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CM Revanth Reddy Criticizes Congress, Emphasizes Sanctity of Telangana Legislative Assembly

TPN bureau
Hyderabad, January 3, 2026 –

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, addressing the Legislative Assembly, reflected on his personal journey from the drought-hit, impoverished region of Palamuru, emphasizing his deep understanding of hardship and the challenges faced by Telangana's people.

In his speech, the CM criticized the Congress party, holding it responsible for long-standing injustices suffered by the region. "Telangana has faced untold injustices over the years, and Congress bears responsibility for these failures," he said. Drawing on his political experience, Revanth Reddy highlighted the importance of evaluating past decisions made by previous governments and stressed that the current administration is guided by lessons learned from earlier policies.

Reddy proposed focused debates on the Krishna and Godavari river water issues, suggesting one day be dedicated to discussing each, emphasizing that these critical matters directly impact Telangana's future. "The Legislative Assembly holds a sacred character. The discussions, debates, and facts pre-



sented here are trusted fully by the people. There is no room for falsehoods or political theatrics. This forum must prioritize the hopes, aspirations, and welfare of the people rather than political gains," he stated.

Highlighting the representative nature of the Assembly, the CM noted, "This Assembly embodies the voice of four crore Telangana citizens. Every statement made here should serve the state's interests above all."

However, Revanth Reddy expressed disappointment over the absence of opposition

leaders from the House in recent years. "For the past two years, the main opposition leader has not attended the Assembly. Despite my repeated invitations, he has not participated in the debates. Even leaders claiming four decades of political experience have avoided this forum," he remarked.

Reddy criticized statements from some opposition figures suggesting they would join the Assembly only if it suited them, likening this attitude to an insult to the Legislative Assembly itself. Referring to previous com-

ments by K. Chandrashekar Rao, he said, "If they had actively participated in discussions, Telangana's people would know who truly serves public interest, rather than engage in political posturing or threats."

The Chief Minister concluded by reiterating that the Assembly is a platform for constructive debate, accountability, and the welfare of Telangana, urging all political leaders to uphold its dignity and participate in matters of state importance rather than avoid their responsibilities.



Only 17 Maoists Left in Telangana, Says DGP Shivadhar Reddy

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, January 3, 2026:

Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) Shivadhar Reddy on Saturday announced that Maoist activity in the state has been reduced to its lowest level, with only 17 active members of the banned CPI (Maoist) believed to be still underground. Describing it as a major milestone in the state's internal security efforts, the DGP said sustained police action, effective intelligence gathering, and a strong surrender and rehabilitation policy have significantly weakened the Maoist network in Telangana.

Addressing the media, Shivadhar Reddy said a large number of Maoists have surrendered over the past few years, including several senior cadres, leading to a near-collapse of the organisation's leadership structure in the state. He noted that with the latest round of surrenders, only one member of the Telangana State Committee is believed to be active, indicating that the movement has

lost its operational strength and organisational depth.

The DGP revealed that the strength of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA) battalion in Telangana has drastically fallen from more than 400 members in earlier years to just 66, reflecting the impact of continuous security operations. He said recent surrenders included key Maoist leaders carrying high cash rewards, which dealt a severe blow to the group's morale and combat capability.

Police have also recovered a significant cache of weapons from surrendered cadres, including automatic rifles, light machine guns, self-loading rifles, and other sophisticated arms. This, the DGP said, has further reduced the ability of the Maoists to carry out violent activities in forest and border areas. Shivadhar Reddy credited the success to a combination of strict enforcement and humane rehabilitation measures. The state government, he said, has announced attractive incentives for Maoists who surrender, including finan-

cial assistance ranging from 1 lakh to 5 lakh depending on their rank, along with immediate support, housing assistance, and opportunities for rehabilitation and employment. So far, a total of 576 Maoists have surrendered in Telangana, marking a significant shift away from armed extremism.

Appealing to the remaining Maoists, the DGP urged them to shun violence and return to the mainstream. "There is no future in armed struggle. The government is ready to provide support and a dignified life to those who surrender and reintegrate into society," he said.

The DGP emphasised that while Maoist influence has been largely neutralised, police will continue to remain vigilant to ensure peace and security, particularly in border regions. He asserted that Telangana is now close to becoming completely free from left-wing extremism, thanks to co-ordinated efforts by the police, administration, and the government's rehabilitation-focused approach.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Slams BRS Over Krishna Water Rights in Telangana Assembly

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:

Telangana Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday strongly criticised the former BRS government over its handling of Krishna River water rights, asserting that the state government would not allow even a single drop of Telangana's water to be compromised. Speaking in the Telangana Legislative Assembly during a discussion on Krishna water sharing, he accused the previous regime of failing to protect the state's interests and emphasised that the current Congress government is committed to securing Telangana's rightful share.

Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that Telangana's entitlement to Krishna River waters is non-negotiable. He criticised the BRS for claiming achievements in water allocation while allegedly compromising Telangana's share in favour of Andhra Pradesh. According to him, agreements signed under the previous government allocated 299 TMC of water to Telangana and 512 TMC to Andhra Pradesh, which he described as unfair and the result of weak negotiation.

The minister highlighted that the former BRS leadership accepted a smaller portion of river water, agreeing that Telangana could manage



with only 34% of the resources, a decision he said disadvantaged farmers and irrigation projects across the state. He added that the Congress government has since adopted a more assertive stance, including presenting Telangana's claims before the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal and coordinating legal and administrative efforts to ensure fair water sharing.

Uttam Kumar Reddy urged lawmakers to prioritise transparent, evidence-backed discussions rather than political point-scoring. He stressed that the As-

sembly debate underscores the government's seriousness in challenging past decisions that weakened Telangana's negotiating position.

The discussion also highlighted the political sensitivity of water sharing in the state. Opposition members called for clarity on the government's strategy and demanded assurances that Telangana's interests will be fully protected both legally and administratively.

Water allocation remains a critical issue in Telangana, impacting agriculture, drinking water supply, and indus-

trial use. The government has reiterated that it will continue to assert the state's rights through legal channels and take all necessary steps to safeguard water resources for Telangana's development.

Uttam Kumar Reddy's remarks reflect the ongoing political and administrative struggle over Krishna River water sharing, emphasising the need for strong governance and proactive measures to protect the state's resources while ensuring equitable distribution among all stakeholders.

Gruha Jyothi Scheme Aimed at Ensuring Dignity for Poor: Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, January 3, 2026:

The Telangana government's primary objective is to ensure that the poor and marginalized sections of society live with dignity and self-respect, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu told the Legislative Assembly on Saturday. Highlighting the government's commitment to inclusive welfare, he said the Gruha Jyothi scheme, which provides free electricity up to 200 units, would be continued in the future as a major support measure for economically weaker households.

Responding to questions raised by Assembly members G. Madhusudan, Nagaraju, K a v a m p a l l i

Satyanarayana, and others, the Deputy Chief Minister clarified that the Gruha Jyothi scheme is being implemented across the state without discrimination. "This scheme is beyond political parties and communities. Every eligible family in Telangana is entitled to its benefits," he asserted.

Bhatti Vikramarka informed the House that people who wish to apply newly for the Gruha Jyothi scheme, as well as existing beneficiaries seeking corrections or additions, can approach Praja Palana officials at their respective Mandal Parishad Development Officer (MPDO) offices. New applicants can submit fresh applications, while current beneficiaries can update their details to ensure continued access

to the scheme.

He stated that the Congress government implemented the Gruha Jyothi scheme immediately after assuming office, in line with the assurance given to the people before the elections. "We have honoured the promise made to the citizens of Telangana. This scheme is aimed at reducing the financial burden on poor families and ensuring access to a basic necessity like electricity," he said. Providing statistical details, the Deputy Chief Minister said 25,35,560 beneficiaries fall under the Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (SPDCL), while 27,46,938 beneficiaries are covered under the Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (NPDCL).

Of the approximately 1.15 crore households in the state, 52,82,498 families are currently receiving free electricity up to 200 units under the Gruha Jyothi scheme.

He further revealed that from the day the Praja Government came to power until now, the state government has spent 3,593 crore on behalf of Gruha Jyothi beneficiaries. Highlighting the scheme's reach, Bhatti Vikramarka said 45,995 families in Asifabad, 40,555 families in Achampet, 65,862 families in Gajwel—represented by former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao—and 50,398 families in Siddipet are benefiting from the Gruha Jyothi scheme, reflecting its wide and inclusive impact across Telangana.



Telangana Government Removes Two-Child Norm for Panchayat Elections

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:

In the Telangana Legislative Assembly on Saturday, Minister for Women and Child Development, S. Seethakka, announced the government's decision to remove the two-child norm for candidates contesting Panchayat elections. She explained that the move was taken in view of population trends across India, where southern states like Telangana have been strictly implementing population control measures, while northern states

have not.

Minister Seethakka pointed out that strict population control in southern states has, over time, increased political dominance of northern states in national matters. She emphasised that while Telangana has successfully managed population growth, continuing the two-child restriction could limit democratic participation and reduce opportunities for future leaders.

"This decision ensures that individuals with more than two children can also contest Panchayat elections, giving fair representation to all sections of society," the minister said. She added that the Assembly members welcomed the move, and she thanked all lawmakers for supporting the



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decision.

Seethakka further clarified that while the two-child norm is being removed for now, the government will continue to review population and electoral policies. "If required in the future, we can consider new guidelines or conditions for candidates to ensure balanced governance," she said.

The minister noted that during recent Panchayat elections, people had expressed support for relaxing the restriction, and the government's action reflects public sentiment. By removing the rule, Telangana aims to encourage wider participation in local governance and ensure that capable leaders are not excluded due to family size.

The announcement was widely welcomed in the Assembly, with members praising the government for taking a progressive step that balances population concerns with democratic representation. The removal of the two-child norm is expected to impact upcoming Panchayat elections and enhance inclusivity in local governance.

Telangana Needs Decentralized Development, Mahesh Kumar Goud Urges Focus Beyond Hyderabad

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:

TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, speaking in the Telangana Legislative Council on Saturday, emphasised the need for a decentralized development approach in the state, highlighting that growth should not be confined solely to Hyderabad. He praised the Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's vision and the administrative support of experienced ministers like Sridhar Babu, noting that the IT sector is expanding rapidly under their guidance.

Goud stressed that a prime policy on decentralized development is necessary to ensure balanced growth across Telangana. He highlighted the upcoming airport project in Adilabad as a step toward improving connectivity and called for similar attention to other districts, including Mahabubabad, where IT centres could be strengthened to drive regional growth.

"Hyderabad is competing with the top cities globally, but the state's development cannot be limited to one city alone," he said. The MLC urged all political parties to rise above partisan lines and contribute to the overall development of Telangana. He cited that under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's leadership, investments worth 1.75 lakh crore have been attracted to the state, setting record levels of growth. In contrast, he questioned the BRS leaders, asking whether they could account for the hundreds of crores of investments brought in over the ten years when K. T. Rama Rao served as the IT Minister.

Mahesh Kumar Goud further reiterated the importance of spreading IT infrastructure and economic opportunities to districts beyond Hyderabad to reduce urban congestion and create jobs across the state. He stressed that decentralizing development would also improve civic amenities, enhance industrial growth, and make smaller towns viable for skilled professionals.

Concluding his address, Goud urged the government to focus on a long-term strategy that balances Hyderabad's global competitiveness with equitable development across Telangana, ensuring that all districts benefit from industrial, technological, and infrastructure initiatives.

This call for inclusive growth comes amid ongoing debates about regional disparities, with leaders across parties being urged to contribute constructively to Telangana's holistic development.

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Fog Safety Advisory Issued by Cyberabad Police



TPN Bureau
Cyberabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:

The Cyberabad Police have issued important safety instructions for residents amid dense fog conditions during the winter season. Noting the increased risk of accidents on roads, particularly on the Outer Ring Road (ORR), highways, and main city streets, police officials urged pedestrians and two-wheeler riders to exercise extreme caution.

