



TRUE POINT

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TPN Bureau | January 04

Amaravathi Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Pawan Kalyan, long branded by critics as a "part-time politician," appears to be steadily dismantling that perception through a carefully calibrated political and administrative strategy. His choice of portfolios—Rural Development, Forest, and Environment was initially dismissed by detractors as politically weak, especially when compared to powerful departments like Home. However, developments on the ground suggest that this decision may have been both deliberate and effective.

Traditionally, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has enjoyed a strong support base among urban, middle-class, and affluent voters in Andhra Pradesh, while the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) has maintained a firm grip over rural voters, particularly among Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and certain backward classes. Pawan Kalyan, under the Janasena banner, appears to be making calculated inroads into this rural vote bank territory once considered politically inaccessible.

From the outset, Pawan Kalyan repeatedly emphasized his affinity for rural communities and agriculture. Translating words into action, he prioritised the release of development funds directly to



gram panchayats. This early decision helped him establish credibility among villagers, cutting across party lines. By ensuring that every panchayat received funds at the start of the government's tenure, he positioned himself as a leader focused on grassroots governance rather than political symbolism.

Infrastructure development soon followed. Roads in remote villages, including forest and tribal areas, were taken up using a combination of State and Central funds. Improved connectivity in these regions has significantly enhanced his image among rural populations, particularly in areas that have long complained of administrative neglect.

Pawan Kalyan has also placed strong emphasis on tribal welfare. The implementation of Palle 1.0 and Palle 2.0 programmes gained momentum under his leadership, focusing on village-level development, sanitation, and community engagement. In a novel administrative experiment, he interacted directly with village residents through video conferencing in theatres, enabling real-time communication between policymakers and beneficiaries. The initiative was widely seen as a break from conventional bureaucratic outreach.

In the early days of the new government, scepticism prevailed over whether Pawan Kalyan, relatively new to governance, could manage multiple portfolios effectively. Instead of following the usual administrative

approach—where officials identify problems and then seek solutions he adopted a reverse strategy. By first listening to people's issues and then directing the administration to act, he managed to deliver quicker and more visible results.

To reinforce trust, Pawan Kalyan has revisited locations where he had earlier made commitments, including Ippatam, signalling political accountability. Meanwhile, the Opposition YSRCP has attempted to create fissures within the TDP-Janasena alliance. Pawan Kalyan has consistently countered such efforts by publicly reaffirming that the alliance is intended to continue for at least 15 years. These statements have also helped him gain goodwill within TDP ranks.

His focus on villages, particularly tribal hamlets, suggests a broader political strategy aimed at consolidating these communities under the Janasena fold. Recent one-to-one meetings with MLAs and a large gathering of Janasena public representatives indicate an effort to strengthen organisational discipline and grassroots coordination.

Brain Behind Pawan: Political success often depends on the strength of the team behind a leader. In this regard, Pawan Kalyan's choice of key officers has drawn attention. A notable figure is Krishna Teja, an IAS officer of the Kerala cadre from Chilakaluripetra in Guntur district, who plays a crucial role in implementing the Deputy CM's administrative strategies.



Historic Moment at Bhogapuram International Airport as First Aircraft Lands on Runway



TPN Bureau | January 04:

VIZIANAGARAM: A historic chapter unfolded in the aviation history of Andhra Pradesh today as an Air India special flight successfully landed on the runway of the upcoming Bhogapuram International Airport, marking the first-ever aircraft touchdown at the site. The landmark event, held at 10:30 AM, was witnessed by Union Minister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, Vizianagaram MP Kolagatla Appala Naidu, and several senior officials from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and GMR Group, which is developing the airport.

This special flight took off from New Delhi earlier in the morning and landed at the Bhogapuram runway as part of a test and calibration operation ahead of the airport's full-fledged commercial launch. The Air India flight's landing has permanently etched January 4, 2026, into the annals of Andhra Pradesh's aviation development story.

Speaking at the ceremony, Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu described the event as an "emotional and proud moment" not only for the people of North Andhra but for the entire state. "This airport represents the aspirations of the people of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, and Visakhapatnam," he said.

Symbol of North Coastal Andhra's Growth

The Bhogapuram International Airport, located in Vizianagaram district about 40 kilometers from Visakhapatnam, is expected to be operational for commercial flights by June 2026.

Once completed, it will serve as a major civil aviation hub for North Coastal Andhra, providing direct connectivity to domestic and international destinations.

The airport's development is seen as a transformative project that will boost tourism, investment, and industrial development across the

region. Leaders and attendees at the event expressed optimism that Bhogapuram will play a central role in rewriting the economic and infrastructural landscape of North Andhra.

Among those present at the event were Anakapalli MP CM Ramesh, Bheemunipatnam MLA Ganta Srinivasa Rao, Nellimilla MLA Lokam Madhavi, Vizianagaram MLA Aditi Gajapathi Raju, and district collectors M.N. Harendhra Prasad (Visakhapatnam) and Ram Sundar Reddy (Vizianagaram).

Dignitaries Witness Grand Ceremony

The ceremonial landing event was organized with great fanfare, featuring cultural performances and traditional welcomes for the dignitaries. GMR officials briefed the ministers and public representa-

tives on the progress of the airport's construction, runway readiness, terminal works, and connectivity infrastructure. The delegation also inspected air traffic control facilities and upcoming passenger amenities.

According to project sources, final works related to runway extension, terminal interiors, and aerobridge installations are advanced stages. Flight trials are scheduled to continue in the coming months to ensure technical readiness for commercial operations.

With Bhogapuram Airport preparing to open by mid-2026, North Coastal Andhra is poised to witness a new era of connectivity and development, fulfilling a long-pending dream of the region's people.



Bhogapuram Airport, a game changer

Rammohan Naidu

TPN Bureau | January 04

Successful Test Flight Landing at Bhogapuram International Airport; Game-Changer for North Andhra, Says Union Minister Ram Mohan NaiduIn his historic milestone for North Andhra Pradesh, a test flight successfully landed at the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport in Bhogapuram, Vizianagaram district, marking a major step toward operational readiness. Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, arrived in Bhogapuram on an Air India flight from Delhi as part of the test exercise and expressed his delight at witnessing the long-awaited moment.

Addressing the media after landing, the minister described the event as a "historic chapter" for the people of North Andhra, who have awaited an international airport for years. He said he was deeply moved when the pilot announced, "Welcome to Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport," calling it a moment of pride for the region and its people. Recalling the airport's inception, Ram Mohan Naidu noted that once fully operational, the Bhogapuram International Airport would bring world-class connectivity to the com-

bined districts of Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam, boosting trade, cargo transport, tourism, and export of agricultural produce. Drawing a parallel with Hyderabad's Shamshabad Airport, he said Bhogapuram would emerge as a global hub for development. The minister announced that around 500 acres would be allocated for Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) facilities, along with a proposed "Edu City" to train and skill local youth. The airport, he added, is expected to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi within the next four to five months.

He also paid tribute to the local farmers who gave up their land for the project's development. Ram Mohan Naidu noted that once fully operational, the Bhogapuram International Airport would bring world-class connectivity to the com-



AP Govt Refutes Revanth Reddy's Claim on Rayalaseema Lift Project Suspension

TPN Bureau | Jan 04

Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh government has strongly rebutted Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's claim that the coalition government in Andhra Pradesh had stopped the Rayalaseema Lift Project without obtaining required environmental and technical approvals.

According to project sources, final works related to runway extension, terminal interiors, and aerobridge installations are advanced stages. Flight trials are scheduled to continue in the coming months to ensure technical readiness for commercial operations.

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Despite claims that three TMC feet of water per day would be pumped to Rayalaseema from the Srisailam reservoir, the works proceeded in violation of procedural norms. The AP government pointed out that it was, in fact, the Telangana government that had objected to the RLIP during the Jagan Reddy administration. Telangana had filed cases in various courts, complained to the Union government, and lodged petitions before the NGT, contending that the project violated the inter-state water-sharing agreements.

They emphasized that the project works had already been stopped much before the current government took charge, following directions from the Centre and the National Green Tribunal (NGT) due to lack of statutory clearances. According to Andhra Pradesh officials, the Rayalaseema Lift Project was initiated during the tenure of former chief minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy without obtaining required environmental and technical approvals.

Reaffirming its commitment to protecting the state's water rights, the Andhra Pradesh government said there would be no compromise on irrigation benefits for Rayalaseema. It also announced that all facts, documents, and official correspondences related to the project's initiation, approvals, and legal challenges would soon be placed in the public domain to put an end to "misleading narratives."

Acting on these

Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha Lauds Media's Role as the Conscience of Society

TPN Bureau | January 4

Visakhapatnam: Andhra Pradesh State Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha emphasized that the media continues to serve as the "conscience of society" while playing a crucial role in upholding truth, transparency, and accountability in democratic functioning.

Speaking at her residence in MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam, on Sunday, Anitha interacted with members of the Smart City Reporters Welfare Association (SCRWA), who called on her to formally present the Association's Diary 2026. During the meet-



ing, Minister Anitha appreciated the relentless efforts of journalists in bringing real issues to public attention, often under challenging circumstances.

She said, "Media has always stood as the mirror of society. It not only informs citizens but also motivates governance to remain responsive and transparent. In many ways, journalists act as the moral conscience of society." Anitha lauded the SCRWA for consistently working for the welfare and empowerment of working journalists in the region. She noted that welfare support and profession-

al development for media personnel are essential for sustaining a free, fair, and impartial press.

Their collective initiative to prioritize journalist welfare is noteworthy and deserves all encouragement," she said. Highlighting the changing dynamics of journalism in the digital era, the Home Minister observed that the media's responsibilities have expanded beyond traditional reporting.

"At a time when information is instantly accessible through digital platforms, credibility and ethical journalism have become even more significant. I hope journalists continue to maintain high professional standards in verifying facts and presenting balanced

perspectives," she remarked. Anitha also expressed hope that the efforts of journalist associations like SCRWA would help nurture a well-informed society and contribute to a stronger democracy. She assured the association members of all possible government cooperation in initiatives aimed at enhancing journalist welfare and safety. Leaders of the Smart City Reporters Welfare Association including President Bangaru Ashok Kumar, General Secretary Ashok Reddy, and Treasurer Karri Satyanarayana (Sathy) expressed their gratitude to the

Home Minister for her continued support and encouragement toward the journalist community.

They briefed her on the ongoing welfare activities of the association, including health and insurance support initiatives, professional training programs, and advocacy for better working conditions for local reporters. The Association's delegation also presented the SCRWA Diary – 2026 to the Home Minister, symbolizing their commitment to documenting milestones and fostering closer engagement between the media and public representatives.

The diary, featuring profiles of active journalists from across Visakhapatnam and nearby districts, was especially designed to highlight the year's media achievements and future goals.

The meeting concluded on a cordial note, with Anitha reiterating her government's commitment to press freedom, journalist welfare, and responsible reporting. The interaction reflected a strong bond of mutual respect and understanding between the state government and media professionals dedicated to the service of truth and public interest.

Mauritius President Dharam Gokhool Calls Telugu a Living Civilization at World Telugu Conference in Guntur

TPN Bureau | Jan. 4, 2026

Guntur, Andhra Pradesh: Mauritius President Dharam Gokhool on Sunday described Telugu as "a living civilization with a deep spiritual legacy," calling for renewed global commitment to preserving linguistic and cultural heritage. Addressing the Third World Telugu Conference in Guntur, he hailed the event as a landmark gathering that united the Telugu diaspora from across continents. Gokhool praised the Telugu language as a bridge between cultures and generations, emphasizing that it has grown beyond a regional identity

to attain a global presence.

Telugu is more than just a language; it embodies a living civilization and carries a profound spiritual legacy, he said to a cheering audience of delegates from nearly 50 countries. He noted that Telugu today is spoken in over 50 nations, reflecting its enduring vitality and relevance. The President linked the timing of the conference with the spirit of renewal that accompanies Ugadi, which is also celebrated as a national holiday in Mauritius.

"While calendars may differ, the promise of new beginnings and our collective responsibility to preserve heritage

with wisdom and foresight remain universal," he remarked. Highlighting the cultural bond between India and Mauritius, Gokhool said the two nations share deep-rooted ties based on history, values, and civilizational continuity. He emphasized that these relations are not limited to diplomacy but are nurtured through language, culture, and education. India's linguistic diversity, he observed, resonates strongly with Mauritius' multicultural ethos. Gokhool also lauded the Telugu community in Mauritius, which he said plays a vital role in nation-building by preserving its language and values

across generations. Notably, Mauritius is among the few nations teaching Telugu at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels within its formal education system.

Institutions such as the Mauritius Telugu Mahasabha—which operates 98 branches in Andhra Telangana Telugu Association, and the Telugu Speaking Union were commended for their efforts in safeguarding Telugu identity. The President announced that Mauritius will host the next World Telugu Conference, following the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen academic, cultural, and technological

collaborations with Andhra Pradesh. The conference, he said, will further solidify the historic and emotional bonds between Telugu-speaking people and Mauritius.

