handle pace and spin with equal authority has made him one of the most difficult batters to contain, especially in high-pressure international matches.

At a young age, Jaiswal has already achieved what many cricketers only dream of, but there is a sense that this is just the begin-



ning of his journey. With several major tournaments lined up and India's packed international calendar ahead, expectations from the left-hander will only continue to rise.

As he continues to break records and set new benchmarks, Yashasvi Jaiswal's name is steadily being etched alongside India's cricketing legends. His latest milestone not only celebrates individual excellence but also signals a bright future for Indian cricket, driven by fearless, talented young stars.

The Great Pre-Release Event Creates Grand Buzz



The highly awaited biopic "Ghantasala: The Great" held its spectacular pre-release event in Hyderabad on December 5, generating immense excitement among cinephiles and music lovers. The film, directed by C.H. Rama Rao and produced by C.H. Phani under the Anyukt Ram Pictures banner, chronicles the life and musical journey of the legendary playback singer Ghantasala Venkateswara Rao, who mesmerized generations with his melodious voice and timeless contributions to Telugu cinema.

Set to release on December 12, the film explores key milestones from Ghantasala's life, beautifully capturing his personal and professional struggles. Actor Krishna Chaitanya portrays Ghantasala, while Mridula plays his wife Savitriamma. Young Ghantasala is played by Atulit, known for his work in Tulasi Movies, with Suman in a pivotal role.

During the pre-release event, Krishna Chaitanya expressed

his gratitude for the opportunity, saying, "I grew up listening to Ghantasala's songs. Acting in this film is a blessing. Director Rama Rao garu trusted me with this role, and I hope audiences embrace it when the film releases on December 12. Ghantasala is like one eye of Telugu cinema music, and the other is Balasubrahmanyam garu."

Director C.H. Rama Rao shared his vision behind making the biopic, stating that he wanted the younger generation to understand the legacy of Ghantasala. "It gives me immense satisfaction that industry veterans appreciated the preview. This is the first biopic of an Indian singer of this magnitude, and I am fortunate to bring it to the screen," he said.

The distributor and producer Shobharani expressed hope that the film reaches Sankarabharanam-level acclaim, emphasizing their commitment to the project's success. Co-producer Phani also requested audience support.

"Ustaad Bhagat Singh": First Single Promo to Release on December 9



The excitement around the upcoming Telugu film "Ustaad Bhagat Singh" is reaching new heights as the makers officially announced that the first single promo will be released on December 9 at 6:30 PM. The announcement has sparked a wave of anticipation among fans, who are eagerly awaiting a glimpse of Pawan Kalyan in his new avatar.

Directed by Harish Shankar, the film stars Pawan Kalyan alongside actresses Sreeleela and Raashi Khanna, promising a blend of style, action, and mass entertainment. The first single is expected to be a high-energy track, combining catchy music, visually striking choreography, and Pawan Kalyan's signature charisma.

Music for the film is composed by Devi Sri Prasad (DSP), with lyrics

by Bhaskarabhatla, ensuring that the song will resonate with both mass audiences and music lovers. Early teasers hint at a visually vibrant number, and behind-the-scenes glimpses show Pawan Kalyan rehearsing the hook step, indicating that the promo will be a feast for fans.

As December 9 approaches, excitement continues to build for "Ustaad Bhagat Singh", with the first single promo seen as the first official glimpse of Pawan Kalyan's stylish new role. The film is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated Telugu releases, promising entertainment, music, and action in equal measure. Fans are already counting down the days to see the full musical experience and the larger-than-life persona of Pawan Kalyan on screen.

Fans are also buzzing about the performances of Raashi Khanna and Sreeleela, both of

whom bring freshness and energy to the screen. Industry observers note that the combination of star power, high-voltage music, and mass appeal choreography is likely to make the promo a viral hit, setting the stage for the movie's overall success.

Speaking at the ceremony, director Parameshwar Hivrale stated that this film was not made for commercial reasons, but to remind society that politics should be a form of social service, not a

A Grand Sequel in the Making: "Akhanda 2" Raises Fan Expectations



The upcoming Telugu film "Akhanda 2" is already creating a strong buzz in the film industry, promising to be bigger, bolder, and more spiritually powerful than its predecessor.

After the massive success of the first Akhanda, the makers are deter-

mined to raise the scale of storytelling, action, and emotion, giving fans an unforgettable cinematic experience.

Shiva Rajkumar Brings Gummadi Narsaiah's Life to the Big Screen

The grand muhurtham ceremony of the biopic "Gummadi Narsaiah" turned into a memorable event as Kannada superstar Shiva Rajkumar officially began his journey into Telugu cinema with a powerful, socially rooted role. The film, which chronicles the life of legendary CPI leader and former MLA Gummadi Narsaiah, was launched in Palvancha in the presence of political leaders, film personalities, and local supporters.

Directed by Parameshwar Hivrale and produced by N. Suresh Reddy under the banner Pravallika Arts Creations, the film aims to bring to light the extraordinary simplicity and commitment of a leader who was known for riding a bicycle to the Assembly and living a life devoted entirely to public welfare.

The launch event was attended by Telangana Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Kavitha, and Nandini Mallu, wife of Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka. In a symbolic start to the film, Geetha Shivarakumar gave the first clap, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy switched on the camera, and Nandini Mallu handed over the script to the team.

Speaking at the ceremony, director Parameshwar Hivrale stated that this film was not made for commercial reasons, but to remind society that politics should be a form of social service, not a

business. He highlighted that Gummadi Narsaiah served as an MLA for two decades without enriching himself and that such honesty deserves to be documented on the silver screen.

Producer N. Suresh Reddy praised Shiva Rajkumar for accepting the challenging role, calling him a real-life hero with a compassionate heart. He expressed confidence that the film would inspire a positive shift in political thinking and public life.

In his emotional speech, Shiva Rajkumar said he felt proud to portray Gummadi Narsaiah and revealed that the character reminded him of his own father, who also lived by the principle of serving others. He shared that he is learning Telugu for the film and will dub in his own voice, adding authenticity to his performance. He described the role as a blessing and said the film would serve as an inspiration for future leaders.

Gummadi Narsaiah himself addressed the gathering, humbly stating that he is an ordinary man and that the film should not glorify him, but instead convey his beliefs about honesty, self-change, and integrity in public life.

With the release of the first-look and motion posters, the film has already generated strong curiosity. Shiva Rajkumar's transformation has been widely appreciated, and expectations are ris-



ing for this powerful biographical drama that promises to combine political realism with emotional depth.

The technical team includes cinematographer Satish Mutyala, editor Satya Giduturi, and musical director Suresh Bobili, ensuring strong visual and musical storytelling for this much-anticipated project.