The advisory emphasizes that avoiding roads during foggy periods is the safest option for pedestrians. If venturing out is unavoidable, pedestrians are advised to wear bright clothing for visibility, cross roads carefully while looking both ways, and avoid walking fast, especially near junctions or uneven roads.

For two-wheeler riders, the police advised maintaining a slow speed, using headlights, fog lights, and tail lights properly, keeping windshields clean, and avoiding abrupt braking or lane changes. Riders should also wear reflective jackets and keep helmet visors clean. Maintaining a safe distance between vehicles, ensuring tires have proper grip, and carrying emergency tools such as torches and reflective kits are also recommended.

The advisory cautions drivers not to use cruise control during fog, to gradually adjust speed, and to follow traffic police instructions in fog-affected areas. Heavy vehicles are advised to use reflective stickers and keep headlights and tail lights on at all times. Drivers are also reminded to rest adequately, as fatigue reduces reaction time, and to stay alert for animals on rural roads.

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Authorities stressed that the advisory aims to prevent accidents and ensure the safety of all road users. Cyberabad Police reiterated that alertness and adherence to safety measures during dense fog are crucial for avoiding mishaps on city and highway roads.

The advisory concludes by urging citizens to prioritize caution and follow these guidelines for personal safety and the safety of others.

PM National Child Award Winner Vishwanath Kartikeya Honoured by Resonance Education Institutions

Quthbullapur, January 3, 2026

Resonance Education Institutions, Hyderabad, felicitated their student and Prime Minister's National Child Award recipient, Vishwanath Kartikeya, in a grand ceremony at their Suchitra branch. The award, which recognizes exceptional talent at the national level, was conferred on Vishwanath by President Droupadi Murmu on December 26.

The felicitation was led by Resonance Managing Director Poornachandra Rao, who presented Vishwanath with a cash prize of Rs. 3 lakh. Speaking on the occasion, Rao expressed immense pride in Vishwanath's achievement, highlighting his dedication, discipline, and clear academic goals. He emphasized that this recognition reflects the institution's commitment to nurturing each student's potential and transforming it into positive energy.

Vishwanath Kartikeya expressed his gratitude for the honour, stating that it is a moment of great pride and motivation. He thanked the President of India, his parents, and the teachers at Resonance who guided and supported him throughout his journey. He added that this award will inspire him to work harder and continue progressing positively in the future.

The event saw participation from Resonance Education's zonal heads, principals, lecturers, and students, along with Suchitra branch Principal Sunil Reddy. The felicitation underscored the institution's focus on recognising and encouraging young achievers who excel academically and contribute to society.

Through this ceremony, Resonance reaffirmed its commitment to supporting outstanding students like Vishwanath Kartikeya, fostering an environment of academic excellence, discipline, and holistic development.

Hyderabad Mega-City Division Bill stealthily in the Assembly. Both Yadav and Goud emphasised that under former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, the creation of new districts, municipalities, and revenue divisions was done smoothly without disrupting governance. In contrast, they accused the current government of creating confusion and promised that public protests and legal action would continue until the issue is resolved.

They concluded by asserting that the Revanth Reddy government appears focused solely on revenue collection, ignoring citizens' convenience and heritage preservation, and warned that the BRS will mobilise people to oppose the arbitrary division of Hyderabad.

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Medchal SOT Police Bust Hash Oil Operation, Three Arrested



TPN Bureau

Qutbullapur, January 3, 2026 – Medchal SOT police conducted a major raid at Gandhi Maisamma, under Dundigal police jurisdiction, uncovering a secret hash oil (ganja) production and distribution operation. Three individuals – Sunil Kumar (27), Chintu (27), and Suryakant (26) – were arrested in the operation. According to DCP of Medchal Zone, Shobhan Kumar, the suspects were reportedly smuggling hash oil from Odisha and secretly selling it from a house at Gandhi Maisamma Crossroads. Acting on credible intelligence, the SOT team conducted a planned raid, intercepting the illicit activities before the narcotics could reach the market.

Police recovered hash oil weighing 1.3 kilograms, valued at approximately 9 lakh, from the accused. In addition, three Vivo mobile phones and a Pulsar motorcycle (TS08GW5586) used in the operation were seized. The suspects allegedly intended to package the large quantity of hash oil into smaller bottles for sale.

The arrested individuals were booked under relevant sections at Dundigal Police Station and subsequently sent to judicial remand. The raid was carried out under the supervision of Medchal Zone Additional DCP Viswaprasad, SOT CI Shyam Sundar Reddy, along with his team, and Cyberabad Dundigal Police Detective Inspector M. Bal Reddy. Authorities highlighted that such coordinated operations are part of ongoing efforts to curb illegal narcotics trafficking and safeguard public health.

This incident underscores the vigilance of the Medchal SOT and local police in detecting clandestine drug operations, particularly those operating under the radar in residential areas. Police have appealed to the public to provide information regarding any illegal drug activities to strengthen community safety.

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Indiramma Housing Allotment Continues Across Telangana



TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:

Telangana Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Saturday announced that the Indiramma Housing Scheme continues as a regular process, with houses being allotted to all eligible poor families across the state. Speaking in the Assembly, the minister stated that the first phase of houses has already been allotted, and the program will continue in three more phases. Unlike previous governments, which made election-time promises without action, the current government is implementing the scheme with full commitment.

Minister Srinivas Reddy highlighted that the Indiramma houses symbolize self-respect for the poor and are allotted annually around March-April. Out of the 4.50 lakh houses sanctioned in the first phase, nearly three lakh are under various stages of construction, and about 52,000 are ready for possession. He assured that all first-phase houses will be completed by the upcoming monsoon.

Addressing concerns about incomplete houses left by the previous government, the minister said the state government has released 204 crores to resume construction in 133 colonies, where 36,000 houses were left as bare structures without basic amenities. Following directions from Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Bhattacharya, 744 crores have been provided for

necessary civic facilities. For the incomplete 2BHK houses, 455 crores have been sanctioned to ensure allotment to eligible beneficiaries, regardless of party affiliation. Minister Srinivas Reddy also mentioned that under the 2014 program, houses were sanctioned but funds were not released, leaving around 12,000 houses at foundation level. The current government has identified genuine beneficiaries and will ensure pending payments and construction are completed, targeting actual poor families.

Urban housing initiatives are being implemented with a focus on identifying available sites within GHMC limits and coordinating with local representatives in all districts. L-1, L-2, and L-3 zones have been mapped, covering over 20 lakh beneficiaries statewide. In rural areas, ready-to-use sites will be allotted for housing, and exemptions will be granted for houses exceeding 400-600 sq. ft. in specific regions.

The minister also assured that tribal areas will receive special attention to avoid forest department issues during site allotment and construction. Pending housing issues in Singareni areas are under Cabinet review for resolution. Despite financial constraints, the government is committed to allotting and constructing Indiramma houses for all eligible poor families, ensuring basic facilities and housing security across Telangana.

Kavitha Criticises Congress Government Over Stalled Development in Telangana

TPN Bureau
Suryapet, Telangana,
January 3, 2026:

Telangana Jagruthi president Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Saturday strongly criticised the Congress government, alleging that development work across Telangana has largely come to a halt. Speaking during her visit to Suryapet district as part of the Janmabhoomi outreach programme, she questioned why the state government, led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, was failing to take action on stalled projects.

Kavitha toured several areas in Suryapet, including meetings with local residents and farmers, to understand their grievances directly. She assured people that their issues would be highlighted to the government and pushed for timely solutions. Addressing the media, she said that development works in the district have stopped due to negligence

and that the government had failed to take responsibility for essential infrastructure projects.

She highlighted the condition of KGB School in Arvapalli mandal, noting that although a storm had damaged the school last year and the collector had visited the site, no corrective action had been taken so far. Kavitha stressed that such inaction is unacceptable and called for immediate remedial measures.

The Telangana leader also raised concerns about the state of irrigation canals, pointing out that they are poorly maintained, with unwanted tree growth obstructing water flow. Farmers, she noted, are facing difficulties due to irregular water supply. Kavitha questioned why the government had not provided adequate funds to the Operation and Maintenance Department to ensure



proper canal upkeep. She cited the distributary canal supplying water up to Kodad,

which stretches 70 kilometres, asking why it was not being maintained effectively.

During her visit, she also inspected the Rudramadevi reservoir, emphasising that Goda-

vari water should be made available to the 700-acre tank to benefit local agriculture. She

stressed the importance of constructing additional reservoirs in Nalgonda district as part of

the SRSP Stage-2 project to support the farming community. Kavitha urged the Congress government to prioritise irrigation infrastructure and take immediate action to ensure water availability for farmers.

Throughout her visit, Kavitha's focus remained on holding the government accountable for stalled development and ensuring that citizens' concerns are addressed. She highlighted the need for transparency, timely action, and proper maintenance of public infrastructure to boost development and improve the quality of life for residents in Telangana.

Her comments have once again reignited debate over the pace of development under the Congress administration, highlighting growing public concern about neglected projects and the need for proactive governance.

Union Minister Kishan Reddy Makes Strong Remarks Against CPI MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, January 3, 2026:

Union Minister and BJP Telangana president G. Kishan Reddy on Saturday made sharp and sensational comments targeting CPI Kothagudem MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao over his recent remarks made in the Telangana Legislative Assembly. Kishan Reddy termed the CPI legislator's statements as irresponsible and reflective of political frustration, sparking fresh political debate in the state.

Reacting strongly, Kishan Reddy said that Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao had crossed the limits of democratic decorum by making objectionable and derogatory comments against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during Assembly proceedings. He alleged that instead of



raising constructive issues and people's concerns, the CPI MLA resorted to personal attacks, which, according to him, undermined the dignity of the legislature.

The Union Minister stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a globally respected leader who has worked tirelessly for the country's development, welfare of the poor, and strengthening India's position on the international stage. "Such cheap and baseless remarks

against the Prime Minister expose the political bankruptcy of the CPI," Kishan Reddy said, adding that criticism should be issue-based and within democratic boundaries.

The controversy arose when Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao, while opposing certain policies related to employment and rural welfare, reportedly made sharp comments directed at the Prime Minister. BJP legislators objected strongly to the remarks inside the House, de-

manding that the Speaker take note and ensure that the dignity of constitutional offices is maintained.

Kishan Reddy further said that legislative assemblies are meant for meaningful debate and policy discussions, not for indulging in personal vilification. He urged elected representatives to maintain restraint and uphold democratic values while expressing dissent. "People are watching. Leaders must remember that their words carry weight and responsibility," he cautioned.

He also appealed to the Speaker of the Telangana Legislative Assembly to ensure that parliamentary decorum is strictly followed and that inappropriate remarks are not allowed to become part of official records. According to him, maintaining the

sanctity of the House is essential for preserving public faith in democratic institutions.

The Union Minister accused left parties of losing public relevance and attempting to stay in the spotlight through sensational statements rather than genuine public service. He asserted that such rhetoric would not benefit the people of Telangana and would only weaken democratic discourse.

Meanwhile, the CPI MLA has not yet issued a detailed response to Kishan Reddy's comments. The episode has triggered political reactions across party lines, once again highlighting the growing intensity of political exchanges in legislative forums and the ongoing debate over the limits of criticism and freedom of expression in democratic institutions.

BRS MLA Vemula Prashanth Reddy Criticises CM Revanth Reddy's Conduct in Assembly



Hyderabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLA Vemula Prashanth Reddy on Saturday sharply criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's conduct in the Telangana Legislative Assembly, accusing him of misusing the House and failing to address pressing public issues. His comments came during the ongoing Assembly session, which has seen rising political tension between the ruling Congress and opposition BRS members.

Speaking to the media after the Question Hour proceedings, Prashanth Reddy alleged that the Chief Minister monopolised the session for nearly 90 minutes, turning what was meant for legislators' questions into a platform for self-praise and political grandstanding. He claimed this unprecedented behaviour undermined the purpose of Question Hour and prevented meaningful discussion on governance and development matters.