Recalling the celebration of Andhra Pradesh Day on November 1 every year in Mauritius, Gokhool said the occasion underscores the Telugu community's cultural pride. He also mentioned the 108-foot statue of Lord Sri Venkateswara at Harihara Devasthan in Mauritius as a spiritual symbol uniting devotees across continents. Gokhool praised Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for pro-



moting AI awareness and introducing quantum technology courses, viewing them as tools to integrate technology with cultural preservation.

However, he cautioned that globalization and excessive reli-

ance on English among youth threaten ancestral languages, citing studies that predict the extinction of half the world's languages by the end of this century. Concluding his address, Gokhool urged governments, educators, and communities to harness artificial intelligence, digital platforms, and multilingual education to safeguard linguistic heritage. He reaffirmed Mauritius' commitment to strengthening cultural, educational, and tourism partnerships with Andhra Pradesh. The Mauritian President arrived in Andhra Pradesh on Saturday as part of his six-day India tour from January 3 to 8.

Bhogapuram Greenfield Airport Sees First Aircraft Landing, Marks Milestone for North Andhra Development

TPN Bureau | Jan 4

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh reached a major milestone today as the first aircraft successfully landed at the Bhogapuram Greenfield International Airport in Vizianagaram district. The event has been hailed as a historic moment for North Andhra, symbolizing the region's entry into a new phase of infrastructure-driven growth.

Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh described the occasion as "a historic day for Andhra Pradesh," stating that the landing of the first flight at Bhogapuram signals the opening of new gateways for the region's economic development. Expressing gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his leadership and vision, Lokesh recalled that the project was initiated during the 2014-2019 NDA government.

He further announced that full-scale commercial operations at the airport

are expected to commence by June 2026. "This airport will play a crucial role in accelerating North Andhra's progress and connectivity with national and international destinations," Lokesh said in a message posted on his social media platform 'X'. He tagged the announcement with "#AlluriSitaranajAirport" and "#BhogapuramAirport."

The first aircraft, a special flight from New Delhi, landed at the newly-built airport on Sunday morning. Union Minister of Civil Aviation Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarpal, Vizianagaram MP Bellana Chandra Sekhar, and senior officials from the Airports Authority of India and GMR Group were onboard. District officials and personnel from various aviation agencies accorded a grand welcome to the dignitaries upon arrival.

The Bhogapuram airport project, being developed by the GMR Group,

is one of the most ambitious infrastructure ventures in Andhra Pradesh. Company officials revealed that nearly 90 percent of the construction work has been completed, incorporating cutting-edge technology and advanced safety systems that meet international standards.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and several members of his Cabinet also expressed happiness over the first successful landing, calling it a proud moment for the state. The Chief Minister reiterated his government's commitment to making North Andhra a hub for aviation, industry, and tourism. With the Bhogapuram Airport nearing completion, Andhra Pradesh is poised to enhance air connectivity, attract greater investments, and strengthen its role as a growing economic corridor along India's eastern coast.

North Andhra Pradesh (Uttarandhra) is set to witness a new era of growth and connectivity.

"This airport will play a crucial role in enhancing regional connectivity and boosting economic activity across North Andhra. It marks a significant step towards balanced regional development," he stated. Highlighting the timely execution of the project, the minister noted that both the central and state governments worked in tandem to ensure the airport's completion within a defined timeline. "Through proper planning, the Bhogapuram Airport project was executed successfully. This accomplishment stands as a symbol of administrative efficiency and visionary leadership," he said. Expressing apprecia-

tion for Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's foresight, Reddy said the CM's long-term vision had made the project possible.

"The foundation for Bhogapuram Greenfield Airport was laid with a far-sighted approach. Now that the construction has been completed on schedule, the credit rightly belongs to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu," the minister emphasized. According to Reddy, commercial flight operations from Bhogapuram are expected to commence in June, marking the beginning of passenger services and opening new travel options for people of North Andhra. He said that the airport's location and infrastructure would attract investment, tourism, and industrial development in the region. "Once regular flight

services begin, the entire landscape of North Andhra will transform. The airport will serve as a catalyst for economic and social development," he added. The successful validation flight signifies the final stage of testing before the airport receives its license for commercial operations. Officials from the Airports Authority of India and state representatives attended the event, marking it as a major milestone in Andhra Pradesh's transport and infrastructure development.

The Bhogapuram Greenfield Airport is seen as a strategic addition to the state's aviation network connecting Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam districts with national and international destinations and reshaping the future of northern Andhra Pradesh.

Bhogapuram Greenfield Airport's First Test Flight Marks a Milestone in AP's Growth, Says Minister B.C.



TPN Bureau | January 4

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Minister B.C. Jairam Reddy hailed the successful landing of the first aircraft at Bhogapuram Greenfield Airport as a game changer in the state's development journey. Speaking to the media on Sunday, the minister described the successful completion of the validation flight as a "historic and proud moment" for Andhra Pradesh's aviation sector. Reddy said that with the Bhogapuram airport becoming operational soon,

ure without obtaining the necessary permissions from the Central government or the relevant authorities.

She recalled that Jagan's government had publicly promised to supply three TMC of water daily to the Rayalaseema region through the project, despite lacking environmental and inter-state clearances. The minister said that Jagan's unauthorized decisions triggered legal challenges from the Telangana government, which filed cases in courts as well as complaints before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Union government.

Speaking to the media after participating in several events in Vijayawada on Sunday, the minister criticized Revanth Reddy for allegedly using Andhra Pradesh-related issues to pursue political mileage in Telangana politics. Savita countered the Telangana Chief Minister's claims by pointing out that the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Project was initiated during former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's ten-

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to blame the current administration is completely baseless," she stated. Minister Savita alleged that Jagan and his party-owned "blue media" were spreading false propaganda to tarnish the reputation of the present government. She asserted that the Andhra Pradesh government under Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu would not compromise on the state's rightful share of water or the irrigation needs of the Rayalaseema region.

She further announced that the government would soon release all technical documents and official records related to the project's initiation, approvals, and subsequent halting of works to expose the "truth" behind the issue.

Savitha strongly refutes Revanth Reddy's comments



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Is major progress real?

TPN Bureau | January 4, 2026

Vijayawada: In a sharp rebuttal to Health Minister Satya Kumar's recent statement on the alleged "major progress" in cashless medical services across Andhra Pradesh, YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) NTR District Medical Wing Chairman Dr. Ambati Naga Radhakrishna Yadav accused the state government of misleading the public with exaggerated statistics and propaganda-driven claims. Calling the minister's remarks "a publicity exercise detached from ground realities," Dr. Ambati said the government's data on cost increase and beneficiary coverage were inconsistent with official records submitted in the Assembly itself.

According to him, Minister Satya Kumar's statement that cashless medical spending rose by 60 percent and beneficiary numbers by 21 percent stands contradicted by his own admissions on the Assem-

Facts vs Propaganda		
Aspect	Minister Claim	Actual Data
Beneficiary Growth	21% increase	6.68% (12.53 lakh to 13.42 lakh)
Expenditure Growth	50% increase	7.88% pre-authorization; total ₹6,458 crore (with dues)
Pending Dues	Fully cleared	₹557 crore pending; ₹2,168 crore processing
New Scheme	Major progress achieved	Implementation from April 2026; currently announcements only

bly floor. "In the Assembly, the minister confirmed that only a 6.68 percent increase in beneficiaries and a 7.88 percent rise in expenditure were recorded. These figures clearly expose the falsity of the tall claims made outside," he asserted.

Citing government financial data, Dr. Ambati revealed that despite spending 6,458 crore under the scheme, dues of 557 crore remain unpaid, while bills amounting to 2,168 crore are still under processing. "Hospitals and service providers are waiting for clearance of pending bills. Instead of addressing these critical gaps, the

government is busy generating headlines," he said. The YSRCP leader also questioned the credibility of the minister's claim that the state's 108 emergency ambulance service achieved a "95 percent golden hour response rate." He demanded an independent audit to verify these performance figures, arguing that the absence of third-party evaluation raises serious doubts about the authenticity of such assertions. Dr. Ambati further alleged that healthcare services in rural areas have deteriorated.

"The quality and reliability of healthcare in villages have gone

down, leaving the poor more vulnerable than ever. This government is ignoring the real issues faced by patients in remote regions," he said. Commenting on the government's upcoming Universal Health Coverage (UHC) initiative, he clarified that the program is scheduled to be launched only from April 2026. "Today's announcements attempt to portray future plans as present achievements. This is nothing but an effort to mislead the people," he stated.

Defending the previous YSRCP administration's model, Dr. Ambati emphasized that the Aarogyasri scheme in-

troduced earlier remains the true foundation of people-centered healthcare in Andhra Pradesh. "Aarogyasri continues to stand as the most effective model for public health protection and financial assistance to the poor in medical emergencies," he remarked.

Concluding his statement, Dr. Ambati demanded that Minister Satya Kumar withdraw the misleading statistics, release all pending dues to hospitals without delay, and refrain from politicizing public health services. "The lives and wellbeing of people should never be compromised for political gains," he said.

Jagan is on political vendetta - DSB Swamy

TPN Bureau | January 4

Prakasam: Andhra Pradesh Minister Dola Sri Balaveeranjaneya Swamy launched a scathing attack on YSRCP chief and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him and his party leaders of resorting to baseless allegations and degraded political tactics. The minister described their conduct as a reflection of the YSRCP's political frustration and their inability to accept people's verdict.

During his visit to Prakasam district on Sunday, Minister Dola Balaveeranjaneya Swamy took part in several local programmes and later interacted with the media, where he addressed multiple political and administrative issues. He said that

the previous YSRCP regime had been marked by widespread misgovernance and lawlessness that the people of Andhra Pradesh would not forget easily.

Speaking specifically about the recent Podili incident, the minister clarified that the government acted immediately after receiving reports. He stated that the Sub-Inspector involved was promptly called to headquarters on VR (Vacancy Reserve) as a disciplinary measure. Swamy said that during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure, several attacks on Dalits were reported and remained unresolved. "People have not forgotten the atrocities committed against Dalits under Jagan's rule," he asserted. Taking a sharp dig at YSRCP leaders' recent statements on the Veligonda project,

the minister said it was absurd for them to speak now about funding when their government had completely failed to allocate adequate resources for the project. "When the YSRCP government conducted fake inaugurations of incomplete projects, did their leaders expect people to applaud? Were they admitting now that they misled the public then?" he questioned. Minister Swamy affirmed that under the TDP administration led by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, all government programmes and events were being conducted strictly in accordance with official protocol and transparency. He said that the Naidu government was fully committed to ensuring accountability, effective governance, and

security for every citizen, in contrast to the YSRCP's record of chaos and political vendetta. Concluding his remarks, the minister reiterated that any attempts by Jagan Mohan Reddy or his associates to create unrest in Andhra Pradesh by misusing police or political pressure would attract immediate legal and administrative action. "Law and order will be upheld at any cost. The days of anarchy are over," he declared.



Somireddy slams kakani



TPN Bureau | January 4

Nellore (Andhra Jyothi): Former minister and TDP MLA from Sarvapalli, Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy, launched a scathing attack on former minister and YSRCP leader Kakani Govardhan Reddy, accusing him of spreading blatant lies and false allegations. Speaking to the media during his tour of various pro-

grams in Nellore district on Sunday, Somireddy lashed out at Kakani for making baseless corruption charges against him.

Somireddy expressed outrage that Kakani had claimed he had misappropriated 100 crore. "How can he say I ate 100 crore when hundreds of crores worth of projects were implemented across the Nellore district? If Kakani

has any shame, political ethics, or integrity, let him prove it," Somireddy challenged.

The TDP leader dared Kakani to produce evidence that he had collected bills without completing irrigation works. "If I claimed bills without finishing the works, prove it!" he demanded. Somireddy criticized Kakani, saying that during the YSRCP's rule, large sums

of money were misused without executing actual developmental works. He insisted that Kakani should demonstrate what projects the government accomplished during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure before making allegations against others. Continuing his verbal assault, Somireddy warned Kakani to remember that he is still out on conditional bail. "Will you intimidate police officers every day? Will you tear down the TDP hoardings and banners?" he asked sharply.

He accused the YSRCP leaders of acting fearlessly and lawlessly, claiming even the police seemed powerless in front of them. Referring to allegations related to Shivala lands in Kakani, Somireddy said he had already clarified the facts and exposed the falsehoods. "Kakani made baseless charges and became a laughing stock," he said

mockingly. Somireddy further alleged that Kakani had been involved in a 150 crore scam in the Irrigation Department. "We halted those bills when we discovered irregularities. How can the same work have bills filed under three or four different departments?" he asked, demanding accountability.

In a pointed remark, Somireddy noted that just a day before the Andhra Pradesh general elections, Kakani's son-in-law was made CEO of a company. "That company was used to grab lands," he alleged.

Concluding his remarks, Somireddy said Kakani had crossed all limits by making false and personal remarks.

"The real gang of sea-

Achyutapuram SEZ Fire: Home Minister Anitha Terms Incident "Unfortunate", Orders Detailed Probe



TPN Bureau | January 4

of "so many chemical storage tanks" within the premises, she demanded a clear explanation regarding the plant's safety procedures.

"Such negligence cannot be tolerated, and those responsible will face strict legal action," she warned. Speaking to the media after her visit, Anitha said that the incident was deeply regrettable but appreciated the swift response from local authorities. "Immediately after receiving information, fire safety teams rushed to the spot and managed to control the flames. The local MLA and revenue officials also reached the site promptly," she noted.

The Home Minister directed officials to submit a comprehensive report within two days, detailing the circumstances that led to the fire, the extent of the damage, and whether safety protocols were followed. She emphasized that the state government is committed to pre-

venting such industrial accidents in the future by enforcing strict adherence to fire and safety regulations in all hazardous industries operating in the region.

"The government will not spare anyone who shows negligence towards public safety," Anitha asserted, warning industrial units against lax safety standards. The fire accident at SVS Chemical Industries triggered panic among workers and nearby residents, though initial reports suggest there were no major injuries. Investigations are currently underway to determine the exact cause of the blaze and assess the potential environmental impact.

This is the latest in a series of industrial accidents in the Visakhapatnam-Anakapalli industrial belt, raising serious concerns about compliance with safety norms in the region's chemical sector.

Roja Slams Pawan Kalyan's Politics, Questions His Role in Andhra Pradesh Governance



TPN Bureau | Jan 4

Amaravati: Former Andhra Pradesh minister and senior YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leader R.K. Roja launched a sharp verbal attack on Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party (JSP) chief Pawan Kalyan, questioning his political strategy, credibility, and contribution to the state's governance.

Her remarks came during an exclusive interview where she dissected Pawan's recent political positioning and his party's role in the current Andhra Pradesh coalition government. Roja did not mince words when criticizing Pawan Kalyan and his cadre, alleging that Jana Sena workers lacked ideological consistency.

"I have never seen such shameless flag bearers," she said, in reference to Jana Sena activists. "They carry every other party's flag except their own. How can you call yourself a party worker if you

don't stand by your own flag?" Accusing Jana Sena of being politically opportunistic, the former minister questioned the very purpose of Pawan Kalyan's party. "What is your party even for?" she asked rhetorically. "It has only served the purpose of grabbing political packages and benefits. Apart from that, it has done nothing meaningful for the people or for state development." Roja further challenged the legitimacy of Pawan Kalyan's political influence, citing the electoral results from 2024. "With such a small vote share, how did his party end up winning 21 seats?" she asked pointedly, implying that the results were more a reflection of alliances and external support rather than genuine public backing.

She reiterated her faith in YSRCP's policies under Jagan Mohan Reddy and claimed that the party would regain public trust despite the current political setback. Her fiery remarks underscore the intensifying political rhetoric in Andhra Pradesh as the ruling alliance navigates governance challenges and opposition criticism. As Pawan Kalyan consolidates his new government role, voices like Roja's signal that the political fight between Jana Sena and YSRCP is far from over.

NTR Police and Banks Join Forces to Combat Rising Cyber Frauds

TPN Bureau |
January 04:

In a significant step to tackle the growing threat of online fraud, the NTR District Police have partnered with major banks in the region to implement preventive measures and raise public awareness about cybercrime. A key meeting in Vijayawada brought together senior police officials and bank representatives to discuss coordinated action, education, and reporting mechanisms aimed at safeguarding citizens from digital scams.

The Commissioner of Police highlighted that cybercrime has become

a serious challenge, with fraudsters constantly evolving new tactics to deceive victims. He emphasized that tackling such crimes requires a collective effort involving law enforcement, financial institutions, and alert citizens working together, rather than in isolation.

A major focus of the discussions was the launch of a Cybercrime Awareness and Prevention initiative. Under this program, police teams are conducting awareness drives within bank branches to educate staff and customers about identifying common threats, including phishing at-



tempts, fake loan offers, fraudulent investment

schemes, and digital arrest scams. Bank em-

ployees are also being trained on the correct

steps to take when suspicious activity is detected, including immediate reporting to authorities.

Police officials urged bankers to act as key partners in protecting citizens by spreading knowledge about safety practices and preventive tools. Banks were encouraged to promote the district's cybercrime reporting system so that customers can quickly report suspicious transactions or messages. Practical measures, such as vigilant monitoring of unusual account activity, were also emphasized to detect fraud attempts before they cause significant financial harm.

The Commissioner noted that public cooperation has already contributed to the installation of thousands of CCTV cameras across the commissionerate limits, aiding law enforcement in both traditional crime detection and tracing patterns related to digital crimes. Advanced policing technology combined with partnerships with banks creates multiple layers of defense against cybercriminals. Bank officials attending the meeting expressed their commitment to working closely with the police. They noted that better communication, training, and awareness will help

frontline staff identify warning signs early. They also stressed the importance of customer education, pointing out that informed citizens are far less likely to fall victim to online fraud.

As cybercrime continues to evolve, this collaboration between the NTR Police and the banking sector aims to build a stronger defense network. By focusing on awareness, prevention, and quick reporting, the initiative seeks to reduce online fraud while empowering citizens to protect themselves against increasingly sophisticated digital threats.

Machilipatnam Police Take Tough Action Against Drug Addiction with Innovative Measures



TPN Bureau | JAN 04

In a determined effort to curb drug abuse and its social impact, police in Machilipatnam have taken a series of innovative punitive and preventive measures targeting drug addicts and substance abuse in the coastal city of Krishna district. The local police have stepped up their strategy to address the increasing concern over youth being drawn into drug culture, blending law enforcement with community-oriented interventions.

In recent weeks, Machilipatnam police officials have intensified awareness campaigns and strict enforcement actions aimed at deterring individuals involved in drug use and addiction. Recognising that punishment alone may not be enough, authorities have introduced novel corrective approaches that combine behavioural counseling with community service tasks for first-time offenders.

Those caught using drugs are now being channelled through structured rehabilita-

tion programs that include mandatory attendance at awareness sessions, counselling workshops, and community service activities designed to reintegrate them constructively into society. Senior officers explained that these measures are part of a wider vision to create a drug-free environment in the district by not only penalising consumption but also encouraging recovery and positive lifestyle changes. Rather than relying solely on fines or detention, police are working with local NGOs and social workers to ensure that addicts receive continued support, guidance, and opportunities to break free from substance dependence.

Machilipatnam's police force has also launched street level awareness drives, where officers interact directly with youth and families in public spaces. These drives emphasise the dangers of drug use, including health risks, potential legal consequences, and its broader impact on families and careers. The initiative

Youth Should Cultivate High Personalities, Says MLA Buddharaprasad at Vijayawada Book Festival

TPN Bureau | jan 04

Vijayawada: Emphasizing the importance of personal development among the younger generation, local legislator Buddharaprasad urged youth to adopt higher standards of character and personality at a recent cultural event in Vijayawada.

The remarks were made during the inaugural session of the Vijayawada Book Festival, where the legislator highlighted the value of reading and self improvement. Speaking to an audience that included students, educators, authors, and book enthusiasts, Buddharaprasad encouraged young people to explore literature that broadens their worldview and fosters strong moral values. He said that in an era of rapid social and technological change, developing a solid and enlightened personality is key to success and responsible citizenship.

The book festival, organised by cultural and literary circles in the city, aims to promote reading habits and create a vibrant space for cultural exchange. Several stalls showcasing works by regional, national and international authors were set up at the venue, drawing enthusiastic crowds throughout the day. Literature on topics ranging from self help and leadership to history and contemporary issues



caught the attention of many visitors.

During his address, the MLA stated that books are windows to wisdom and urged youth not to be confined to academic textbooks alone. He stressed that engaging with diverse genres helps in shaping critical thinking, empathy, and creativity. "A well cultivated personality not only brings individual success but also contributes to social harmony and community development," he remarked.

The event also featured talks by prominent writers and cultural figures who shared their insights on the role of literature in personal growth. Several school and college students expressed appreciation for the opportunity to interact with authors and access a wide range of reading material. "This festival is more than an exhibition; it's a chance for us to grow mentally and emotionally," one young attendee commented.

Organisers said the festival aims to run through the week, with special sessions planned on writing workshops, poetry readings, and discussions on personality development and career guidance. Teachers and parents were also encouraged to accompany students to help foster a culture of reading from an early age.

In closing, Buddharaprasad reiterated the importance of lifelong

learning. He said that while formal education equips youth with technical knowledge, books and thoughtful reflection nurture the inner self — a combination that prepares young people to face life's challenges with confidence and integrity. The festival continues to attract visitors from across Vijayawada and neighbouring areas, reinforcing the city's reputation as a center for cultural and intellectual engagement.

NRIs from Across the Globe Attend Third World Telugu Conference in Guntur

TPN Bureau | Jan 04
Guntur: A vibrant international presence marked the recently concluded Third World Telugu Conference in Guntur, as Telugu people living abroad — including non-resident Indians (NRIs) — travelled from various countries to participate in the cultural and linguistic celebration.

Among the international visitors were Telugu families and community leaders who shared their experiences of living abroad while keeping Telugu culture alive through local associations, cultural programmes, language classes and digital platforms. These delegates emphasised the importance of passing on Telugu language and traditions to younger generations born overseas, noting that events like the World Telugu Conference provide a powerful platform for cultural exchange and unity.

The Mauritus delegation was particularly notable, with representatives highlighting the strong Telugu cultural presence in their coun-

try. They spoke about efforts to integrate Telugu language education into community schools and local cultural festivals that celebrate Telugu traditions annually. Several delegates from North America, Europe and the Middle East also discussed how Telugu associations in their coun-

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Justice P.S. Narasimha Unveils Portrait of Late Advocate M.K. Seetharamaiah at Visakhapatnam Bar Association

TPN Bureau | Jan 4
Visakhapatnam: The Visakhapatnam Bar Association on Sunday paid rich tributes to the late senior advocate M.K. Seetharamaiah, unveiling his portrait in a solemn ceremony that celebrated his life and contributions to the legal fraternity. The event was graced by Supreme Court Judge Justice P.S. Narasimha, who unveiled the portrait and addressed the gathering of distinguished judges, lawyers, and legal scholars.

Speaking at the ceremony, Justice Narasimha highlighted Seetharamaiah's towering legacy as a lawyer, freedom-era patriot, and

principled public figure. "It is a remarkable gesture to celebrate the memory of such a distinguished personality like a festival," he said. "M.K. Seetharamaiah led an exemplary life and served the society with integrity, vision, and commitment to justice. His career remains an inspiration for generations of advocates."

"Recalling the historical context of Seetharamaiah's lifetime, Justice Narasimha noted that he was only eleven years old when India gained independence in 1947. "He grew up at a time when the nation itself was learning to stand on its own. He imbibed that spirit of responsibility



and worked tirelessly to uphold the ideals of a free and just India," the judge observed. Justice Narasimha also expressed a personal connection with Visakhapatnam and the Telugu language, describing his presence at the event as deeply meaningful.

"I share a strong bond with this city and with the Telugu language. It is always a privilege to return to Andhra Pradesh and participate in events that honour the people who shaped its intellectual and moral fabric," he added. Senior members of the Visakhapatnam Bar Association spoke fondly of Seetharamaiah's mentoring nature, his

contribution to nurturing young advocates, and his unwavering commitment to professional ethics.

Several speakers recounted anecdotes from his illustrious career that reflected his sharp intellect, compassion, and legal acumen. The event concluded with floral tributes and a moment of silence, symbolizing respect and gratitude for a stalwart who helped define the moral core of the legal community in Andhra Pradesh.

The Bar Association resolved to continue celebrating Seetharamaiah's birth anniversary annually, ensuring that his name and values re-

Indigo Resumes Hyderabad-Tirupati Flight Service After Month-Long Suspension



TPN Bureau | Jan 4
Renigunta (Tirupati): Passengers traveling between Hyderabad and Tirupati received welcome news as Indigo Airlines officially resumed its flight operations on this busy route after a month-long suspension. The service, which had been halted due to a nationwide operational crisis within the airline in December, has now been reinstated beginning Friday, January 2. Indigo, India's largest private airline, had temporarily suspended multiple domestic flights in mid-

December, citing internal disruptions that affected crew availability and scheduling. Among the affected routes was the popular Hyderabad-Tirupati sector, a key connection for pilgrims, business travelers, and tourists heading to the temple city from Telangana's capital. According to airport officials, the airline has reintroduced its afternoon flight, which departs Hyderabad at 2:25 p.m., arrives at Tirupati's Renigunta Airport by 3:05 p.m., and takes off again for Hyderabad at 3:25 p.m. Despite the delay, airport

This schedule is expected to benefit passengers who prefer midday travel and rely on consistent connections between the two cities. However, the resumed operations are still stabilizing. On Saturday, the scheduled Indigo flight that was supposed to arrive in Tirupati at 3:05 p.m. landed only at 5:00 p.m., about two hours behind schedule. The aircraft departed back to Hyderabad at 5:25 p.m., once ground operations and passenger boarding were completed. Despite the delay, airport

authorities reported that the flight ran smoothly and passengers expressed relief that the route was operational again. Officials from Renigunta Airport said Indigo's resumption marks a positive sign for both the airline and travelers, especially as the Tirupati sector sees strong demand throughout the year due to the presence of Lord Venkateswara Temple and growing economic activity in southern Andhra Pradesh.