The BRS legislator further accused the

Chief Minister of running the Assembly "like Gandhi Bhavan," implying that the House was being used as a venue for party propaganda rather than parliamentary debate. He added that instead of responding to critical questions from opposition members, Revanth Reddy indulged in tirades and avoided giving direct answers on key public issues.

Prashanth Reddy also alleged that the Chief Minister made derogatory remarks against prominent BRS leaders, including controversial comments about former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and body-shaming former minister Harish Rao. He described such behaviour as unbecoming of a Chief Minister and degrading to the dignity of the Assembly.

The MLA highlighted that even the Speaker intervened to restrict microphone access for opposition members who tried to criticise the Chief Minister, which he said violated democratic norms. "Are we expected to attend the

House only to praise the Chief Minister?" he asked, questioning the fairness of Assembly procedures and the space given for opposition voices.

In protest, BRS members decided to boycott parts of the session, demanding fair allocation of time and opportunities for opposition members to speak. Prashanth Reddy also pointed out inconsistencies in the use of presentation tools during Assembly debates, highlighting what he described as a double standard in procedure compared to previous years.

The incident underscores the ongoing political friction in the Telangana Assembly, with opposition leaders accusing the ruling party of limiting dissent and stifling debate, while government members maintain that legislative business is being conducted within established norms. The episode has drawn attention to the growing tensions between the ruling and opposition parties and the challenges of ensuring productive parliamentary discourse.

Pawan Kalyan Urges Jana Sainiks to Lead in Resolving Public Issues

TPN Bureau
Jagitial, Telangana,
January 3, 2026:

Jana Sena Party (JSP) president Pawan Kalyan on Saturday called upon his party cadre, popularly known as Jana Sainiks, to take an active role in addressing public issues at the grassroots level. Speaking at a gathering of party workers and leaders in Jagitial district, he emphasised that Jana Sainiks should stay close to the people and understand their problems firsthand to provide effective solutions.

Addressing the crowd, Pawan Kalyan said that real political engagement begins with listening to citizens and working to resolve their everyday concerns. "If we want to grow as a people-centric party, Jana Sainiks must always be at the forefront of public welfare efforts," he said. He stressed that interacting directly with citizens will strengthen the party's connection with local communities and build trust and credibility.

The JSP chief spoke about the nature of political struggle and leadership, reminding party workers that both victories and setbacks are part of the journey. He encouraged them not to shy away from challenges and to cultivate resilience and persistence. Pawan Kalyan said that the courage to compete and engage directly with people helps leaders understand public needs more deeply and make better decisions.

Highlighting the importance of grassroots engagement, he urged Jana Sainiks to regularly interact with the public, document their grievances, and work with urgency and sensitivity to address them. He likened political work to a journey of a thousand miles, noting that "even a long journey begins with a single step," and called for unity and collective effort to achieve the party's goals.

Pawan Kalyan also reflected on his personal journey, stating that the spirit and determination of Telangana's people have inspired him



and shaped his political approach. He emphasised that serving the public sincerely should be the core mission of every Jana Sena activist and that maintaining close contact with citizens is essential for meaningful political

work.

The event drew strong participation from party leaders and volunteers, who echoed his call for active involvement in community engagement and problem-solving. Pawan Kalyan's address reaffirmed the

Jana Sena Party's commitment to people-oriented politics, urging its cadre to remain engaged, responsible, and proactive in championing the needs of the public and ensuring that citizens' issues are effectively resolved.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Pays Rich Tributes to Savitribai Phule on Her Birth Anniversary

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, January 3, 2026:
Transport and Backward Classes Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Friday paid rich tributes to Savitribai Phule, India's first woman teacher and a pioneering social reformer, on the occasion of her birth anniversary. Remembering her extraordinary contribution to women's education and social equality, the Minister said Savitribai Phule

was not merely an individual but a powerful movement that transformed the social fabric of the country.
In his message, Ponnam Prabhakar described Savitribai Phule as a visionary who challenged deeply entrenched social prejudices at a time when educating women was considered unacceptable. Despite facing humiliation, resistance, and numerous social obstacles, she moved forward with remarkable



courage and determination, firmly believing that education was the strongest instrument for social change.
He recalled that Savitribai Phule laid a strong foundation for women's empowerment by starting schools for girls and advocating education as a path to liberation and

self-respect. "She proved through her own life that there can be no freedom without education. Following the path shown by Savitribai Phule means ensuring education for every girl, dignity for every woman, and equal opportunities for every citizen," the Minister said.
Highlighting the relevance of her ideals today, Ponnam Prabhakar noted that the state's progress in education, social justice, and women's empowerment continues to draw inspiration from the thoughts and struggles of reformers like Savitribai Phule. He stated that the government is committed to making quality education accessible to all, with special emphasis on promoting girls' education in line with her vision.
The Minister called upon citizens to take inspiration from Savitribai Phule's life and ideals and translate them into meaningful action. He urged teachers, parents, students, and the youth to share collective responsibility in transforming society through education. "Let us pledge to implement her ideals in our lives and work together to build an equal, just, and enlightened society," he said.
He concluded by stating that Savitribai Phule's legacy remains a guiding force for social reform and inclusive development, and her life continues to inspire generations across the nation.

CPI MLA Koonaneni's Remarks on PM Modi Condemned by Leaders



TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:
Telangana leaders have strongly condemned the offensive remarks made by CPI MLA Koonaneni Sambasiva Rao against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In a statement issued on Saturday, they described the comments as disrespectful towards a globally respected leader who has been democratically elected and has worked tirelessly for India's development and international stature.
The leaders criticized the CPI MLA for exposing political immaturity and lack of decorum. They emphasized that while robust political debate is essential in a democracy, personal attacks and baseless allegations against the Prime Minister are unacceptable. Such remarks, they said, not only undermine democratic values but also risk misleading public perception about India's political system.
"It is unfortunate that a public representative chose to make derogatory statements about a visionary leader who has contributed significantly to India's growth," the statement said. The leaders stressed that citizens are observant of political behavior and that irresponsible comments reflect poorly on the integrity of the legislature.
The statement further urged Koonaneni Sambasiva Rao to issue a formal apology for his remarks. It also called upon the Speaker of the Assembly to take necessary action to ensure that no further disrespectful statements are made in the House and that legislative decorum is strictly maintained.
The condemnation highlights the sensitivity of personal attacks on national leaders and reinforces the call for responsible conduct by elected representatives. The leaders asserted that maintaining decorum and respect in political discourse is essential for strengthening democracy and upholding public trust in the political system.
They concluded by emphasizing that democratic debate should focus on policies, governance, and public welfare, rather than personal vilification, and that all legislators must follow parliamentary norms to preserve the dignity of the Assembly.

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Savitribai Phule 195th Birth Anniversary Celebrated at Journalist Housing Society



Hyderabad, January 3, TPN Bureau
The Journalist Cooperative Housing Society in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, organized grand celebrations to mark the 195th birth anniversary of social reformer and educationist Savitribai Phule. The event aimed to honor her pioneering contributions to women's education and social equality.
The celebrations were conducted under the leadership of the Society President Goparaju. Key office-bearers and members of the society, including Vice President M. Lakshmi Narayana, Secretary Ravindra Babu, Joint Secretary Bhagyalakshmi, Treasurer Maheshwar Goud, and Director

Kamalakhar Chari, actively participated in the program.
During the event, the speakers highlighted Savitribai Phule's lifelong dedication to promoting education for girls and marginalized communities, emphasizing her role as a social reformer who challenged societal norms and uplifted oppressed sections of society. Participants recalled her efforts in establishing schools for girls at a time when female education was largely neglected.
The program included speeches, cultural presentations, and discussions on the relevance of Savitribai Phule's work in contemporary society. Attendees acknowledged her enduring legacy

and called for continued efforts toward social justice and empowerment through education.
The Society expressed its commitment to upholding the values championed by Savitribai Phule and encouraged members and the community to carry forward her mission of equality, education, and social reform. The event concluded with a pledge to inspire the younger generation to pursue learning and contribute positively to society.
The celebrations were widely appreciated by members, and the Society reaffirmed its dedication to commemorating great social reformers who shaped India's educational and social landscape.

Hyderabad Police to Launch Anti-Food Adulteration Teams to Crack Down on Fake Goods

TPN Bureau
Hyderabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:
Hyderabad Police have announced plans to strengthen their fight against food adulteration and the circulation of fake goods by launching dedicated Anti-Food Adulteration Teams (AFAT) across the city. The teams are tasked with targeting counterfeit and adulterated food products that pose serious health risks to consumers.
Authorities have reported that adulterated goods have become widespread, affecting staples and packaged items such as milk, rice, spices, cooking oil, tea powder, and even products like soaps and poultry feed. To address this, the police have designed a focused enforcement strategy that goes beyond routine inspections.
The Anti-Food Adulteration Teams will conduct targeted operations, surprise inspections, and raids at suspected production

and storage locations. Each team will be overseen by a Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) to ensure coordinated action with other police units and authorities such as the Food Safety Department and local civic bodies.
Several areas on the outskirts of Hyderabad, including Pahadi Sharief, Jalpally, Meerpet, Adibatla, Shamshabad, Hayathnagar, Ghatkesar, Medchal, and Patancheru, have been identified as hotspots for illegal adulteration operations. Many of these units operate from small sheds or rented premises, producing spurious goods while evading standard monitoring. The AFAT teams are expected to gather intelligence, dismantle these operations, and take swift legal action against offenders.
Commissioner of Police V.C. Sajjanar stated that the goal of this drive is to adopt a zero-tolerance approach toward anyone involved in manufacturing, storing,



or selling adulterated products. He emphasized that continuous surveillance, monitoring, and legal enforcement are key to deterring offenders and ensuring public safety.
Authorities have also urged citizens to remain vigilant while purchasing

ing food and household items by checking labels, expiry dates, and license details. People are encouraged to report suspicious products or outlets to the police or food safety authorities.
With the launch of these dedicated teams, Hyderabad Police aim to

restore consumer confidence, protect public health, and curb the widespread circulation of adulterated and fake goods in the market. The initiative is part of the broader effort to ensure food safety and maintain law and order in the city.

Operation Smile - XII Launched in Cyberabad to Rescue Missing and Street Children



TPN Bureau
Cyberabad, Telangana, January 3, 2026:
The Cyberabad Police Commissionerate on Tuesday conducted a review meeting for Operation Smile - XII, a comprehensive initiative aimed at protecting children, officials said. The meeting was chaired by DCP of Women & Children Safety Wing, Srujana Karana, who outlined the objectives and progress of the operation.
DCP Srujana Karana explained that the operation, running from January 1 to 30, 2026, fo-

cuses on identifying missing children, street children, child laborers, victims of illegal transportation, and children involved in hazardous activities. The operation also seeks to provide rehabilitation by coordinating with multiple government departments and welfare agencies.
For effective implementation, 12 special teams have been formed, each comprising a Sub-Inspector and four constables, including one female police constable. The teams will identify vulnerable children and

reconnect them with their families using the "DARPAN App", a facial recognition software, ensuring accurate identification and safe reunification.
The review meeting was attended by senior officials, including ACP S. Krishna Prasad, K. Narender Reddy, Chairman of Ranga Reddy District Child Welfare Committee, Raja Reddy, Chairman of Medchal District Child Welfare Committee, and coordinators from Child Protection Officers, Voluntary Action Associations, and Anti-

Human Trafficking units. Other participants included health officials, labor commissioners, and representatives from Ranga Reddy, Medchal, and Sangareddy districts.
Officials highlighted that the initiative not only ensures the safety of children but also addresses systemic challenges like street begging, child labor, and illegal child trafficking. They emphasized collaboration between police, district welfare committees, and NGOs to provide comprehensive protection and re-

habilitation for vulnerable children across the Cyberabad jurisdiction.
The Cyberabad Police Commissioner's office confirmed that the operation aims to create a safe environment for children and strengthen mechanisms to prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation during the month-long campaign.
The initiative reflects the Cyberabad Police's commitment to child safety, family reunification, and proactive policing to protect the rights of children in urban and rural areas.