Travel industry observers note that Indigo's deci-

sion to restore flights on this route demonstrates confidence in passenger demand and operational recovery after last month's disruptions. The airline is also expected to gradually restore other affected services across the country in the coming weeks.

With air connectivity returning to normal, pilgrims and other travelers can once again expect regular flight operations linking Hyderabad and Tirupati, one of the busiest short-distance routes in southern India.

Machilipatnam Police Parade Drunk Youth in Public, Send Stern Warning to Mischief-Makers



TPN Bureau | Jan 4
Machilipatnam: Machilipatnam, January 4: The Krishna district police have taken a tough stance against public nuisance caused by intoxicated individuals in Machilipatnam. The incident, which occurred on Saturday night at Ganesh Bhavan area, has drawn widespread public attention after police paraded the offenders on foot from the scene of the disturbance through Koneuru Center to the local police station. According to official reports, three young men created a ruckus under the influence of alcohol near Ganesh Bhavan.

They allegedly attacked pedestrians and damaged property, including the office of a local cable operator. The incident caused panic among residents and disrupted public peace in the area. Taking serious note of the unrest, Krishna District Superintendent of Police (SP) Vidyasagar Naidu directed his officers to take immediate and strict action.

Speaking to the media, CI Yesubabu stated that the action was intended to deliver a strong message to habitual drinkers, hooligans, and drug users.

"This is a stern warning—anyone who disturbs public peace or causes harassment to others will face severe consequences. We will not tolerate such behavior under any circumstances," he said.

The police have booked the three under multiple sections of the law and have begun further investigation. Public reaction to the police response has been mixed. Many residents praised the firm action, saying it would deter similar misbehavior in the future and help maintain law and order.

Others expressed concern about whether public parading was too extreme. Still, the incident has highlighted the Machilipatnam police's determination to safeguard peace and ensure community safety through visible, decisive enforcement.

Vizag city police achieved more



DCP highlighted five heinous Pocso cases involving minor victims in which the trials were completed swiftly, well within a year of the offences.

These cases, all handled by the Visakhapatnam Special Pocso Court, resulted in severe sentences and compensation orders intended to support the child survivors. Swiftest case: life till death. In the fastest case, concluded within five months, the Special

Pocso Court sentenced a father to life imprisonment till death for sexually assaulting his four-year-old daughter.

The court also directed payment of 5 lakh compensation to the victim, to be disbursed through the appropriate legal mechanism. Other key Pocso verdicts in another case completed in six months, two accused were sentenced to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment in two more cases: one involving a minor girl with physical and mental disabilities, finished in eight months

minor girl, with 40,000 awarded as compensation. In a separate case of rape of two minor daughters by their father, the court imposed 20 years of rigorous imprisonment within 10 months and ordered 3 lakh compensation to each victim.

The court also gave 20-year rigorous imprisonment in two more cases: one involving a minor girl with physical and mental disabilities, finished in eight months

'Say No to Drugs' Abhuyudayam Cycle Rally Concludes in Ichchapuram; Minister Anita Vows Drug-Free Andhra Pradesh

TPN Bureau | Jan 4
Ichchapuram: Home Minister Vangalapudi Anita called upon the public to join hands in eradicating ganja cultivation and protecting the future of youth from drug addiction. She participated in the "Abhuyudayam Cycle Yatra" organized at Ichchapuram on Saturday, aimed at spreading awareness under the slogan "Drugs Vaddu Bro" (Say No to Drugs). The event saw enthusiastic participation from Union Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu, IG Gopinath Jetti, Government Whip Ben-dalam Ashok, local representatives, students, and officials.

While Minister Anita led the rally on a scooter, others rode bicycles through the town, raising slogans against drug use. The rally culminated in a public meeting held at Surangi Raju Ground, where Anita reiterated that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's vision is to make Andhra Pradesh a drug-free state. "From Payakarapupeta to Ichchapuram, this

yatra has carried a strong message every individual must take responsibility to eliminate ganja. Special thanks to IG Gopinath Jetti and the Eagle Club led by IG Ravi Kiran for their commendable awareness drives. I am proud that Ichchapuram, my hometown, is concluding this mission.

Let this region lead the way in fighting drugs," she said. Anita emphasized strict law enforcement against those smuggling ganja leaves or plants across checkpoints. Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu accused the previous YSRCP government of turning the state into a hub for ganja cultivation.

He lauded the coalition government's firm crackdown since taking charge, noting that over 53,000 kilograms of ganja had been seized in just 18 months. "Police are now using drone cameras to detect illicit crops in inaccessible tribal areas. Alongside



eradication, tribal farmers are being educated on alternative livelihoods," he said.

The minister presented prizes to students who won essay competitions on anti-drug themes and felicitated participants of the yatra. Government Whip and Ichchapuram MLA Ben-dalam Ashok reaffirmed the government's commitment to building a drug-free state. "The Eagle special task force has made groundbreaking progress, and those sharing information via the toll-free number 1972 will have their identities protected," he assured. The event concluded with a series of captivating cultural performances by school children and sand sculptures depicting Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Minister Anita, and the Abhuyudayam Cycle Yatra, delighting the audience.

Bhogapuram International Airport: When a Region's Dream Finally Takes Flight



On the morning of January 4, 2026, at exactly 10:30 am, the sound of aircraft wheels touching the runway at Bhogapuram marked far more than a successful test landing. It marked the culmination of decades of aspiration, anticipation, and struggle for the people of North Andhra. When the Air India aircraft from Delhi landed at the Bhogapuram International Airport runway for the first time, history was written—not just in aviation records, but in the collective memory of Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, and Srikakulam districts. For a region that has long felt peripheral to India's rapid infrastructure growth, Bhogapuram represents arrival, recognition, and opportunity.

More Than Infrastructure: A Gateway to Transformation

Airports today are no longer just transport facilities; they are engines of transformation. Bhogapuram International Airport has the potential to fundamentally alter the economic, social, and cultural trajectory of North Andhra. Once full-scale airline operations begin in June 2026, the region is expected to witness changes that go far beyond easier travel.

Economically, the airport is poised to become a powerful growth catalyst. Improved air connectivity reduces distances—not just geographically, but economically. For businesses, faster access to markets, clients, and investors can be decisive. Industries such as pharmaceuticals, agro-processing, seafood exports, textiles, and electronics manufacturing stand to benefit significantly. For exporters, proximity to an international airport can translate into lower logistics costs and higher competitiveness.

Tourism is another sector likely to receive a major boost. North Andhra boasts immense yet underutilized tourism potential—unspoiled beaches, scenic hills, tribal cultures, Buddhist heritage sites, and eco-tourism destinations. Until now, limited air connectivity has kept many of these places off mainstream tourist circuits. Bhogapuram offers the chance to reposition the region as a major tourism destination, attracting both domestic and international visitors.

Employment generation is perhaps the most tangible promise of the airport. From airport operations, airlines, security, and ground handling to hotels, transport services, retail, and real estate, Bhogapuram is expected to create thousands of direct and indirect jobs. For young people in Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts—areas often marked by migration in search of work—this could mean opportunities closer to home.

Redefining Regional Balance

From a disaster management perspective, Bhogapuram could become a crucial hub. Coastal Andhra Pradesh is prone to cyclones and extreme weather events. An international-standard airport with a long runway and modern facilities between Bhogapuram and Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam will determine how accessible and attractive the airport becomes. Without seamless last-mile connectivity, even the most advanced airport risks underutilization.

One of the most compelling aspects of Bhogapuram International Airport is its potential to correct long-standing regional imbalances. Andhra Pradesh has often witnessed uneven development, with growth concentrated in a few urban centers while other regions lag behind. North Andhra, despite its strategic coastline and human capital, has struggled to attract investments at the scale it deserves.

Bhogapuram changes that equation. By placing a world-class aviation facility at the heart of the region, it sends a strong signal to investors, entrepreneurs, and institutions. Infrastructure has a magnetic effect—it attracts more infrastructure. Improved roads, logistics parks, industrial corridors, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, and urban housing are likely to follow.

There is also talk of Bhogapuram evolving into an aerotropolis—an integrated urban ecosystem centered around the airport. If planned carefully, this could become a model of balanced, sustainable development, where economic growth goes hand in hand with quality of life.

However, this promise comes with responsibility. Development must be inclusive. Local communities, particularly those who gave up

land or livelihoods for the project, must be active participants in the growth story. Skill development programs, fair compensation, employment opportunities, and social infrastructure will be essential to ensure that progress does not come at the cost of displacement or marginalization.

Strategic and National Importance

Bhogapuram's significance extends beyond regional development. Situated along India's eastern seaboard, close to the Bay of Bengal, the airport holds strategic importance. It complements port-led development in Visakhapatnam and strengthens India's civil aviation presence in a geopolitically sensitive region.

From a disaster management perspective, Bhogapuram could become a crucial hub. Coastal Andhra Pradesh is prone to cyclones and extreme weather events. An international-standard airport with a long runway and modern facilities between Bhogapuram and Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam will determine how accessible and attractive the airport becomes. Without seamless last-mile connectivity, even the most advanced airport risks underutilization.

Affordability and airline participation will also matter. Competitive landing charges, incentives for airlines, and passenger-friendly services can help Bhogapuram quickly establish itself as a preferred hub. Coordination between the state government, airport operator, and aviation

authorities will be key to ensuring smooth operations.

Environmental sustainability is another crucial dimension. As a greenfield project, Bhogapuram has the opportunity to adopt global best practices in renewable energy use, water conservation, waste management, and carbon reduction. A truly modern airport must balance growth with environmental responsibility.

A Symbol of Hope and Accountability

The grand event marking the first aircraft landing—attended by MPs, MLAs, district collectors, and senior officials—reflected the emotional significance of the moment. For the people of North Andhra, Bhogapuram is not just an airport; it is a symbol of hope. Hope that their region will finally receive the attention it deserves. Hope that young people will find opportunities without leaving home. Hope that connectivity will bring confidence, investment, and pride.

At the same time, Bhogapuram must also become a symbol of accountability. Public infrastructure is built with public resources and public trust. Transparent governance, efficient management, and people-centric planning will determine whether this airport becomes a lasting success or merely a ceremonial achievement.

Conclusion: A Runway to the Future

January 4, 2026, will be remembered as the day North Andhra's aspirations found wings. The landing of the first aircraft at Bhogapuram International Airport is not the end of a journey, but the beginning of a new one. It represents what is possible when vision, persistence, and political will align.

As India moves forward on its path to becoming a global economic power, regional infrastructure like Bhogapuram will define the inclusiveness of that growth. If nurtured wisely, Bhogapuram can become more than an airport—it can become a gateway to prosperity, dignity, and balanced development for millions.

The runway has been tested. The aircraft has landed. The challenge now is to ensure that Bhogapuram does not merely take off, but soars—carrying an entire region toward a future that is more connected, confident, and full of promise.



India Voices Deep Concern As US Military Action Unfolds In Venezuela



India has expressed "deep concern" over the rapidly evolving situation in Venezuela following the dramatic US military operation that led to the capture of President Nicolás Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores. In an official statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) emphasised India's commitment to peace, stability, and dialogue, while reaffirming its support for the safety and well-being of the Venezuelan people. The carefully worded response reflects India's long-standing diplomatic principle of non-intervention and respect for sovereignty.

The US operation, described as a textbook nighttime airborne raid, has drawn global

attention for its scale and implications. Maduro, who ruled Venezuela for 12 years and had a \$50 million US bounty on his head, was flown to New York to face drug and weapons charges. US President Donald Trump openly celebrated the operation, sharing images of Maduro in custody and stating that he followed the raid "like watching a television show." Such remarks have intensified concerns over the normalisation of military interventions as political tools.

India's response avoided taking sides, instead calling on "all concerned" to resolve issues peacefully through dialogue. This stance aligns with New Delhi's broader foreign

policy approach, which prioritises strategic autonomy and avoids alignment in polarising global conflicts. At the same time, India confirmed that its embassy in Caracas is in contact with members of the Indian community and will provide necessary assistance — a reminder that citizen safety remains a core diplomatic priority.

The developments in Venezuela also carry wider implications for global governance. The forcible removal of a sitting head of state by a foreign power raises troubling questions about international law, precedent, and accountability. While Venezuela's opposition leader María Corina Machado declared

the moment as the country's "hour of freedom," uncertainty looms large over what follows. Regime change without a clear roadmap risks prolonged instability, economic disruption, and humanitarian consequences.

India's measured response underscores its preference for stability over spectacle. By urging peaceful dialogue and refraining from celebratory rhetoric, New Delhi signals its discomfort with unilateral military actions, regardless of the target. As geopolitical tensions rise and power politics become increasingly aggressive, India's position highlights the relevance of restraint and diplomacy in a volatile global order.

Mausam Noor's Return To Congress Could Reshape Bengal's Political Equations

Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Mausam Noor's return to the Congress marks a politically significant moment in West Bengal, particularly ahead of upcoming elections. Noor, a Radjya Sabha MP and niece of veteran leader Ghani Khan Choudhury, began her political journey with the Congress in 2008 before switching to the TMC seven years ago.

Her "homecoming" comes at a time when the Congress is struggling for relevance in Bengal, having lost its traditional stronghold of Malda and lacking prominent leadership. Noor's re-entry could provide the party with a recognisable Muslim face in a region where identity politics remains influential.

For the TMC, her exit is more symbolic than numerically damaging, but it underscores growing churn within the party. For Congress, the move offers an opportunity to revive organisational morale and reconnect with minority voters disillusioned with both the TMC and BJP.

However, the challenges

are substantial. Congress's grassroots presence in Bengal has weakened considerably, and translating Noor's personal influence into electoral success will require

strategic alliances and organisational rebuilding.

Her return also complicates opposition dynamics, potentially affecting seat-sharing calculations and voter

consolidation. Whether Noor's move signals a broader revival or remains an isolated episode will depend on how effectively Congress capitalises on this moment.

Ajit Pawar And Murlidhar Mohol Clash Highlights Hypocrisy Debate In Electoral Politics

A sharp political exchange between Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and Union Minister Murlidhar Mohol has reignited debate over criminalisation in electoral politics. Mohol criticised the NCP for granting tickets to candidates accused of serious crimes, prompting Pawar to retaliate by accusing the BJP of shielding a goon who allegedly fled the country.

Pawar's remarks reflect a familiar pattern in Indian politics: moral posturing without collective accountability. While Mohol argued that all parties must keep criminals out of elections, Pawar's counter-attack suggested selective outrage driven by political convenience rather than principle.

The episode exposes a deeper systemic issue. Across party lines, candidates with criminal backgrounds continue to receive tickets due to their perceived "winnability." Public condemnation often masks private complicity,

eroding voter trust in political institutions.

Rather than addressing structural reform, such exchanges reduce the debate to point-scoring. The lack

electoral cleansing ensures that criminalisation remains an entrenched feature of Indian democracy.

Ultimately, the clash serves as a reminder that meaningful reform re-

quires political will beyond rhetoric. Until parties prioritise ethics over expediency, accusations will continue to fly — but accountability will remain elusive.

Virat Kohli's Switch To Indian Sportswear Brand Signals A Shift In Entrepreneurial Confidence

Virat Kohli's decision to walk away from a lucrative ₹300 crore partnership with global sportswear giant Puma and align instead with Indian company Agilitas Sports has sparked widespread discussion beyond the realm of sports endorsements. Entrepreneur Ritesh Agarwal, founder of OYO Rooms, described the move as a powerful sign of India's growing business confidence — a statement that reflects a broader shift in how Indian celebrities view domestic enterprises.

Kohli's association with Puma, which began in 2017 alongside the launch of his lifestyle brand One8, was seen as a landmark partnership between Indian sporting stardom and global branding. However, after completing the eight-year contract, Kohli chose to back Agilitas Sports, a relatively young

Indian company founded in 2023 and valued at over ₹2,000 crore. The decision suggests that Indian brands are no longer viewed as secondary alternatives but as serious global contenders.

Ritesh Agarwal's remarks resonate in a startup ecosystem often criticised for excessive dependence on foreign capital and validation. Kohli's move challenges that narrative by demonstrating faith in Indian entrepreneurship, innovation, and scale. It also reflects a deeper evolution: celebrities are no longer merely brand ambassadors but strategic investors shaping long-term business identities.

This transition also mirrors India's broader economic ambitions. With domestic manufacturing, design, and brand-building gaining momentum, backing homegrown companies

carries symbolic and practical value. Kohli's global stature offers Agilitas credibility, visibility, and aspirational appeal — advantages traditionally reserved for multinational brands.

At a cultural level, the move reflects changing definitions of success. Instead of maximising immediate financial returns, Kohli appears to be investing in legacy, ownership, and alignment with India's economic rise. As more high-profile figures make similar choices, the boundary between sports, business, and nation-building continues to blur.

Ultimately, Kohli's decision is less about rejecting Puma and more about embracing India's growing confidence in its own entrepreneurial capabilities. It signals a future where Indian brands are not just locally competitive but globally ambitious.

ED Reveals Systemic Corruption In Gujarat Land Use Clearances Involving IAS Officer

The arrest of former Surendranagar collector Rajendrakumar Patel has exposed what the Enforcement Directorate (ED) describes as a systematic corruption network embedded within Gujarat's land-use clearance mechanism. According to the agency, bribes were allegedly fixed at rates ranging from ₹5 to ₹10 per square metre to expedite applications for change of land use, turning governance into a transactional process.

The ED informed the court that Patel, along with deputy mamlatdar Chandrasinh Mori and other officials, exploited the Integrated Online Revenue Applications (IORA) portal — a platform designed to

enhance transparency. Instead of reducing corruption, the digital system allegedly became a tool for extracting "speed money," highlighting how technology alone cannot eliminate entrenched administrative malpractice.

Investigators claim Patel was the "biggest beneficiary" of the proceeds of crime, suggesting that corruption was neither incidental nor decentralised, but centrally orchestrated.

The case challenges assumptions that digitisation automatically ensures accountability, revealing how discretionary power can still be misused behind digital interfaces.

The implications extend beyond one district. Land-

use approvals influence real estate development, infrastructure planning, and agricultural livelihoods. When such decisions are monetised through bribes, public trust erodes and economic inequality deepens. The scandal also raises uncomfortable questions about oversight mechanisms and political accountability in administrative appointments.

As Patel remains in ED custody, the case serves as a reminder that corruption in governance is adaptive, evolving alongside reforms meant to curb it. The real test lies in whether enforcement actions lead to systemic reform or remain isolated episodes of accountability.

Global Reactions Reveal Deep Divisions Over US Military Intervention In Venezuela



World leaders responded to the US action against Venezuela with sharply divided views. China and Russia strongly condemned the operation, calling it a violation of international law and an act of armed aggression against a sovereign nation. Iran echoed these concerns, warning that such interventions could fuel regional chaos.

Latin American countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Chile, and Uruguay, expressed serious concern and rejected military intervention as a solution. Many leaders warned that ignoring sovereignty could push the region toward instability and conflict. Cuba described the attack as criminal, while Venezuela's interior minister urged citizens to remain calm and trust national

institutions.

In contrast, Argentina's President Javier Milei openly supported the move, framing it as a victory for freedom. Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu congratulated Trump for what he called historic leadership. The UK and EU adopted cautious positions, acknowledging Maduro's lack of legitimacy while stressing the importance of international law and a peaceful transition.

The United Nations Secretary General expressed deep alarm, stating that the strikes set a dangerous precedent. In the US, opposition leaders questioned the legality of the action, warning that military operations without Congressional authorisation could have long-term consequences.

Maduro's Fall Leaves Venezuela At A Crossroads With No Clear Political Roadmap



While the removal of Nicolás Maduro ends a controversial chapter in Venezuela's history, it leaves the country facing deep uncertainty. Maduro controlled key institutions including the military, judiciary, and electoral system, supported by loyal militias. His sudden removal creates a power vacuum with no clearly defined leadership structure.

The US has not recognised Maduro as president since the disputed 2024 elections, which international observers deemed neither free nor fair. Opposition leaders welcomed his fall, but divisions within the opposition raise concerns about governance and legitimacy. Human rights organisations have long documented abuses under Maduro, in-

cluding political prisoners, torture, and extrajudicial killings.

Historically, US-led regime change efforts in Latin America have produced mixed results. The 1989 Panama invasion is often cited as a parallel, but Venezuela's scale, resources, and regional influence make the situation far more complex. Without a clear transition plan, Venezuela risks prolonged instability, internal conflict, and economic disruption.

The crisis highlights a broader global dilemma: removing authoritarian rulers may appear decisive, but sustainable peace depends on inclusive political processes. What happens next in Venezuela will test international norms, regional diplomacy, and the limits of military power in shaping democratic outcomes.

US Detention Of Nicolás Maduro Signals A Historic Shift In Latin American Power Politics



The detention of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and First Lady Cilia Flores in a New York federal detention centre represents one of the most extraordinary episodes in recent international politics. Following coordinated US air and ground strikes on Venezuelan military infrastructure, Maduro was captured in Caracas and flown to the United States to face drug traf-

ficking and weapons-related charges. The move effectively ended more than a decade of his rule and signalled a dramatic escalation in US involvement in Latin America.

President Donald Trump stated that the United States would "run" Venezuela until a "safe, proper and judicious transition" of power could be achieved. He further claimed that US oil companies would help

repair Venezuela's broken infrastructure and revive its economy. These remarks have raised serious concerns about sovereignty, foreign occupation, and economic exploitation, especially given Venezuela's vast oil reserves.

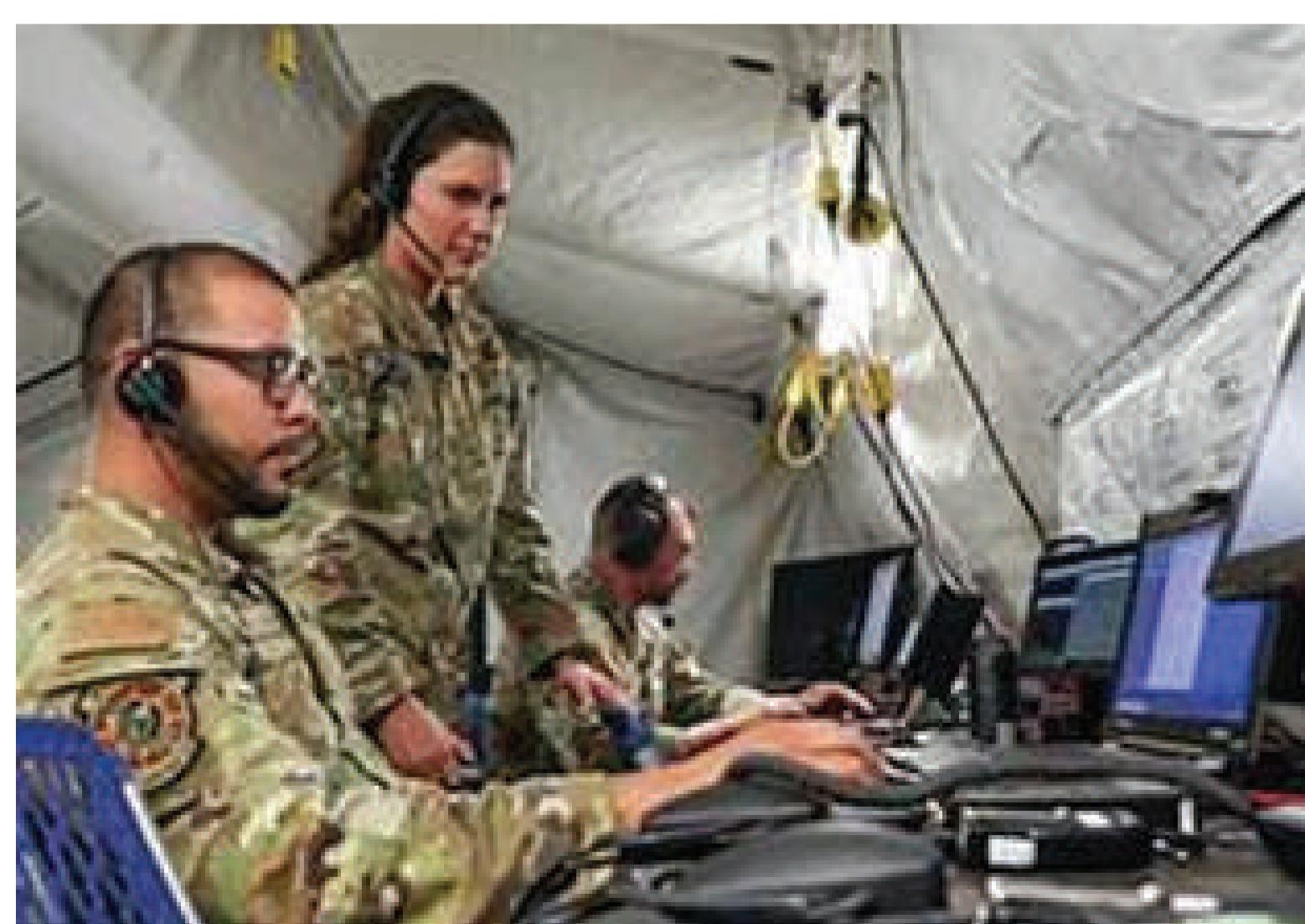
Venezuela immediately declared a national emergency and condemned the operation as military aggression. While Maduro has long denied allega-

tions of leading a drug cartel, the US has repeatedly accused him of heading the "Cartel de los Soles." The capture has deepened fears of prolonged instability, particularly as Venezuelans continue to suffer from economic collapse, inflation, shortages, and mass migration.