Telangana Government Honours Poet Andesri, Grants Job to His Family Member

TPN Bureau, Hyderabad, January 3, 2026
Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu announced in the Legislative Assembly that the Telangana government has officially recognised the contribution of the late poet and lyricist Andesri, who united the people of Telangana through his iconic song Jaya Jayahe Telangana. To honour his legacy, the government has decided to provide a government job to one member of his family.

Andesri, originally named Ande Ellayya, hailed from Reparti village in Siddipet district. Orphaned at a young age, he worked as a cattle herder and faced many hardships before emerging as a prolific poet. Despite lacking formal education, he authored around 3,000 poems reflecting the lives of rural Telangana and marginalised communities. During the Telangana movement, his writings captured the aspirations and struggles of the people, while Jaya Jayahe Telangana



became a symbol of unity and pride across the state.

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Mallu recalled that the state government, through G.O. No. 783 dated June 2, 2024, approved Jaya Jayahe Telangana as the official state song. To support Andesri's family after his untimely demise, his son Datta Sai has been appointed as an Assis-

tant Professor in a degree college under the Higher Education Department through Ordinance No. 7 dated November 25, 2025. The ordinance was unanimously approved by the Assembly, reflecting the government's commitment to social justice and recognition of cultural contributions.

Bhatti Mallu emphasised that poets and art-

ists have shaped Telangana's identity and voiced the struggles of oppressed communities. He criticised the previous government for neglecting Andesri after the state's formation, while the current government not only declared his song as the state anthem but also ensured that his family is honoured.

He further noted that

other artists, including Gaddar, Pasham Yadagiri, Jayaraju, Guda Annanna, and Gorati Venkanna, have been recognised for their contributions. The government remains committed to supporting and celebrating Telangana's poets and artists, upholding their legacy, and preserving the state's rich cultural heritage.

Telangana Government School Libraries: MLC Dasoju Shravan Raises Concern

Hyderabad, January 3, TPN Bureau
During a Telangana Legislative Council session, BRS MLC Dasoju Shravan expressed serious concern over the lack of libraries in government schools across the state. He highlighted that Telangana has approximately 30,000 government schools, and out of these, 25,520 schools have designated spaces for libraries. However, in reality, these schools neither have functional libraries nor sufficient books for students.

MLC Shravan pointed out that the absence of libraries is severely affecting students, especially those in higher classes, who face challenges in accessing reading material essential for their academic development.

He stressed that establishing libraries in every government school is critical to strengthening the education system.

He further observed that if libraries are set up in all 25,520 schools, it would also create an equal number of employment opportunities, thereby partially addressing the state's unemployment problem. The MLC expressed concern that without libraries, students are increasingly turning to social media platforms like YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, which is affecting their reading habits and overall personality development.

Referring to the state's vision of "Telangana Rising", he emphasized that enhancing school libraries is an impor-



tant part of this initiative. Shravan also noted other infrastructural gaps in government schools, including the absence of physical education teachers despite available grounds, which need to be addressed to improve the overall quality of education.

In conclusion, Dasoju Shravan underlined that

establishing libraries would not only enrich the learning environment in schools but also provide significant employment opportunities for 25,520 individuals. He urged the government to take immediate steps to ensure that every government school is equipped with a library, proper teaching staff, and essential education-

al resources to help students thrive academically and socially.

This intervention highlights the urgent need to balance educational infrastructure with student development, combining literacy promotion with employment generation, ultimately contributing to Telangana's holistic growth and progress.

Muslim Devotees Serve Annadanam to Ayyappa Swamis, Showcasing Religious Harmony



TPN Bureau
Bel Mandal, Cheprala, January 3, 2026 – In a heartwarming display of interfaith unity, Muslim devotees in Cheprala village organized bhiksha (food offerings) and annadanam (community meal) for Ayyappa Swamis, highlighting mutual respect and religious harmony between Hindus and Muslims.

The initiative saw 25 Ayyappa Swamis from various villages being invited and served a va-

riety of dishes prepared with devotion and care. The event symbolized the spirit of communal coexistence, demonstrating that faith and respect for others can transcend religious boundaries.

Speaking on the occasion, Congress Party Mandal President Faizulla Khan emphasized the importance of honoring all religions. "In the eyes of the divine, everyone is equal. Our faith encourages us

to live together harmoniously, respecting each other's beliefs. This initiative reflects our commitment to Hindu-Muslim unity," he said.

Khan further explained that the gesture was motivated by love for his own religion while simultaneously showing respect for others. "We wish for a society where people rise above caste and religious differences. Organizing annadanam for the Swamis was a way to

foster this spirit of harmony," he added.

The event, held in Cheprala village of Bel Mandal, included the preparation and distribution of a variety of traditional dishes, served with devotion to the visiting Swamis. The Muslim organizers also shared their broader vision of promoting religious tolerance and unity through similar community activities in the future.

Local residents

praised the initiative as a shining example of secularism and interfaith cooperation, underlining the potential for communities to come together in mutual respect and service.

This event marks a significant step in promoting cultural understanding and reinforcing the message that communal harmony is strengthened through acts of kindness, inclusion, and respect for diverse traditions.

District SP Congratulates Young Math Prodigy on First Prize Achievement



Adilabad, January 3, TPN Bureau

Adilabad District Superintendent of Police (SP) Akhil Mahajan IPS personally congratulated Jarisha Mehzin, the daughter of Constable M.D. Majid Ahmed, for winning the first prize in the field of mathematics at the district-level Knowledge Fair held on December 19-20. Jarisha excelled in the topic of "Paradoxes", earning recognition for her outstanding skills and logical reasoning.

The SP invited the young achiever to the Police Headquarters to personally felicitate her, encouraging her to aim for higher accomplishments in life. He emphasized the importance of academic excellence and inspired all children from police families to pursue higher education and reach the pinnacle of their potential.

Jarisha, currently studying in the eighth grade at a local private school, has been selected to participate in the upcoming state-level competitions scheduled from January 7 to January 9 in Komaram Bheem district. The SP expressed confidence that she will represent Adilabad with distinction and hoped that she achieves state-level awards through her talent and dedication.

During the felicitation, SP Mahajan highlighted that nurturing curiosity and analytical thinking from a young age is essential for academic and personal growth. He commended the efforts of the teachers and organizers of the Knowledge Fair, which provided students like Jarisha an opportunity to showcase their skills.

Officials present during the congratulatory event included

C.C. Kondaraju, Public Grievances Department Officer Jaishwal Kavitha, and other police personnel and staff members. They joined the SP in appreciating Jarisha's efforts and encouraged her to continue striving for excellence.

The SP concluded by wishing Jarisha continued success in mathematics and other academic endeavors, underlining that such achievements not only bring pride to families but also inspire other young students to pursue knowledge and innovation.

This recognition reflects the district police's commitment to supporting educational talent and encouraging young achievers to reach their fullest potential, fostering a culture of learning and excellence among the community.

Cyberabad Police Conducts Intensive Drive to Combat Human Trafficking and Ensure Women & Child Safety



Cyberabad, January 3, 2026 – The Cyberabad Police, through its Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) and SHE Teams, carried out an intensive week-long operation from December 27, 2025, to January 2, 2026, targeting human trafficking, indecent public acts, and domestic disputes, while promoting awareness on women and child safety.

During this period, the AHTU conducted night raids that led to the apprehension of six transgender individuals and the rescue of three victims. In addition, eight accused were arrested in three cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

Meanwhile, Cyberabad SHE Teams

conducted 147 decoy operations, catching 45 individuals in the act of indulging in indecent behavior in public spaces. Petty cases were filed in 52 instances, while remaining offenders were counselled on the legal and social consequences of their actions. The SHE Teams also received 26 complaints from women victims through various channels, highlighting the continued need for vigilance and timely intervention.

The police also focused on family disputes, successfully reuniting 22 families through counselling at Family Counseling Centres and CDEW Centres.

In addition to enforcement, preventive measures and awareness campaigns formed a key part of

the drive. Over 3,100 members of the public participated in awareness programs organized across Cyberabad, covering topics such as human trafficking, child trafficking, eve-teasing, social media harassment, child marriages, child labour, stalking, begging, cyberbullying, and cyber frauds. Participants were also briefed on important helpline numbers, including Women Helpline 181, Child Helpline 1098, Dial 100, and Crimes 1930.

Deputy Commissioner of Police K. Srujana, Women & Child Safety Wing, Cyberabad, emphasized that these operations aim not only to apprehend offenders but also to educate the public and strengthen community safety networks.

2026 Must Be a Year of Reckoning for Power Without Accountability



The year 2026 arrives at a moment when global politics is marked by fatigue, distrust, and deep moral unease. Across democracies, citizens are questioning leaders who have accumulated extraordinary power while steadily weakening institutions meant to hold them accountable. The call for a “year of reckoning” is not about vengeance or political point-scoring; it is about restoring the basic principle that no leader is above scrutiny.

In the United States, Donald Trump’s return to power has intensified debates about the resilience of democratic norms. His leadership style—defined by confrontation, distrust of institutions, and personal loyalty over constitutional restraint—has reshaped American politics. While

supporters view him as a disruptor of entrenched elites, critics warn that constant attacks on the judiciary, media, and electoral processes erode the foundations of democracy itself. A reckoning, in this context, means reaffirming that political power must be constrained by law, transparency, and accountability.

Across the world, Israel faces a parallel moment of introspection. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s long dominance has left the nation deeply polarized. Years of political survival strategies, judicial controversies, and security failures have culminated in widespread public anger. The immense human cost of prolonged conflict has intensified scrutiny of leadership decisions that prioritize political endurance

over long-term stability and peace. For Israel, a reckoning is not merely electoral—it is moral and institutional.

These leaders are not isolated cases. They represent a broader global pattern in which strongmen thrive on polarization, portray criticism as betrayal, and frame accountability as persecution. This political model relies on dividing societies into loyalists and enemies, leaving little space for democratic debate or self-correction. When power is personalized rather than institutionalized, governance becomes fragile and unpredictable.

A true reckoning does not demand instant downfall or dramatic trials. It demands something more difficult: sustained civic engagement, independent institu-

tions, and voters willing to prioritize democratic values over charismatic leadership. Elections, legislative oversight, and judicial independence are not obstacles to governance; they are safeguards against abuse.

Importantly, accountability must extend beyond domestic politics. Decisions taken by powerful leaders reverberate far beyond borders—through wars, refugee crises, economic instability, and humanitarian disasters. When leaders act without consequence, it is often ordinary people who pay the price. Reckoning, therefore, is not about punishing individuals but about protecting lives and futures.

History shows that democracies rarely collapse overnight. They weaken gradually, through normali-

zation of excess, silence in the face of injustice, and fatigue among citizens. A year of reckoning is a chance to interrupt that decline. It is an opportunity for societies to ask difficult questions about leadership, responsibility, and the cost of unchecked authority.

As 2026 unfolds, the real test will not be whether certain leaders survive politically, but whether democratic systems reassert their strength. Reckoning is not an event—it is a process. One that demands courage from institutions, honesty from leaders, and vigilance from citizens. Without it, power becomes entitlement, and democracy becomes performance. With it, even the most turbulent political moments can become turning points toward renewal.

“Abar Jitbe Bangla” – Political Revival or Strategic Gamble?



West Bengal’s political landscape is once again brimming with fervour as the state prepares for its Assembly elections in 2026. In the middle of this high-stakes contest, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) has chosen a bold and unmistakably energetic strategy: the “Abar Jitbe Bangla” yatra led by Abhishek Banerjee. At first glance, this campaign appears to be a ritualistic political tour, but a closer look reveals it to be a carefully calculated effort to reshape narratives, reconnect with voters, and inject new life into the TMC’s electoral machinery.

Abhishek Banerjee, in his late 30s, projects the image of a modern political leader — youthful yet seasoned, ambitious and articulate. The yatra is intended not merely to remind voters of the TMC’s track record over three consecutive terms, but to reassert a sense of cultural identity and political pride among Bengal’s citizens. It reflects an understanding that beyond tangible achievements, emotion and identity play an indispensable role in electoral politics. By framing this campaign as both a celebration of Bengal’s resilience and a rebuke to perceived central overreach, the TMC is positioning itself as the guardian of local pride and rights.