This episode marks a sharp reversal of Trump's earlier pledge to avoid new wars. Ana-

lysts argue that while the removal of an authoritarian leader may be welcomed by some, direct military intervention without international consensus risks destabilising the region. The situation underscores the tension between enforcing accountability and respecting international law, making Venezuela a new flashpoint in global geopolitics.

Operation Absolute Resolve Shows Unprecedented US Military Precision And Intelligence Reach



The US military operation that led to the capture of Nicolás Maduro was the result of months of meticulous intelligence gathering and strategic planning. Dubbed "Operation Absolute Resolve," the mission involved US spies tracking Maduro's daily movements, security arrangements, and locations. According to offi-

cials, even details about his personal habits were monitored to minimise risk and maximise surprise.

Elite US forces reportedly trained on a full-scale replica of Maduro's Caracas safe house. The operation was launched only after optimal weather and visibility conditions were achieved. More than 150

aircraft, including fighter jets, bombers, and reconnaissance planes, were deployed in one of the largest US military mobilisations in the region in decades.

Explosions were heard across Caracas in the early hours of the morning, with smoke rising from key military installations such as air bases and

ports. Residents described panic, darkness, and confusion as aircraft flew low over the city. Videos circulated widely on social media, showing detonations and helicopters hovering over the capital.

President Trump followed the operation live from his Mar-a-Lago residence, describing it as "incredible" and praising the

speed and force of the mission. Critics, however, argue that bypassing Congressional approval sets a dangerous precedent. The secrecy surrounding the mission and lack of international consultation have intensified debates about accountability, legality, and the future use of military force for regime change.

SUV Dominance In India's Used-Car Market Persists Despite GST Relief For Small Cars



India's used-car market continues to show a strong and consistent preference for sport utility vehicles (SUVs), even after recent GST-led price reductions made small cars more affordable. Industry executives and data from used-car platforms indicate that buyer behaviour has remained largely unchanged, with SUVs enjoying faster inventory turnover and stronger residual values compared to hatchbacks.

The revised GST regime reduced prices across segments, but the impact has been uneven. Hatchbacks witnessed a price moderation of around 21 per cent, while SUVs saw a sharper adjustment of nearly 29 per cent. Despite this larger price

correction, SUV demand has remained resilient, highlighting that affordability alone does not dictate consumer choice in the secondary market.

According to Abhishek Patodia, President – Used Cars at CarWale, the preference for SUVs reflects evolving consumer priorities. Buyers increasingly value space, comfort, driving confidence, and road presence – factors that SUVs naturally offer. These attributes have gained importance as Indian households travel longer distances, navigate mixed road conditions, and seek vehicles that serve both urban and semi-rural needs.

The faster inventory turnover of SUVs also suggests high-

er liquidity in the segment. Dealers are able to sell SUVs more quickly than hatchbacks, even though SUVs command higher ticket sizes. This trend supports stronger residual values, making SUVs a more attractive asset from both ownership and resale perspectives.

Interestingly, the data suggests that GST changes did not significantly alter buyer psychology. While small cars became cheaper, they did not see a proportionate surge in demand. This may indicate saturation in the entry-level segment, where consumers upgrading from two-wheelers or older hatchbacks are now skipping directly to compact or mid-size SUVs.

From a broader economic

standpoint, the trend reflects rising income aspirations and changing lifestyle expectations. The used-car market often mirrors long-term consumer sentiment more accurately than the new-car market, as buyers are value-conscious yet aspirational.

Overall, the sustained dominance of SUVs in the used-car space underscores a structural shift rather than a temporary trend. Even policy-driven price interventions have not diluted the appeal of larger vehicles, reinforcing the idea that consumer preferences in India's auto market are increasingly driven by utility and lifestyle rather than cost alone.

Ex-Date Watchlist Highlights How Corporate Actions Shape Short-Term Stock Market Focus

Shares of Orient Technologies, Fairchem Organics, A-1 Limited, and Antariksh Industries are expected to remain in focus in the coming week as they trade ex-date for various corporate actions. These developments underline how announcements such as bonus issues, stock splits, and buybacks influence investor behaviour and short-term market movements.

According to BSE data, Orient Technologies and Antariksh Industries will trade ex-date for bonus issues of equity shares. A-1 Limited will trade ex-date following the subdivision of its equity shares, while Fairchem Organics will go ex-date for its share buyback announcement.

Investors seeking eligibility for these corporate actions must hold the shares on or before the ex-date, although final entitlement depends on the record date set by each company.

Orient Technologies, an IT-enabled services provider, has announced a bonus issue in the ratio of 1:10. This means shareholders will receive one new fully paid-up equity share of ₹10 for every ten existing shares held. Bonus issues are often perceived positively, as they signal management confidence in long-term growth and improve stock liquidity by increasing the number of shares outstanding.

Similarly, stock splits, such as the one announced by A-1 Lim-

ited, aim to make shares more affordable and attractive to retail investors. While such actions do not change a company's fundamental value, they can increase trading volumes and broaden investor participation.

Fairchem Organics' buyback announcement places it in focus for a different reason. Buybacks reduce the number of outstanding shares and often signal that management believes the stock is undervalued. They can also improve earnings per share and provide downside support to stock prices.

However, market participants must exercise caution. Stocks often experience price volatility around ex-dates, as prices

adjust to reflect the corporate action. Short-term gains driven purely by corporate announcements may not sustain unless backed by strong fundamentals.

From an economic perspective, these developments highlight the importance of corporate governance decisions in shaping capital market dynamics. They also reflect how companies use financial tools to reward shareholders, manage capital structure, and influence investor sentiment.

In summary, the upcoming ex-dates reinforce the need for investors to look beyond headline announcements and assess whether corporate actions align with long-term value creation.

CPSE Rally Signals Renewed Investor Confidence In Government-Owned Enterprises

Shares of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) witnessed strong buying interest, with several stocks rallying up to 7 per cent in intra-day trade. The BSE CPSE index rose 1.83 per cent, significantly outperforming the broader Sensex, which gained just 0.58 per cent during the same session.

A wide range of CPSE stocks participated in the rally, including Coal India, BHEL, Nalco, NTPC, NHPC, Power Finance Corporation, IRFC, GAIL, and Hindustan Copper. The broad-based nature of the gains indicates renewed investor confidence in public sector enterprises rather than stock-specific speculation.

Coal India emerged as a standout performer, hitting a fresh 52-week high of 426.95 after surging nearly 7 per cent. The rally was supported by a more than three-fold jump in trading volumes, reflecting strong institutional participation. Coal India's performance also mirrors optimism around stable coal demand, pricing visibility, and healthy dividend expectations.

The renewed interest in CPS-

Es can be attributed to multiple factors. Attractive valuations, improving balance sheets, consistent dividend payouts, and expectations of policy support have made these stocks appealing in a market environment marked by selective participation. Additionally, CPSEs offer exposure to core sectors such as energy, infrastructure, mining, and power financing, which are central to India's growth agenda.

From a macroeconomic standpoint, the rally suggests a shift toward defensive and value-oriented investing. As global uncertainties persist, investors appear to be favouring companies with predictable cash flows and government backing.

The performance also highlights how CPSE stocks are no longer viewed solely as policy-driven entities but as commercially viable businesses capable of generating shareholder value.

Overall, the surge in CPSE stocks reflects a reassessment of the sector's role in India's equity markets and reinforces their importance in long-term portfolio allocation strategies.

IDBI Bank's 11-Year High Reflects Renewed Confidence In PSU Banking Turnaround



Shares of IDBI Bank surged to their highest level in over 11 years, rising as much as 11.1 per cent to ₹115.1 per share amid a sharp spike in trading volumes. The rally marks the third consecutive session of gains and signals renewed investor confidence in the bank's turnaround story.

Trading volumes surged nearly four times the 20-day average, indicating strong participation from institutional and high-net-worth investors. At its peak, IDBI Bank was trading at nearly 15 times its average 30-day volume, underscoring heightened market interest.

The rally comes against the backdrop of improving asset quality, stabilising earnings, and expectations surrounding strategic disinvestment. Over the past few years, IDBI Bank has made significant progress in reducing non-performing assets and strengthen-

ing its balance sheet, gradually restoring credibility in the market.

From a broader banking sector perspective, the stock's performance reflects optimism around PSU banks, many of which have benefited from credit growth, improved capital adequacy, and better risk management practices.

While short-term momentum has driven the recent surge, analysts caution that sustainability will depend on consistent profitability and clarity on ownership changes. Nevertheless, reaching an 11-year high carries strong psychological significance, indicating that investors are increasingly willing to price in long-term improvements.

The episode highlights how turnaround stories, when supported by data and execution, can dramatically reshape market perception.

Auto Ancillary Stocks Rally As Strong OEM Wholesales Boost Sector Outlook



Shares of auto component and equipment manufacturers surged up to 12 per cent amid heavy trading volumes, driven by stronger-than-expected auto wholesales in December 2025. Several companies, including Bosch, JBM Auto, Igarashi Motors, Jamna Auto, and Sansera Engineering, touched fresh 52-week highs.

The rally reflects optimism about sustained demand from original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), as vehicle sales exceeded analyst expectations across multiple segments. Strong wholesales suggest stable production schedules, directly benefiting component suppliers.

Auto ancillary companies play a criti-

cal role in the automotive value chain, supplying parts across passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, and two-wheelers. Improved OEM performance translates into better capacity utilisation, pricing power, and earnings visibility for these firms.

The sector's performance also indicates confidence in India's manufacturing growth story. Government initiatives supporting domestic manufacturing and supply chain localisation have strengthened the long-term outlook for auto ancillaries.

Overall, the rally underscores how cyclical recovery combined with structural tailwinds can drive sustained investor interest.

Silver's Historic Rally Faces Volatility But Long-Term Outlook Remains Strong



Silver delivered its best annual performance since 1979, surging 148 per cent in 2025 to reach \$71.66, driven by supply constraints, speculative interest, and China's export restrictions. The metal briefly touched an all-time high of \$84 in December before cooling off following margin hikes by global exchanges.

China's decision to impose export restrictions effective January 2026 has tightened global supply, impacting 7-10 per cent of global silver availability. With silver already in its fifth consecutive year of deficit, estimated at around 200 million ounces, the restrictions have intensified price volatility.

ETF holdings remain near multi-year

highs, while COMEX inventories are at their lowest levels since early 2025, further highlighting supply stress. However, sharp margin hikes by the CME and other exchanges have acted as a near-term bearish catalyst.

Analysts suggest silver must hold above \$70 to attempt a fresh rally, with risks of consolidation or correction if support breaks. Despite short-term volatility, the long-term outlook remains positive, supported by industrial demand, green energy applications, and structural supply deficits.

For long-term investors, silver continues to be viewed as an accumulation asset with a 3-5 year horizon, provided risk management is maintained.

From War Orphan To Midwife A Life Shaped By Compassion Across Borders



Image Credit: Pexels

The story of Xu Yan, a Japanese woman raised by Chinese families after being orphaned by war, stands as a powerful testament to humanity's capacity for compassion amid conflict. Born Sakura Yamamoto during the Second Sino-Japanese War, she lost both parents as an infant — her father in combat and her mother during childbirth. Left behind in China after Japan's defeat in 1945, her life could have easily slipped into obscurity.

Instead, it was transformed by kindness. Adopted first by one Chinese family and later lovingly raised by another, she was renamed Xu Yan — "swallow" — symbolizing resilience and inde-

pendence. In Dalian, under the care of her grandmother, she experienced unconditional love, stability, and education. These formative years shaped her worldview and sense of belonging.

As an adult, Xu Yan chose a path of service. After medical training, she became a midwife in rural China, assisting in the safe birth of countless children. For her, the work was deeply personal — a way to repay the life she had been given by strangers who became family. Every newborn she helped deliver represented continuity, healing, and hope beyond historical trauma.

Only later in life did she discover her Japa-

nese origins through vaccination records. Yet even then, she chose not to search for her biological roots. Her sense of identity was already complete. Dalian, not Japan, was home. Her story challenges rigid notions of nationality, showing that belonging is defined by care, not blood.

In a world still fractured by borders and historical grievances, Xu Yan's life quietly defies cynicism. It shows how compassion can outlast conflict, and how humanity can rebuild what war destroys — one act of kindness at a time.

A Fear-Free Walk At 3 AM And What It Reveals About Women's Safety



When Kritika Jain shared a video of herself walking alone at 3 am in Singapore, the internet reacted strongly — not because the act was dramatic, but because it was ordinary. The quiet streets, calm atmosphere, and absence of fear stood in stark contrast to what many women experience in other parts of the world, including India.

Jain's reflection was simple yet powerful. She explained that walking alone at night in Singapore felt normal, not brave. She did not feel the need to constantly look back or stay alert. This sense of security, she not-

ed, was the true reason she loved the city — not its skyline or infrastructure, but the assurance of personal safety.

The post sparked mixed reactions. Some users praised Singapore's civic discipline and law enforcement, while others questioned whether comparisons were fair. Yet the core message remained undeniable: safety profoundly shapes freedom. The ability to exist without fear is not a luxury; it is a basic right.