This strategy is particularly noteworthy because it happens amid growing criticism from opposition parties, especially the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has aggressively challenged the TMC on governance, law and order, and alleged administrative weaknesses. But Banerjee’s narrative does not merely counter the BJP’s criticisms; it seeks to redefine the terms of the debate. Rather than simply focusing on policy details, the campaign ties questions of governance to deeper issues of cultural autonomy and emotional bonds between voters and their leaders.

Yet, the yatra is not without

its challenges or detractors. Critics within rival parties have derided the effort as superficial, even detached from the everyday struggles of ordinary Bengalis. They argue that after fifteen years in power, a series of roadshows and public meetings may not be enough to overcome anti-incumbency sentiments that are natural after a long tenure. The central question becomes whether theatrical displays of confidence and rhetoric about identity can translate into actual votes — especially among citizens who may feel fatigued or disillusioned with traditional political cycles.

Moreover, the campaign’s emphasis on identity and pride walks a fine line. In a deeply diverse and layered society, appeals to cultural distinctiveness can inspire unity — but they can also reinforce divisions if not handled with care. The yatra’s success will depend not only on the charisma of the leader but on the substance behind the slogans: tangible economic opportunities, improved governance, and genuine engagement with electorate concerns.

Abhishek Banerjee’s role is crucial here. As someone who has steadily risen within the TMC’s ranks, his campaign could redefine his political identity and influence the future direction of the party itself. The yatra is both a test of Banerjee’s leadership and a reflection of the TMC’s adaptability in a changing political environment.

In the end, “Abar Jitbe Bangla” is more than a slogan — it is a political statement about confidence, continuity, and contestation. Whether it becomes a game-changer or another chapter in Bengal’s competitive electoral saga will be revealed only in the ballots cast next year. For now, it stands as a vivid example of how modern Indian politics blends tradition with theatrical strategy in the quest for popular mandate.

Bangladesh’s Political Reset Must Not Come at the Cost of Women’s Rights

Bangladesh has recently witnessed a profound political transformation. What began as hopes for greater freedom and reform has, according to many observers, morphed into an environment where women’s basic rights are under pressure. While earlier governments faced criticism on issues ranging from corruption to stagnation, the current shift has unleashed forces that threaten hard-won gains in gender equality and public participation.

In the wake of mass protests that brought down the long-serving leadership in Dhaka, the interim administration led by a Nobel laureate promised a new chapter for the nation. Yet, the initial optimism has faded for many, especially women. Accounts from activists and former residents reveal that political upheaval has coincided with a resurgence of religious radicalism and moral policing that disproportionately affects women.

Moral policing, in its most insidious forms, targets women not just for what they do, but for how they dress and where they belong in public life. Reports describe women being harassed on the streets for not wearing specific religious attire, with vigilantes enforcing dress codes and publicly shaming those who defy them. Such incidents are not isolated; they reflect a broader cultural shift where personal choices are subjected to communal scrutiny.

This climate of intimidation is compounded by incidents of physical and sexual assault. Women associated with political movements, cultural fields, or simply those moving freely in public have reported harassment without subsequent legal action. These episodes are deeply alarming not merely as individual abuses, but as symptoms of a society where women’s autonomy



is increasingly contested.

Another disturbing trend is the questioning of women’s place in the workforce. Traditional voices opposed to women working outside the home are gaining louder platforms, suggesting that women should only participate in economic life with the approval of male guardians. Coupled with the elimination of job reservations for women and the rollback of institutional support for female representation, this signals a retrenchment from policies that previously helped expand women’s participation in public life.

Bangladesh’s progress on indicators such as female mortality, maternal health, and workforce participation was once a point of pride. These gains placed the country ahead of some of its peers and demonstrated the transformative effects of policies aimed at gender inclusion. Eroding these achievements risks not only reversing social gains but also undermining the nation’s economic and cultural potential.

Critics argue that the political reset has emboldened groups with regressive views that were previously kept in check. Rather than fostering inclusive

reforms, the interim government appears to have created space for hardline elements to assert themselves more openly. This includes lifting restrictions on organizations previously banned for extremist ties, and curbing reforms that aimed to promote gender equality.

The international community has focused much attention on geopolitical issues and minority rights in Bangladesh. Yet the plight of women—caught between political turbulence and rising conservatism—deserves equal urgency. This cannot be dismissed as a cultural debate; it is a human rights concern with far-reaching consequences for society’s future.

Bangladesh’s journey toward democracy and modernity must include protections for women’s rights, freedoms, and dignity. Progress that leaves half the population behind cannot be progress at all. The country must reaffirm its commitment to gender equality, not just in rhetoric but through laws, policies, and societal support that uphold women’s full participation in public life. Because a nation’s true strength lies not in how it restricts its women, but in how it empowers them.

Patriotism in Cinema Should Not Be a Double Standard

Cinema has always been a powerful tool for storytelling, capable of shaping national identity and collective memory. Nowhere is this more evident than in Hollywood, where patriotic films are routinely celebrated for their technical brilliance, emotional depth, and narrative ambition. Movies that glorify national service, military courage, and state power often receive critical acclaim and prestigious awards, becoming global cultural exports that shape how the world views America. These films are rarely questioned for their intent; instead, they are applauded as artistic expressions of national pride.

In sharp contrast, Indian cinema faces a curious and troubling double standard. When Indian filmmakers explore themes of patriotism, national security, or historical conflict, their work is often hastily dismissed as “propaganda.” This label is applied regardless of the film’s cinematic quality, storytelling strength, or audience reception. Such criticism reflects not an objective assessment of art, but a selective discomfort with Indian narratives that assert confidence in the nation’s institutions and history.

Patriotism in cinema is not unique to any one country. Every nation tells stories that reflect its struggles, victories, and aspirations. Hollywood has perfected this craft by packaging patriotism within sleek production values and emotionally compelling narratives. Indian cinema, too, has begun investing in high-quality storytelling



that explores intelligence operations, military challenges, and national crises with depth and realism. These films often draw inspiration from real events and attempt to humanize those who operate behind the scenes to protect the nation.

The problem arises when Indian films are judged not by their craft, but by the presumed ideology behind them. A story that portrays Indian intelligence agencies or security forces in a positive light is quickly branded as state-sponsored messaging, even when it raises complex questions and depicts moral dilemmas. This reflexive skepticism ignores the fact that cinema can be patriotic without being simplistic, and national pride does not automatically translate into blind endorsement of power.

Art should be evaluated on its intent, execution, and impact—not on whether it aligns with the ideological preferences of a select group. The persistent use of the term “propaganda” to describe Indian patriotic films diminishes creative freedom and discourages filmmakers from engaging with important na-

tional themes. It also creates an unfair cultural hierarchy where Western narratives are seen as universal, while Indian narratives are treated as suspect.

Moreover, audiences themselves have demonstrated a growing appetite for such films. Strong box-office performances and widespread public engagement indicate that viewers connect with stories rooted in national experience. This response should encourage a more balanced critical discourse rather than knee-jerk condemnation.

Cinema, at its best, reflects society’s values, fears, and hopes. Indian filmmakers deserve the same creative latitude that their global counterparts enjoy. Celebrating national stories does not weaken democracy; suppressing them does. If global cinema can applaud patriotism as art in one context, it must be willing to do the same in another.

It is time to move beyond selective criticism and judge Indian films by the same standards applied worldwide—on storytelling, craftsmanship, and emotional truth, not ideological assumptions.

India–Bangladesh Cricket Ties At A Crossroads Amid Political And Diplomatic Strain



India’s cricketing relationship with Bangladesh appears to be entering a fragile phase, mirroring the prolonged breakdown of bilateral ties with Pakistan. Following political unrest and diplomatic sensitivities in Bangladesh, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has put India’s scheduled white-ball tour later this year on hold, pending clearance from the Indian government. This decision underlines how deeply geopolitics and sport have become intertwined in South Asia.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) had announced that India would tour Bangladesh in September for three ODIs and three T20Is. However, the BCCI swiftly distanced itself from the announcement, clarifying that no final approval had been granted. Indian officials reiterated that overseas tours, particularly to politically sensitive regions, require government clearance. Given recent developments across the border, that approval now appears uncertain.

The situation worsened after the BCCI asked IPL franchise Kolkata Knight Riders to release Bangladeshi pacer Mustafizur Rahman amid mounting political pressure. The move has been interpreted as a signal that sporting engagement with Bangladesh is no longer insulated from diplomatic considerations. While Bangladesh’s participation in the upcoming T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka is not under threat, bilateral cricket is increasingly becoming a casualty of regional instability.

This pause highlights a broader trend: India’s reluctance to separate sport from national security and foreign policy concerns. Just as cricketing ties with Pakistan have been frozen for over a decade, India may now restrict interactions with Bangladesh to neutral venues under ICC events. For Bangladesh, this would represent a significant setback, as bilateral series against India are financially and symbolically important.

The viral video of HRD members distributing swords and calling for violence against minorities in Ghaziabad sparked widespread outrage. While arrests followed, the absence of swift political condemnation raised deeper concerns about selective enforcement. Critics argue that when vigilante groups act with perceived political backing, they undermine the state’s monopoly over violence — a cornerstone of governance.

The contrast is stark. Ordinary citizens have faced harsh action, including UAPA charges, for symbolic expressions deemed controversial. Yet, groups openly advocating violence often receive muted responses. This inconsistency erodes public trust and fuels fears of impunity.

A truly strong government, critics argue, enforces the law uniformly, regardless of political convenience. Silence or delayed action against extremist groups risks legitimising their behaviour and weakening democratic institutions. Moreover, it sends mixed signals domestically and internationally, particularly when leaders engage in symbolic gestures of inclusivity while ignoring grassroots intimidation.

The UP government’s challenge is not one of authority but of resolve. Strength lies not in selective toughness but in impartial justice. Failure to confront vigilantism decisively risks replacing rule of law with rule of fear — a legacy that could haunt governance long after electoral victories fade.

Nitin Nabin’s Early Push To Rebuild BJP–RSS Coordination Ahead Of High-Stakes Elections

Even before his formal elevation as BJP national president, Nitin Nabin has begun asserting his role as the party’s organisational pivot ahead of crucial state elections in 2026. At 45, the five-time Bihar MLA and former minister is the youngest leader to occupy the party’s top organisational position, and his immediate focus is clear: repairing and strengthening coordination between the BJP and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

The BJP–RSS relationship, often described as ideological yet autonomous, showed visible strain in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Statements by senior BJP leaders suggesting that the party no longer “needed” the RSS sparked unease within the Sangh ecosystem. Though both sides publicly downplayed tensions, insiders acknowledged coordination gaps at the grassroots level.

Nabin’s mandate is to bridge this divide. He is expected to hold a series of meetings with heads of RSS wings and Sangh-affiliated organisations, as well as organisational secretaries across regions. These engagements aim to restore trust, align campaign strategies, and ensure that ideological coherence translates into electoral effectiveness, particularly in states like West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Assam.

Beyond electoral coordination, Nabin is also tasked with ensuring smoother functioning between the BJP-led Centre and BJP-governed states. This includes resolving internal factionalism, managing leadership transitions, and sharpening booth-level mobilisation. His organisational style is reportedly consultative rather than confrontational, reflecting lessons drawn from recent electoral challenges.

The timing is critical. The BJP faces stiff competition in several states where the RSS network plays a crucial role in mobilisation. Rebuilding synergy is not just about ideology but about organisational discipline and grassroots energy. Nabin’s early interventions suggest the party recognises that electoral dominance cannot be sustained through central leadership alone; it requires a cohesive ecosystem.

Whether Nabin can successfully recalibrate BJP–RSS relations without reopening ideological fault lines will be a key test of his leadership as the party heads into another decisive electoral cycle.