What made the post resonate was its honesty. Jain did not attack India, nor did she exaggerate Singapore's perfection.

She simply shared a lived experience, allowing viewers to draw their own conclusions. In doing so, she highlighted a truth often buried in statistics — that safety is felt in everyday moments, not policies alone.

The conversation it sparked reflects a growing demand for accountability and systemic change. When a peaceful walk becomes viral, it signals how rare such experiences remain for many women. The video ultimately serves as both inspiration and indictment — showing what is possible, and what is missing.

A Quiet Act Of Art Turns An Ordinary Bus Ride Into A Shared Human Moment

In an age dominated by fast-scrolling content and performative generosity, a simple pencil sketch created during a bus journey in Karnataka has reminded the internet of the power of quiet kindness. The viral video shows artist Akash Selvarasu surprising a Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) bus conductor with a hand-drawn portrait, made silently while she went about her demanding daily routine of collecting fares and issuing tickets.

What makes the moment striking is its complete lack of spectacle. There was no announcement, no staged reveal, and no expectation of applause. The conductor remained unaware of the sketch as she focused on her responsibilities, embodying the unnoticed labour that keeps public services functioning. When Selvarasu finally handed over the drawing, her reaction was immediate and genuine — a wide smile, visible disbelief, and an instinctive desire to share the joy with fellow passengers.

The conductor's response resonated deeply online. She proudly showed the sketch to oth-



Image credit: Instagram/@imaginelife_official

ers on the bus, not as a symbol of personal recognition alone, but as a shared moment of happiness. Selvarasu later reflected that language was not a barrier; although she spoke only Kannada, emotion became the bridge. His words underscored a universal truth — appreciation does not need translation.

Social media users re-

sponded overwhelmingly positively, with millions of likes and comments praising the humility of the conductor and the thoughtfulness of the artist. Many noted how rare it is to see public workers acknowledged beyond complaints or routine interactions. In a society where service staff often remain invisible, the sketch became a

symbol of dignity and recognition.

Beyond virality, the incident offers a gentle critique of modern online culture.

It shows that meaningful content does not require shock value or controversy. Sometimes, a quiet gesture rooted in empathy carries more weight than grand displays of generosity. The

moment lingers because it feels real — unscripted, human, and deeply respectful.

Ultimately, this small act of art transformed an ordinary commute into a shared emotional experience. It reminds us that creativity, when paired with empathy, has the power to uplift lives in ways that algorithms cannot predict.

A DNA Test, A Rescue Dog, And How Identity Can Surprise Even The Most Loving Owners



bonded with her family — never matched the stereotypes often associated with pit bulls. The DNA results merely confirmed what her behaviour had already proven: identity cannot be reduced to labels.

The viral reaction also revealed growing awareness about adoption biases. Many users shared similar stories of misidentified rescue dogs and questioned the fairness of policies that judge animals based on appearance rather than behaviour. In that sense, Birdie's story becomes less about genetics and more about compassion.

Ultimately, the DNA test didn't change Birdie — it changed human perception. Her story reminds us that whether in animals or people, identity is complex, layered, and often defies expectation. Love, it seems, already knew the truth long before science did.

Adopting a rescue dog often comes with unknowns, but for Brett Miller, a simple DNA test rewrote everything he thought he knew about his pet. Birdie, a two-year-old rescue adopted from a shelter in Los Angeles, was initially believed to be a pit bull-terrier mix. Her unusual appearance became a source of affectionate

jokes, but also concern — particularly when Miller hoped to fly with her.

Airline restrictions on pit bull breeds posed a potential barrier, and when a veterinarian refused to clear Birdie for air travel, Miller turned to a DNA test for clarity.

What emerged was not just surprising, but deeply revealing about how

assumptions shape perception. Birdie turned out to be primarily American Bully, with notable traces of Chihuahua, Pomeranian, Poodle, and Super Mutt — and only a minimal percentage of pit bull ancestry.

The revelation was both relieving and reflective. It opened the possibility of travel while also exposing how breed la-

bels can carry disproportionate consequences. The story sparked online discussions about breed-based restrictions, shelter misidentifications, and the broader stigma surrounding certain dog breeds.

Beyond logistics, the story highlights a deeper emotional truth. Birdie's temperament — friendly, playful, calm, and deeply

A Small New Year Gift That Shows Why Thoughtfulness Still Matters In Business



Image Credit: geet_aqua/Instagram

In a world of automated deliveries and impersonal transactions, a Blinkit customer's New Year surprise stood out for its simplicity. When Geet opened her grocery delivery, she found not just essentials, but a small keychain and a handwritten note thanking her for being among the company's most valued customers.

The gesture was modest, but its impact was outsized. The note described her as part of a rare group of customers Blinkit proudly discusses in meetings. The message wasn't about discounts or loyalty points — it was about appreciation. Geet's reaction, shared online, captured genuine joy at being seen as more than a transaction.

The post quickly went viral, sparking discussions about customer relationships in the digital economy. While some questioned whether the note was mass-produced, many argued that intent

matters more than exclusivity. In an era where customer service is often reduced to chatbots and templates, even symbolic gestures can restore warmth.

What makes the mo-

ment meaningful is timing. During New Year celebrations, small affirmations carry emotional weight. The keychain wasn't valuable, but the feeling it created was. It reinforced that business-

es thrive not just on efficiency, but on emotional connection.

The episode highlights a broader lesson: trust and loyalty are built through human moments, not algorithms

alone. As companies race toward automation, those that retain empathy may ultimately stand out — not through grand promises, but through small acts that customers remember.

Bangladesh's T20 World Cup Standoff Shows How Cricket Can Spiral Into Diplomatic Crisis



The Bangladesh Cricket Board's (BCB) decision to refuse travel to India for the 2026 T20 World Cup has triggered unprecedented uncertainty in global cricket administration. The move follows the controversial release of fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman from the Kolkata Knight Riders' IPL squad on instructions from the BCCI, a decision rooted not in cricketing performance but in escalating political tensions between India and Bangladesh.

Mustafizur Rahman, Bangladesh's most valuable fast bowler and the country's most expensive IPL signing ever at ₹9.20

crore, was abruptly removed from KKR amid security concerns raised in India following communal violence in Bangladesh. While the BCCI framed the decision as precautionary, the BCB viewed it as discriminatory and humiliating, questioning the safety and respect afforded to Bangladeshi cricketers in India.

In response, the BCB announced it would not send its national team to India for the T20 World Cup matches and formally requested the ICC to shift Bangladesh's fixtures to Sri Lanka. Importantly, Bangladesh has not with-

drawn from the tournament itself — a distinction that highlights how the conflict is logistical and diplomatic rather than sporting.

The issue escalated further when Bangladesh revoked Mustafizur Rahman's No Objection Certificate (NOC), barring him from IPL participation even if KKR were to reconsider. This step transformed the dispute from a franchise-level issue into a full-fledged international standoff.

Statements from Bangladesh government advisor Asif Nazrul framed the BCCI's actions as part of "aggressive communal

polices," intensifying rhetoric on both sides.

The consequences extend beyond one player. Bangladesh was scheduled to play all group matches at iconic Indian venues like Eden Gardens and Wankhede Stadium. Venue uncertainty threatens ticketing, broadcasting, scheduling, and tournament credibility. The call to suspend IPL broadcasts in Bangladesh further signals how economic and cultural ties through cricket are now at risk.

At its core, the crisis exposes the fragile boundary between sport and geopolitics. While cricket

claims neutrality, its institutions often reflect national sentiments and political pressure. The ICC now faces a critical test of governance — whether it can protect the integrity of a global tournament while addressing genuine security concerns.

This episode serves as a warning that modern cricket, deeply entangled with nationalism and diplomacy, can no longer isolate itself from political realities. If unresolved, the standoff could redefine how international tournaments are hosted, negotiated, and protected in politically sensitive regions.

Revoking Mustafizur Rahman's IPL NOC Marks A Rare Assertion Of National Authority Over Franchise Cricket



The Bangladesh Cricket Board's decision to revoke Mustafizur Rahman's No Objection Certificate (NOC) represents one of the strongest assertions of national board authority in the era of franchise-dominated cricket. The move came after the BCCI instructed Kolkata Knight Riders to release Mustafizur Rahman amid escalating India-Bangladesh tensions, effectively preventing the pacer from fulfilling his IPL contract.

By withdrawing the NOC, the BCB ensured that Mustafizur would not participate in the IPL even if KKR attempted to reinstate him or another franchise sought his services.

This step signals Bangladesh's refusal to allow its players to operate in an environment it considers unsafe or politically hostile.

Traditionally, NOCs are administrative formalities designed to balance player freedom with national commitments. However, in this case, the NOC became a political instrument. The BCB's action reflects growing frustration among smaller cricket boards over unequal power dynamics, where financial might often overrides fairness and transparency.

For Mustafizur, the decision is personally costly. At ₹9.20 crore, his IPL contract represented not just income but global recognition. His restrained public response — "If they release me, what can I do?" — highlighted the helplessness players often face when geopolitics intrudes into professional careers.

The episode raises broader concerns about player security, contract sanctity, and selective enforcement of safety narratives. While the BCCI cited regional developments as justification, critics argue that individual players were unfairly targeted for events beyond their control.

This standoff may set a precedent. National boards could increasingly use NOCs as leverage to protect dignity and negotiate power with wealthier boards. However, it also risks fragmenting international cooperation if not carefully managed.

Ultimately, the revocation reflects a shift in cricket governance — where boards are no longer passive facilitators but active political actors defending national interests in an increasingly commercialised sport.

Bangladesh's T20 World Cup Squad Selection Defies Crisis To Signal Competitive Intent



Australian Prime Minister's Tribute To Usman Khawaja Highlights Cricket's Social Legacy

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's tribute to Usman Khawaja upon his retirement transcended cricket statistics, focusing instead on identity, representation, and leadership beyond the boundary rope. Khawaja's retirement at age 39, following 87 Test appearances, marks the end of a career that reshaped Australian cricket's cultural narrative.

Born in Islamabad and raised in Australia, Khawaja became the first Muslim and Pakistan-born cricketer to represent Australia. His journey symbolised inclusivity in a traditionally conservative sporting culture. Albanese's message acknowledged not only Khawaja's on-field contributions but his broader social impact.

Khawaja's calm dignity, outspoken advocacy for humanitarian causes, and ability to bridge cultural divides made him more than a cricketer. He represented



modern Australia — diverse, vocal, and values-driven.

The Prime Minister's

public appreciation reinforces how athletes can shape national identity. It also highlights cricket's evolving role as a platform for social leadership rather than mere entertainment.

Khawaja's legacy will endure not just in runs scored, but in barriers broken.

Damien Martyn's Recovery From Coma Is A Reminder Of Cricket's Human Core

The recovery of Australian cricket legend Damien Martyn from an induced coma due to meningitis has been described by former teammate Adam Gilchrist as nothing short of miraculous. Hospitalised for over a week, Martyn's ability to speak and respond to treatment marks a remarkable turnaround.

Martyn's career achievements — over 4,400 Test runs and 5,300 ODI runs — established him as one of Australia's most elegant batters and greatest finishers. Yet, this episode shifted focus from sporting excellence to human vulnerability.



The outpouring of support from fans, former players, and media coverage played a significant emotional role, according to Martyn's family. Gilchrist noted that collective goodwill contributed to the recovery process.

The incident serves as a reminder that behind sporting legends are fragile human lives. In moments like these, cricket's competitive rivalries fade, replaced by shared humanity.

Martyn's recovery reaffirms that while careers end, compassion endures — often becoming the most powerful legacy of all.

Despite ongoing diplomatic turmoil with the BCCI, Bangladesh's announcement of its 15-member squad for the T20 World Cup 2026 reflects continuity, confidence, and competitive ambition.

Led by wicket-keeper-batter Litton Das, the squad balances experience with youthful energy, indicating that on-field goals remain intact despite off-field distractions.

The inclusion of Mustafizur Rahman is particularly significant. Amid IPL controversies and security concerns, Bangladesh's decision to retain him as a central figure underscores trust in his abilities and leadership.

Alongside Taskin Ahmed, Mustafizur forms the backbone of a pace attack capable of challenging top teams.

Batting responsibilities rest heavily on Litton Das, supported by Tanvir Hasan and Parvez Hossain Emon. The middle order features versatile all-rounders and spin options such as Mahedi Hasan, Nasum

Ahmed, and Rishad Hossain — players critical in subcontinent conditions.

Placed in Group C with England, West Indies, Nepal, and Italy, Bangladesh faces a demanding group stage. While advancing beyond the group remains a historical challenge, the squad composition suggests preparedness for both pace-heavy and spin-friendly conditions.

The selection also sends a political message — Bangladesh will not allow administrative disputes to destabilise team unity or preparation. However, uncertainty remains over venues, as the BCB has formally requested that matches be shifted from India to Sri Lanka.

This duality — competitive readiness amid logistical chaos — defines Bangladesh's World Cup narrative. Whether governance issues overshadow cricketing ambition now depends largely on the ICC's response.