Twin Encounters And A Surrender Signal The Shrinking Space For Maoists In Central India

The killing of 14 Maoists in separate encounters in Chhatisgarh’s Sukma and Bijapur districts, coupled with the surrender of senior commander Barsa Deva, marks a significant moment in India’s long-running fight against Left-Wing Extremism. Security forces view these developments as evidence that the Maoist movement is entering a decisive and possibly terminal phase.

The encounters, involving District Reserve Guard (DRG) personnel, were the first major clashes of the year and resulted in the elimination of key operatives, including Vetti Mangdu alias Mukka, a divisional committee member accused of masterminding deadly attacks on security forces. The simultaneous surrender of Barsa Deva in Telangana further weakened the insurgent network.

For decades, Maoists exploited dense forests, local grievances, and weak governance structures to sustain their operations. However, sustained counter-insurgency efforts, improved intelligence coordination, infrastructure development, and targeted rehabilitation policies have steadily reduced their operational space.

Security officials describe the current phase as one of “containment and exhaustion.” Leadership losses, shrinking recruitment, and declining ideological appeal have left Maoists increasingly isolated. The surrender of senior leaders suggests that even hardened cadres recognise the futility of continued armed struggle.

Yet, experts caution against complacency. While violence has declined, the underlying socio-economic issues that fuelled insurgency — land rights, displacement, and lack of access to services — remain relevant. Sustainable peace will require not just military success but meaningful governance and development.

The recent encounters underscore India’s tactical success against Maoists, but they also serve as a reminder that counter-insurgency victories must ultimately translate into long-term stability and trust between the state and local communities.



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Vigilantism And The Paradox Of Power In Uttar Pradesh’s ‘Strong’ Government



Uttar Pradesh’s BJP government under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is often portrayed as “strong” — electorally dominant, ideologically assertive, and uncompromising on law and order. Yet, the rise of vigilante groups like the Hindu Raksha Dal (HRD) exposes a troubling paradox: a powerful state that appears reluctant to confront lawlessness when it emerges from within its perceived ideological camp.

The viral video of HRD members distributing swords and calling for violence against minorities in Ghaziabad sparked widespread outrage. While arrests followed, the absence of swift political condemnation raised deeper concerns about selective enforcement. Critics argue that when vigilante groups act with perceived political backing, they undermine the state’s monopoly over violence — a cornerstone of governance.

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A truly strong government, critics argue, enforces the law uniformly, regardless of political convenience. Silence or delayed action against extremist groups risks legitimising their behaviour and weakening democratic institutions. Moreover, it sends mixed signals domestically and internationally, particularly when leaders engage in symbolic gestures of inclusivity while ignoring grassroots intimidation.

The UP government’s challenge is not one of authority but of resolve. Strength lies not in selective toughness but in impartial justice. Failure to confront vigilantism decisively risks replacing rule of law with rule of fear — a legacy that could haunt governance long after electoral victories fade.

Bail With Garlands: What Raipur Mall Vandalism Reveals About Normalised Extremism



The “hero’s welcome” given to six Bajrang Dal members after they received bail for vandalising Christmas decorations at a Raipur mall highlights a disturbing normalisation of extremist behaviour. The public celebration of accused individuals sends a troubling message about accountability, justice, and social cohesion.

The vandalism, carried out on Christmas Eve, targeted religious symbols and created fear among minority communities. While the legal process granted bail — a procedural right — the glorification of the accused undermines the spirit of the law. It transforms criminal allegations into acts of ideological validation.

Such episodes blur the line between activism and criminality. When mobs are celebrated rather than condemned, it weakens deterrence and emboldens similar actions. The silence or ambiguity of political leadership further compounds the problem, suggesting tacit approval.

India’s constitutional framework guarantees religious freedom and equal protection under law. Celebrating acts that violate these principles corrodes democratic norms and deepens social divisions. Upholding the rule of law requires not just arrests but a moral rejection of violence in all forms.

The Raipur incident is not an isolated event but part of a larger pattern where vigilantism is reframed as cultural assertion. Addressing this trend demands political courage, consistent enforcement, and a reaffirmation that justice cannot be subordinated to ideology.

Canada’s New Immigration Rules And What They Mean For Indian Aspirants In 2026



Canada’s immigration reforms effective January 1, 2026, mark a strategic recalibration of its migration system, with significant implications for Indian students, workers, and families. The changes aim to streamline pathways, address labour shortages, and curb misuse, while also tightening certain entry routes.

Key reforms include stricter study permit norms, enhanced labour mobility rules, province-specific employment conditions, and new pilot programmes targeting high-demand sectors.

For Indian applicants — one of the largest immigrant groups — these changes bring both opportunities and challenges.

On the positive side, clearer pathways for skilled workers and targeted pilots could benefit professionals in healthcare, technology, and trades. However, tighter scrutiny of student permits and post-study work options may reduce flexibility for those relying on education as a migration route.

Critics argue that while Canada seeks economic migrants, rising costs, longer processing times, and regulatory complexity may discourage genuine applicants. For Indians, navigating the new framework will require careful planning, credible documentation, and alignment with labour market needs.

The reforms reflect Canada’s attempt to balance openness with sustainability. For Indian aspirants, success will increasingly depend on skill relevance rather than volume. The era of easy entry is giving way to a more selective, demand-driven immigration model.

Why The United States Launched A Direct Strike Against Venezuela



The US strike on Venezuela appears to be the culmination of months of escalating pressure rather than a sudden decision. Over the past year, Washington has intensified economic sanctions, expanded naval patrols in the Caribbean, seized oil tankers, and carried out targeted strikes against vessels allegedly linked to drug smuggling. President Trump has framed these actions as part of a broader campaign against transnational crime, migration, and “narco-terrorism.”

Central to the US narrative is the accusation that Nicolás Maduro leads the so-called “Cartel de los Soles,” an alleged drug trafficking network operating through Venezuelan institutions. Trump has also linked Venezuela to the surge in migrants at the US southern border, claiming—without providing evidence—that Caracas deliberately encouraged migration to destabilise American society. The Venezuelan government has categorically denied these allegations, calling them fabricated justifications for intervention.

The reported capture of Maduro marks a decisive shift from indirect pressure to overt military action.

American forces reportedly destroyed suspected cartel infrastructure, seized oil shipments, and formally declared an “armed conflict” with transnational criminal networks. Such a declaration blurs the distinction between law enforcement operations and acts of war, raising alarms among legal experts and international observers.

Critics argue that the operation dangerously conflates counter-narcotics enforcement with regime change. While Washington presents the strike as a security necessity, opponents warn that unilateral military actions erode international norms and weaken global institutions designed to resolve conflicts peacefully. There is also concern that such actions could inspire similar interventions by other powers, normalising force as a tool of political change.

In the long run, the US strike risks deepening regional instability, hardening anti-American sentiment, and complicating diplomatic efforts to address Venezuela’s humanitarian crisis. Rather than resolving underlying problems, the intervention may create new fault lines in an already fragile geopolitical landscape.

From Bus Driver To Strongman: The Rise And Fall Of Nicolás Maduro



Nicolás Maduro’s political journey is one of the most striking transformations in modern Latin American history. Born into modest circumstances, Maduro began his career as a bus driver and trade union organiser. His rise was propelled by his close association with Hugo Chávez and the Bolivarian revolution, which positioned him as Chávez’s chosen successor.

After assuming office in 2013, Maduro inherited a deeply polarised nation. Over the years, his presidency became defined by economic collapse, hyperinflation, widespread shortages of food and medicine, and the mass migration of millions of Venezuelans. International sanctions further strained the economy, while political repression drew condemnation from human rights groups.

Supporters portray Maduro as a leader who resisted American imperialism and defended national sovereignty. Critics, however, accuse him of authoritarianism, dismantling democratic institutions, and mismanaging the economy. Elections under his rule were widely disputed, deepening Venezuela’s international isolation.

If confirmed, Maduro’s reported US-led capture represents a dramatic and controversial end to his rule. It leaves Venezuela at a crossroads, facing uncertainty over leadership, legitimacy, and governance. Whether this moment leads to stability or prolonged chaos will shape Venezuela’s future—and serve as a defining case study in the consequences of power, resistance, and intervention in global politics.

Venezuela Crisis Escalates As US Claims Capture Of President Maduro



Global geopolitics was shaken by an unprecedented announcement and demanding “proof of life.” In response, Venezuela declared a national emergency and accused the United States of committing a grave act of military aggression.

Reports emerging from Venezuela painted a troubling picture. Loud explosions were heard across Caracas, power outages affected areas near major military bases, and videos circulating online showed fires and heavy

security movement. US naval and aerial deployments in the Caribbean further signalled a dramatic escalation. Analysts have compared the scale and nature of the operation to the 1989 US invasion of Panama, marking one of the most direct American interventions in Latin America in decades.

Washington justified its actions by citing alleged links between the Maduro regime and international drug trafficking networks, uncontrolled

migration flows into the US, and “narco-terrorism.” Trump has repeatedly accused Maduro of leading criminal organisations that threaten US national security. Venezuela, however, has strongly rejected these claims, asserting that the intervention is a calculated attempt at regime change aimed at securing influence over the country’s vast oil reserves—the largest proven reserves in the world.

The crisis has reignited debates over unilateral

military action and its legality under international law. If confirmed, the capture of a sitting head of state by a foreign power would represent a dramatic rupture of global norms, undermining the principles of sovereignty enshrined in the United Nations Charter. Beyond Venezuela, the incident risks destabilising Latin America, emboldening external interventions, and setting a dangerous precedent for the future of global conflict resolution.

Swiss Ski Resort Fire Tragedy Highlights Risks Of Festive Negligence

The tragic New Year’s Eve fire at a bar in Switzerland’s Crans-Montana ski resort has plunged the country into mourning, with at least 40 people killed and more than 100 injured. Authorities have identified the first four victims, many of whom were teenagers, underscoring the devastating human cost of safety failures during festive celebrations. The incident has shocked a nation known for strict regulations and high safety standards.

Preliminary investigations suggest that the fire was triggered by sparklers attached to champagne bottles, which ignited the ceiling of the crowded venue. Once the fire started, it spread rapidly, trapping patrons inside amid smoke and chaos. Survivors de-



scribed scenes of panic as people struggled to escape the inferno, highlighting how quickly celebrations can turn into tragedy when safety precautions

are ignored. The process of identifying victims has been slow and painful due to the severity of burns suffered by many. Families continue to

wait for news, compounding the emotional toll of the disaster. Memorials, flowers, and messages of grief have appeared across the resort, reflecting a col-

lective sense of loss and disbelief. Beyond individual grief, the tragedy has sparked a nationwide debate on public safety. Questions are being raised about fire safety enforcement, emergency exits, crowd management, and the use of hazardous celebratory items in enclosed spaces. Tourist-heavy regions, particularly during peak holiday seasons, face unique risks that demand stricter oversight and enforcement.

The Crans-Montana fire serves as a stark reminder that festive negligence can have irreversible consequences. It underscores the need for vigilance, responsible event management, and proactive regulation to ensure that celebrations do not come at the cost of human lives.

Trump’s Iran Protest Warning Raises Fears Of Wider Middle East Conflict

President Trump’s warning that the United States would intervene if Iranian authorities kill peaceful protesters has significantly heightened tensions in the Middle East. Tehran swiftly condemned the statement as “reckless and dangerous,” accusing Washington of interference in Iran’s internal affairs. Iranian leaders warned that any American action would provoke a decisive response and destabilise the entire region.

The protests in Iran have been driven by worsening economic conditions, currency devaluation, rising unemployment, and public frustration with governance. Demonstrations have spread across multiple cities, leading to clashes with security forces and reported deaths. While Trump framed his remarks as support for democratic rights and human dignity, Iran views them as a pretext for foreign intervention.



Given the history of US-Iran relations—marked by sanctions, proxy conflicts, and direct military strikes—the rhetoric carries serious risks. Even without immediate action,

such statements can escalate tensions, encourage headline responses, and increase the likelihood of miscalculation. Regional actors, already navigating conflicts in Gaza, Yemen, and Syria, fear that a US

Iran confrontation could ignite a broader crisis. The episode highlights the delicate balance between advocating human rights and respecting national sovereignty. While international concern

over protester safety is legitimate, threats of intervention can undermine diplomatic solutions and empower hardliners on both sides. In a volatile region, words alone can carry the weight of weapons.

Record High Indices Mask Deeper Market Trends As Nifty And Sensex Rally



Indian equity markets ended the session at fresh record levels, with the Nifty closing above 26,300 and the Sensex gaining over 550 points. On the surface, the rally appeared broad-based and confident, driven by strong global cues, aggressive buying in banking and metal stocks, and continued optimism around India's macroeconomic fundamentals. However, a deeper look reveals that the surge in headline indices masks important underlying divergences within the market.

The rally was led primarily by heavyweight stocks in the banking, financial services, and metals sectors. Strong balance sheets, improving asset quality,

and expectations of sustained credit growth have kept banking stocks firmly in favour with institutional investors. Metal stocks benefited from firm global commodity prices and optimism around infrastructure spending. Meanwhile, FMCG stocks lagged due to margin pressures caused by higher input costs and muted volume growth.

Macroeconomic indicators also played a supportive role. Robust GST collections, relatively stable inflation expectations, and continued confidence in domestic consumption reinforced the narrative of India as a resilient growth economy amid global uncertainty. Additionally, technical analysts highlighted a decisive

breakout from a prolonged consolidation phase, which triggered momentum-based buying by traders and algorithmic funds.

Despite these positives, the rally was far from uniform. Mid-cap and small-cap stocks saw limited participation, with many remaining under pressure. This divergence suggests that while large-cap stocks continue to attract foreign institutional investor (FII) flows due to their stability and liquidity, broader market confidence remains cautious. Valuations in several segments are stretched, and investors appear unwilling to chase risk without clear earnings visibility.

This pattern highlights an important reality: index movements alone do not fully reflect market health. A narrow rally driven by a handful of stocks can inflate benchmarks without improving overall investor wealth. For the rally to be sustainable, earnings growth must catch up with valuations, particularly outside the top-tier companies.

In essence, the record highs reflect faith in India's long-term growth story, but they also underscore the need for cautious optimism. Without broader participation and consistent earnings delivery, elevated indices may struggle to maintain momentum over the medium term.

Excise Duty Shock Triggers ITC Downgrades And Earnings Cuts

ITC has come under significant pressure following a sharp hike in excise duty on cigarettes, prompting several brokerages to downgrade the stock and revise earnings estimates downward for FY27 and FY28. The move has reignited concerns over regulatory unpredictability, a long-standing risk associated with tobacco companies, even those with strong fundamentals.

For several years, a stable and predictable excise duty regime had benefited ITC and other organised players. Lower and steady taxes encouraged consumers to shift away from the unorganised and illicit cigarette market, improving volumes and margins for legal manufacturers. This environment allowed ITC to generate strong cash flows, which in turn supported diversification into FMCG, hotels, paperboards, and agri-business.

The latest duty hike, however, is viewed as a structural policy shift rather than a one-off adjustment. Analysts fear that higher prices could lead to volume contraction, increased downturning, and a resurgence of illicit trade, which remains highly price-sensitive. As a result, brokerages have cut margin assumptions and lowered target prices, reflecting weaker earnings visibility.

While ITC's diversified port-



folio provides some insulation, cigarettes continue to contribute a disproportionate share of profits. Growth in FMCG, though improving, has not yet reached a scale sufficient to fully offset potential weakness in the core tobacco business. This imbalance explains why regulatory shocks still have an outsized impact on investor

sentiment toward the stock.

The episode underscores a broader lesson for investors: regulatory risk can materially alter the outlook even for companies with strong balance sheets and dominant market positions. Policy stability remains critical for long-term capital allocation decisions, particularly in sectors exposed

to taxation and social regulation.

For ITC, the challenge now lies in navigating near-term earnings pressure while accelerating growth in non-cigarette businesses. For investors, the development serves as a reminder that valuation comfort can quickly erode when policy assumptions change.

Deepa Jewellers IPO Reflects Growing Formalisation Of Gold Jewellery Sector

Deepa Jewellers' decision to file draft IPO papers with SEBI to raise ₹250 crore reflects the steady formalisation underway in India's traditionally fragmented gold jewellery sector. The Hyderabad-based company operates as a B2B designer, processor, and supplier of hall-marked gold jewellery, with a strong footprint across southern India.

The proposed IPO consists of a fresh issue aimed largely at funding working capital requirements, highlighting the inventory-intensive nature of the jewel-

lery business. Gold jewellery firms require substantial capital to procure, maintain, and scale inventory, making access to public markets a strategic advantage for expansion and stability.

Deepa Jewellers' outsourced manufacturing model, supported by a network of skilled karigars, allows it to scale operations without heavy capital expenditure. Its relationships with large retail chains such as Kalyan Jewellers and Joyalukkas provide consistent demand and credibility, positioning the company well within the organ-

ised supply chain.

A key driver behind investor interest in such companies is the rising consumer preference for hallmarked and certified jewellery. Increased awareness, regulatory enforcement, and trust issues with unorganised players have accelerated the shift toward formal businesses. This trend has improved transparency and reduced systemic risk within the sector.

However, challenges remain. Margins are sensitive to fluctuations in gold prices, and working capital cycles can stretch during

volatile periods. Competition from larger integrated players also limits pricing power. Despite this, Deepa Jewellers' steady revenue growth and expanding customer network suggest a viable long-term business model.

The IPO signals that capital markets are increasingly receptive to regionally strong, niche players in traditional industries. It also reflects the broader theme of formalisation, where legacy sectors adapt to compliance, scale, and institutional funding.

Index Highs Hide Broad Market Pain As Majority Of Stocks Stay In Red



Despite benchmark indices hovering near record highs, nearly 60% of the top 1,000 listed stocks have delivered negative returns this year. This stark divergence highlights the disconnect between headline indices and broader market reality.

Large-cap stocks have benefited from institutional inflows, while small- and mid-cap stocks have borne the brunt of valuation corrections and earnings disappointments. The Nifty Smallcap 100 remains significantly below its peak,

reflecting cautious investor sentiment. Retail investors have increasingly shifted funds toward IPOs, gold, and derivatives trading, reducing liquidity in smaller stocks. Experts argue that a sustainable recovery requires earnings growth rather than liquidity-driven rallies.

The current phase serves as a reminder that index performance can be misleading and reinforces the importance of stock selection and fundamentals in volatile markets.

ChinaAMC's ETF Listings Signal Deeper Asian Capital Market Integration



China Asset Management Company's listing of depository receipts linked to its CSI 300 and STAR 50 ETFs on the Thai stock exchange marks a significant step in cross-border capital market integration within Asia. The move enables Thai investors to gain exposure to China's core economic and technology assets without navigating complex overseas investment regulations.

The CSI 300 ETF represents China's large-cap universe, often viewed as a barometer of the country's economic health. In contrast, the STAR 50 ETF focuses on strategic emerging industries such as semiconductors, advanced manufacturing, and biomedicine, aligning with China's push for technological self-reliance.

By offering both products simultaneously, ChinaAMC provides a balanced investment proposition combining stability and innovation. This "core assets

plus hard tech" strategy caters to investors seeking long-term growth while managing volatility.

The development also reflects strong regional interest in Chinese assets despite global trade tensions and geopolitical risks. Southeast Asian investors, in particular, are increasingly diversifying portfolios within Asia rather than relying heavily on Western markets.

From a policy perspective, the move aligns with China's broader goal of internationalising its capital markets under the Belt and Road framework. It enhances financial connectivity and positions Chinese asset managers as global players.

Overall, the listings signal a maturing Asian financial ecosystem where regional capital flows deepen, offering investors diversified access to the world's second-largest economy.

Castrol India Open Offer Unlikely To Spark Major Stock Re-Rating



Stonepeak's open offer to acquire a 26% stake in Castrol India at ₹194.04 per share has elicited a muted response from market participants. The offer price represents only a marginal premium over the prevailing market price, limiting its ability to act as a catalyst for a significant stock re-rating.

Typically, open offers generate enthusiasm when they provide a substantial premium or signal operational transformation. In this case, analysts argue that the modest premium reflects the absence of immediate value creation opportunities. The transaction is largely seen as a strategic exit for BP rather

than a turnaround story.

Castrol India continues to face structural challenges. Intense competition in the lubricants market has compressed margins, while the gradual shift toward electric vehicles threatens long-term demand for engine lubricants. These industry-wide headwinds outweigh the short-term impact of a change in ownership.

While the open offer provides downside support, it does not fundamentally alter growth prospects. Analysts therefore expect limited upside, reinforcing the view that sector dynamics matter more than corporate actions.

When Artificial Intelligence Writes Fairy Tales Into Police Reports



The incident of a Utah police report claiming an officer transformed into a frog might appear amusing, but it exposes serious questions about the deployment of artificial intelligence in governance. The error occurred when an AI-assisted reporting tool misinterpreted background audio from a Disney movie, inserting fictional content into an official legal document.

While humorous, the implications are far from trivial. Police reports influence investigations, judicial proceedings, and public trust. Errors in such documents can have legal consequences, affecting evidence credibility and institutional

accountability. The episode illustrates how AI systems, when deployed without robust oversight, can undermine rather than enhance efficiency.

AI excels at pattern recognition, not context. Without human verification, systems cannot distinguish between relevant data and ambient noise. This limitation becomes critical in environments where accuracy is non-negotiable. The incident highlights the danger of treating AI as an authority rather than an assistant.

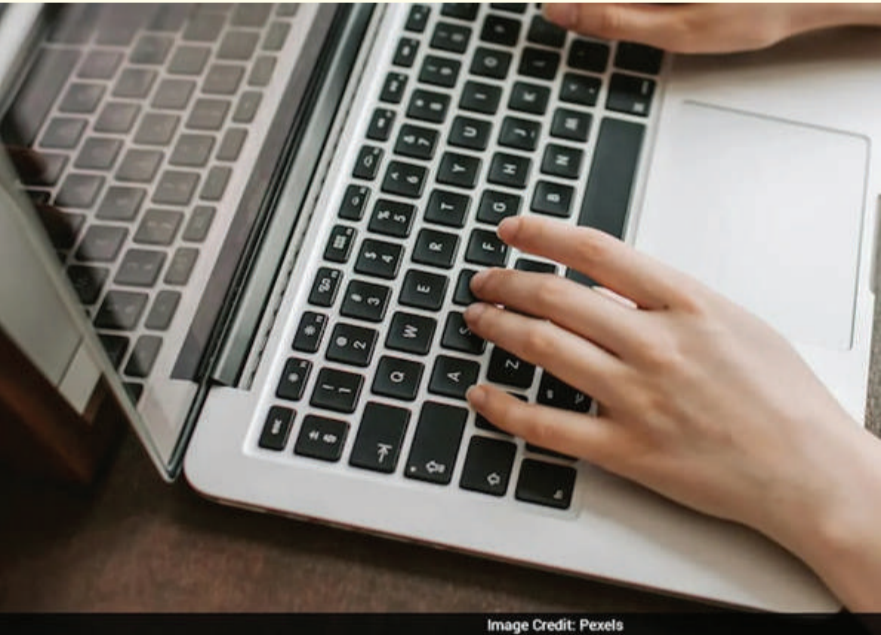
Credit must be given to the department's transparency. By acknowledging the mistake and explaining its

cause, officials reinforced the principle that technology must remain accountable to human judgment. The willingness to reconsider AI use reflects responsible governance.

As institutions increasingly adopt automation, this case serves as a cautionary tale. Efficiency gains must not come at the expense of reliability. AI can reduce workload, but it cannot replace discernment.

The "frog report" stands as a reminder that intelligence without context risks absurdity. In the rush toward automation, institutions must remember that trust is built on accuracy, not speed.