Sivakarthikeyan's Parasakthi Trailer Released — Powerful Period Drama Promises Intense Storytelling



Fans of South Indian cinema are buzzing as the official trailer for Parasakthi has been released, giving audiences their first look at this highly anticipated period drama. The trailer immediately captured attention with its striking visuals, intense performances, and a socially and politically charged narrative that sets it apart from typical mainstream films.

Parasakthi stars Sivakarthikeyan in the lead role, portraying a young man caught in a pivotal period of Tamil Nadu's history. Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Sudha Kongara, known for her ability to craft emotionally resonant stories, the film is set against the backdrop of the mid-1960s Anti-Hindi agitations. The story promises to explore themes of resistance, identity, and cultural pride, reflecting the struggles of a generation fighting to have their voices heard.

The trailer introduces

Sivakarthikeyan's character as an initially peaceful individual whose life is disrupted by the political tensions of the era. Forced to take a stand, he transforms into a determined fighter, testing his courage and convictions. His powerful performance is complemented by Ravi Mohan, who plays a formidable antagonist, creating tense and emotionally charged confrontations that form the core of the story.

Supporting performances by Atharvaa Murali and Sreeleela add depth to the narrative. Atharvaa's role strengthens the main character's journey, while Sreeleela's presence brings emotional layers, highlighting the personal stakes intertwined with the larger social conflict.

Visually, the trailer impresses with authentic period settings, detailed production design, and a carefully curated color palette that reflects the intensity of the time. The background score

enhances the emotional and dramatic impact, making every scene resonate with audiences. Moments of tension, conflict, and subtle sentiment are interwoven to create a compelling cinematic experience.

Parasakthi is scheduled for a January 10, 2026, theatrical release, coinciding with the Pongal festival, making it an ideal time for audiences to experience a film that combines historical significance with cinematic grandeur. The trailer has already sparked conversations, with viewers praising the performances, direction, and the bold narrative.

With its blend of powerful storytelling, historical relevance, and strong performances, Parasakthi is shaping up to be one of the most talked-about films of the year. Audiences are eagerly awaiting its release to witness a period drama that promises both entertainment and thought-provoking content.

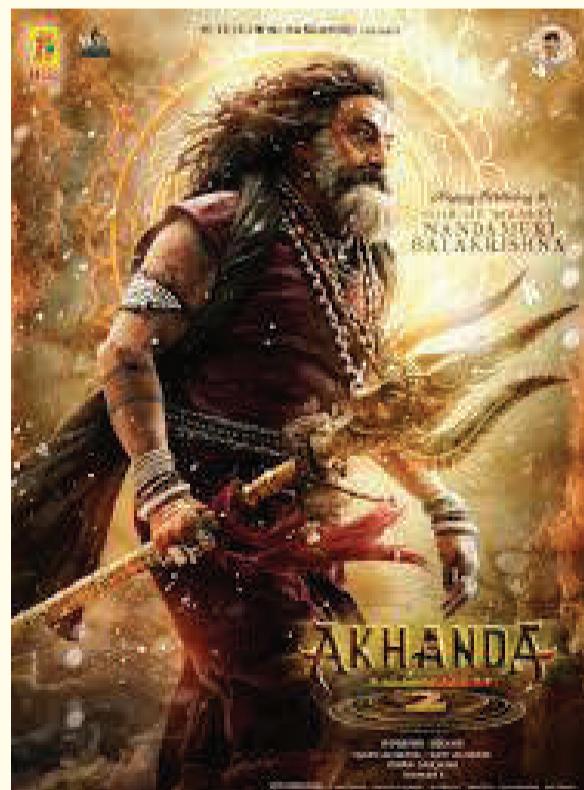
Tollywood Action Thriller Akhanda 2: Thaandavam to Stream on Netflix from January 9

Tollywood fans have a reason to celebrate as the highly anticipated sequel Akhanda 2: Thaandavam, following the success of the 2021 blockbuster Akhanda, is set to premiere on Netflix from January 9, 2026. After an action-packed theatrical run that captivated audiences, the film will now be available for viewers to stream at home, offering another chance to experience its high-octane spectacle and larger-than-life drama.

Starring veteran actor Nandamuri Balakrishna in the lead role, Akhanda 2 continues the story of the divine Aghori warrior, blending fantasy, mythology, and action in a style that has become a hallmark of Balakrishna's career. Directed by Boyapati Sreenu, known for delivering commercially successful and visually striking films, the sequel expands on the first installment's epic narrative with thrilling fight sequences, devotion-infused drama, and intense emotional moments.

The ensemble cast includes Samyuktha Menon, Aadhi Pinisetty, and Harshaali Malhotra, each contributing to the story's stakes and dynamic interactions. The film's plot centers on Balakrishna's character confronting new supernatural and human threats while protecting justice and righteousness, blending mythology and contemporary storytelling to appeal to fans of mass-action cinema.

While critics gave the film mixed reviews upon



its theatrical release, fans praised Balakrishna's commanding performance, the visual grandeur, and the scale of the action sequences. The Netflix release allows a wider audience to engage with the film, including viewers who prefer OTT viewing or those who missed it in theatres.

In addition to Telugu, the film will be available in multiple dubbed languages, enabling it to reach audiences across India and beyond. The digital launch also positions Akhanda 2 as one of the first major OTT action releases of 2026, coinciding with strong anticipation for new streaming content at the start of the year.

Buzz is already building online as fans discuss their favourite scenes, stunts, and Balakrishna's iconic portrayal of the warrior. The OTT release offers an opportunity for the film to gain a second wave of popularity, showcasing its fantasy-driven action sequences, mass appeal, and devotional elements to a global audience.

With its mix of mythology, spectacle, and Nandamuri Balakrishna's larger-than-life performance, Akhanda 2: Thaandavam is set to entertain viewers once again, proving that the franchise continues to resonate with fans of action-packed Telugu cinema.

Chiranjeevi's Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu Trailer Released — Vintage 'Chiru' Is Back!

Tollywood megastar Chiranjeevi has thrilled fans with the release of the official trailer for his upcoming festive entertainer Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu. The trailer showcases Chiranjeevi in a mix of comedy, action, and his signature charm, prompting fans to exclaim, "Vintage Chiru is back!" as anticipation for the film continues to build ahead of its Sankranti release.

Directed by hitmaker Anil Ravipudi, the trailer introduces audiences to Chiranjeevi's character, Shankara Vara Prasad, a man whose seemingly ordinary family life is disrupted by unexpected excitement from his adventurous past. The blend of domestic warmth and action-packed sequences sets the tone for a story filled with humor, emotion, and high-octane entertainment.

One of the trailer's highlights is Chiranjeevi's effortless comic timing and magnetic screen presence. His interactions with co-star Nayanthara, who plays the strong and elegant Sashirekha, add charm and emotional depth. Their on-screen chemistry is highlighted in moments that balance lighthearted



humor with heartfelt emotion, giving audiences a glimpse of the film's family-friendly appeal.

Adding further excitement is the presence of Venkatesh, whose cameo electrifies the screen and hints at a dynamic relationship with Chiranjeevi's character. The combination of these two iconic actors promises engaging sequences that are both

fun and dramatic.

The trailer also emphasizes lavish production design, stylish action sequences, and a vibrant musical score that complements the festive tone of the film.

Director Anil Ravipudi's signature style of mixing laughter, sentiment, and mass appeal is evident throughout, ensuring that audiences of all ages will be entertained.

Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu is scheduled for a January 12, 2026, theatrical release, timed perfectly for the Sankranti festival. Fans are eagerly discussing trailer highlights and speculating about the plot, performances, and high-energy moments, which has only increased anticipation.

With its combination

of comedy, action, family drama, and Chiranjeevi's vintage charisma, the film is shaping up to be one of the most talked-about releases of the festival season. The trailer has already set high expectations, promising audiences a memorable cinematic experience that celebrates Chiranjeevi's enduring legacy in Telugu cinema.

Tollywood's Mr. Work From Home Official Teaser Released — A Fun, Youthful Romance

Tollywood audiences have a reason to get excited as the official teaser for Mr. Work From Home has been released, offering the first glimpse of this fresh and entertaining film. The teaser has quickly captured attention with its playful tone, colourful visuals, and a promise of lighthearted romance blended with workplace comedy.

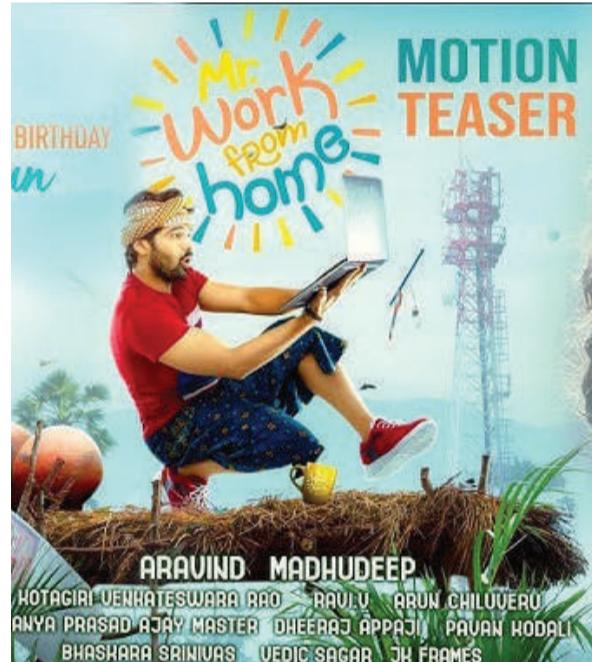
The film stars Thirugan in the lead role, supported by Payal Radhakrishna and Anish Kuruvilla, among others. The teaser introduces viewers to a lively world where professional life and personal relationships intersect, suggesting a narrative that is both fun and relatable. Thirugan's character appears to be navigating the challenges of balancing career ambitions with romantic interests, delivering moments of humour and charm along the way.

Produced under the banner of Lotus Creative Works by CH.V.S.N Babji, the movie is aimed at

younger audiences who enjoy contemporary stories with a mix of humour, romance, and emotional moments. The teaser highlights the chemistry between the lead pair and hints at entertaining dynamics in a modern work-from-home environment, a theme many viewers can now easily relate to.

One of the highlights of the teaser is the film's vibrant and visually appealing cinematography, which gives it a bright and energetic aesthetic. The soundtrack further enhances the mood, with catchy music that complements the playful and romantic elements of the story. The combination of these factors makes the teaser instantly engaging and has already sparked discussion among fans.

While the official plot details and release date are yet to be announced, the teaser has successfully generated curiosity and anticipation. Fans are excited to see how the



story unfolds and how the characters' personal and professional lives intertwine on screen.

With its blend of romance, comedy, and workplace scenarios, Mr. Work From Home promises to be a youthful entertainer for audiences

looking for fun and lighthearted storytelling. The teaser has set the stage for what could be one of the year's most relatable and enjoyable films, giving Tollywood audiences plenty to look forward to in the coming months.

As the buzz grows, viewers are eagerly awaiting further promotional content, including songs, trailers, and an official release date, making Mr. Work From Home one of the most talked-about upcoming films in Telugu cinema.

Vijay Sethupathi's Gandhi Talks Teaser Released — Silent Film Promises Bold Experimentation

Tollywood and Indian cinema audiences are buzzing with excitement as the official teaser for Gandhi Talks, starring Vijay Sethupathi, has been released. The film stands out as a unique cinematic experiment — it is being presented as a silent film, relying entirely on visual storytelling, acting, and music to convey its narrative. This bold approach has intrigued fans and critics alike, generating considerable anticipation ahead of the film's release.

The teaser provides the first glimpse of the movie's tone, showcasing striking visuals, expressive performances, and a carefully crafted atmosphere. Even without dialogue, the trailer effectively conveys emotion, conflict, and character motivation, highlighting the film's reliance on body language, facial expressions, and cinematic

composition. This departure from conventional storytelling has sparked conversations about the possibilities of silent cinema in modern filmmaking.

In addition to Vijay Sethupathi, the film features Aditi Rao Hydari, Arvind Swamy, and Sidharth Jadhav, all of whom contribute to the film's expressive storytelling. Their performances in the teaser demonstrate the nuanced acting required to carry a silent narrative, emphasizing emotion and presence over spoken words.

The ensemble's collective energy ensures that the story is both engaging and visually captivating.

The teaser also confirms the film's theatrical release date as January 30, 2026, coinciding with a day of significant historical reflection. This timing enhances the thematic resonance of silence and contemplation that the film explores. By choosing this release date, the makers underscore the symbolic nature of the project, positioning it as more than just entertainment — it is a cinematic experience designed to provoke thought and reflection.

Critics and audiences alike are calling Gandhi Talks one of the most intriguing cinematic pro-

jects of the year. With its expressive visuals, compelling performances, innovative silent format, and evocative music, the teaser has built significant anticipation. Audiences are now eagerly awaiting the full film to experience how the story unfolds on the big screen, showcasing the power of non-verbal storytelling in contemporary cinema.