Burnout Before Stability The Hidden Health Cost Of Tech Industry Pressure



The account of a laid-off tech professional suffering stress-induced health issues challenges the polished narratives often associated with the technology sector. Entering the industry through campus placement, he found himself in a workplace defined by layoffs, insecurity, and relentless performance pressure. Survival, rather than growth, became the objective.

Working over 12 hours a day became routine, driven by fear rather than ambition. Yet extreme effort did not guarantee stability. A layoff followed by a high-pressure internship only deepened

physical and emotional strain. Eventually, the body responded — fatigue, anxiety, and hypertension severe enough to require life-long medication.

This story exposes a culture where overwork is normalised and health deterioration is treated as acceptable collateral. In an industry obsessed with output and scalability, human limits are often ignored until damage becomes irreversible.

The narrative is not unique, but it is rarely acknowledged. Burnout is frequently framed as a personal failing rather than a systemic issue. The pressure to re-

main employable in volatile markets encourages silence, even as health deteriorates.

The account serves as both warning and critique. It urges companies to reassess productivity metrics and recognise that sustainable performance requires sustainable workloads. For workers, it reinforces the reality that careers are replaceable, but health is not.

In revealing the hidden cost of tech ambition, the story calls for a redefinition of success — one that values longevity, balance, and well-being over constant acceleration.

From Factory Floors To Code Editors A Quiet Story Of Self-Made Transformation

The story of a Pune man transitioning from a vegetable processing factory to a full-stack developer role within just 18 months is not a tale of overnight success, but one of sustained discipline in uncomfortable circumstances. Forced to drop out of college due to financial hardship, he entered factory work that demanded long, physically exhausting 10-hour shifts, leaving little room for optimism or upward mobility. For many, such conditions become permanent realities. What sets his journey apart is not privilege, but persistence.

The turning point came through exposure to an idea rather than an institution — the belief that learning was accessible beyond classrooms. Encouraged by a friend and inspired by the oft-quoted notion that the internet democratises knowledge, he made a calculated decision to invest in himself. Saving money to buy a laptop was itself an act of commitment, reflecting the seriousness of his intent. With no formal background in technology, he began from scratch, navigating programming documenta-



tion, tutorials, and project-based learning.

The process was slow and uncertain. Unlike structured courses, self-learning demanded self-regulation, resilience, and the ability to confront repeated failure. Yet this unstructured approach also built adaptability. Learning HTML and CSS laid the foundation, while JavaScript and React introduced him to problem-solving and modern develop-

ment practices. Backend technologies further expanded his understanding of systems rather than just interfaces.

Securing an internship within a month was not a result of mastery, but of readiness to try. It reinforced a crucial lesson: opportunity often rewards effort in motion, not perfection. Even personal setbacks — including a serious medical emergency involving his grandfather — did not

derail his trajectory. Instead, freelancing became a bridge between instability and opportunity, allowing him to earn, learn, and remain engaged with technology.

Eventually, he secured a full-time role with a US-based firm operating in India. More than a career shift, the transformation represents a redefinition of identity. His journey challenges the myth that success re-

quires ideal conditions, elite institutions, or expensive mentorship. Instead, it demonstrates that sustained focus over one or two difficult years can radically alter life direction.

In a society where economic background often dictates opportunity, this story stands as quiet evidence that determination, when paired with accessible tools, can disrupt inherited limitations.

Flying Abroad For Cigarettes Shows How Logic Loses To Internet Performance



A viral suggestion that smokers could save money by flying to Vietnam to buy cheaper cigarettes reveals much about the nature of online discourse in the age of virality. Framed as a humorous financial "hack," the post compared rising cigarette prices in India with lower prices abroad, concluding that bulk purchases overseas could offset airfare costs. While

designed to provoke amusement, the argument collapsed under minimal scrutiny.

At its core, the post demonstrated how financial reasoning detached from context becomes meaningless. Health risks, legal limits, addiction psychology, and practical feasibility were either ignored or trivialised. Customs regulations alone make the sug-

gestion impractical, as limits on tobacco imports would nullify any perceived savings. More importantly, the idea normalised addiction by framing it as an expense management problem rather than a health issue.

The backlash was swift and instructive. Users highlighted the absurdity of equating travel with consumption savings,

while others criticised a registered investment adviser for promoting harmful behaviour under the guise of financial literacy. The humour gave way to discomfort as the post exposed how easily social media can reward attention-grabbing logic over responsible communication.

What made the debate resonate was not the suggestion itself, but what it

revealed about internet culture. Platforms prioritise novelty and provocation, often at the expense of nuance. In such environments, exaggerated ideas gain traction not because they are sensible, but because they are shareable.

The episode also highlighted how addiction distorts rationality. When dependency exists, even extreme actions can appear justified if framed as cost-saving. This blurring of logic underscores why public health conversations must address not just pricing, but behaviour and perception.

Ultimately, the post became a mirror reflecting how online performance often overrides real-world reasoning. It served as a reminder that not all calculations belong on spreadsheets, and that financial intelligence divorced from ethics, legality, and health quickly becomes hollow.

The NRI Dilemma Where Family Duty Collides With Global Mobility

A Reddit post by a Non-Resident Indian questioning whether to return home for ageing parents encapsulates a conflict faced by millions in an increasingly globalised world. The dilemma is not merely logistical, but deeply emotional — balancing responsibility toward parents with aspirations for personal growth and future family stability.



Migration has long been associated with opportunity, but modern mobility carries a quieter cost: distance from ageing loved ones. The post reflects how guilt intensifies as parents grow older, even when they remain healthy. Technology enables constant communication, yet it cannot replace physical presence during medical emergencies, emotional crises, or moments of vulnerability.

Responses to the post revealed no singular truth. Some shared stories of returning after

family illness, emphasising presence over career continuity. Others advised planning rather than reacting — securing health insurance, building support systems, and preparing for eventual transitions. The diversity of responses highlighted that such decisions resist universal answers.

What makes this dilemma particularly complex is its emotional asymmetry. Professional setbacks can be rebuilt; missed time with parents cannot. Yet returning permanently carries its own costs — reduced opportunities, societal pressures, and concerns about children's futures.

The post underscores that migration today is no longer just economic but psychological. Success abroad does not eliminate the emotional pull of home, nor does it absolve individuals from cultural expectations of caregiving. Instead, migrants live in a state of constant negotiation between selfhood and

obligation.

Ultimately, the dilemma reflects a broader human truth: progress often demands trade-offs that no amount of planning can fully resolve. The NRI's uncertainty is not weakness, but evidence of emotional awareness in a world that increasingly values mobility over roots.

Selection Signals And Strategic Rest Shape India’s ODI Squad Against New Zealand



India’s 15-member ODI squad for the upcoming series against New Zealand reflects a selection philosophy driven less by sentiment and more by long-term planning, fitness discipline, and role clarity. With Shubman Gill named captain, the selectors have reinforced their confidence in a younger leadership group,

signalling a gradual transition away from dependence on senior figures. Gill’s elevation is not merely symbolic; it reflects his consistency, temperament, and growing stature as a three-format batter capable of anchoring the side through a transitional phase. A key talking point remains Shreyas Iyer’s con-

ditional return as vice-captain. His inclusion, subject to fitness clearance from the BCCI’s Centre of Excellence, highlights the board’s firm stance on medical standards. Recent years have shown that talent alone no longer guarantees selection; physical readiness and durability are equally non-negotiable. This ap-

proach aims to prevent recurring injury cycles that have plagued India during major tournaments. Rishabh Pant’s selection, despite doubts around form and role clarity, underlines the selectors’ belief in his game-changing ability. Pant remains one of the few Indian batters capable of altering a match’s mo-

mentum in a short span, particularly in the middle overs. His presence suggests continuity over reactionary selection, allowing him space to regain rhythm at the international level. In contrast, Mohammed Shami’s continued exclusion has raised eyebrows. Despite impressive domestic performances, his absence indicates that workload management and long-term fitness planning are being prioritised over immediate returns. With major ICC tournaments ahead, the think tank appears unwilling to risk overburdening experienced fast bowlers. Hardik Pandya’s omission due to bowling fitness constraints further reinforces this cautious strategy. Rather than forcing his return, the board has opted to protect a key all-rounder whose value peaks in T20 tournaments. Mohammed Siraj’s return strengthens the pace attack, while the inclusion of young names reflects an experimental approach. Overall, the squad represents pragmatism over emotion, signalling a future-focused strategy where fitness, adaptability, and balance take precedence.

India U19s Show Depth And Resilience In Youth ODI Against South Africa

India’s Under-19 team once again showcased why the country remains a global powerhouse at the age-group level, producing a composed and resilient performance in the opening Youth ODI against South Africa. After an early collapse that left the team reeling at 67 for four, the innings could have easily spiralled further. Instead, India displayed maturity and discipline, hallmarks of a well-structured youth system. The partnership between RS Ambrish and Harvansh Pangalia proved to be the turning point. Rather than opting for reckless stroke play, both batters focused on rebuilding patiently, rotating the strike and punishing loose deliveries. Pangalia’s fluent 93 demonstrated attacking intent without unnecessary risk, while Ambrish’s composed 65 provided stability. Together, they stitched a crucial stand that shifted momentum firmly in India’s favour. What stood out was not



just the runs, but the temperament on display. The ability to absorb pressure, reassess conditions, and execute a recovery plan speaks volumes about the coaching and mental conditioning imparted at the junior level. This approach mirrors the demands of senior interna-

tional cricket, where collapses are inevitable but recoveries define elite teams. With the ball, Deepesh Devendran’s early breakthroughs dented South Africa’s chase, ensuring India maintained control even after posting a competitive total. His disci-

plined bowling showcased India’s depth beyond batting, reinforcing the team’s balance. Captain Vaibhav Suryavanshi, leading in the absence of injured regulars, displayed calm decision-making and tactical awareness. His leadership further high-

lighted the abundance of captaincy options within India’s youth setup. The match reinforced a familiar narrative: India’s strength lies not in individual brilliance alone, but in systemic development that consistently produces adaptable, mentally strong cricketers.

Sport Meets Geopolitics As BCCI Asks KKR To Release Mustafizur Rahman

The BCCI’s directive asking Kolkata Knight Riders to release Bangladeshi pacer Mustafizur Rahman illustrates how modern sport often intersects with geopolitics. While cricketing decisions are ideally insulated from political considerations, reality frequently dictates otherwise. Mustafizur, acquired for a record ₹9.20 crore, was expected to be a cornerstone of KKR’s bowling strategy, particularly in the death overs where his cutters and variations thrive. From a purely sporting perspective, his potential exit is a significant setback. KKR had invested heavily, both financially and tactically, in the left-arm pacer. Losing him disrupts overseas combinations, forces a reshuffle of bowling roles, and creates uncertainty around squad balance. The financial implications also re-



main unclear, especially if the franchise does not receive a full refund to re-

invest in a replacement. The decision appears influenced by broader

diplomatic tensions and public sentiment rather than on-field factors.

While the BCCI has maintained that player availability is subject to prevailing circumstances, the move reflects a cautious stance amid strained regional dynamics. Beyond the IPL, the situation raises concerns about the future of India-Bangladesh bilateral cricket ties. With series schedules already under review, this episode suggests a cooling of relations that could push encounters to neutral venues or global events only. Ultimately, the episode highlights an uncomfortable reality: cricket does not exist in isolation. Political developments, public perception, and national sentiment can reshape sporting landscapes overnight, forcing administrators and franchises to navigate challenges far beyond the boundary rope.

Vijay Hazare Trophy Highlights Reflect India’s Domestic Depth



The Vijay Hazare Trophy continues to reaffirm its importance as the backbone of India’s cricketing ecosystem. Recent performances across teams showcased not just individual brilliance, but the sheer depth of talent operating beneath the international level. Rishabh Pant’s unbeaten half-century for Delhi marked a crucial return to form. At a time when scrutiny around his consistency has intensified, the innings served as a reminder of his natural ability and match awareness. Rather than playing impulsively, Pant displayed restraint and maturity, rebuilding confidence through controlled aggression. Axar Patel’s maiden List A century for Gujarat further underlined his evolution as a cricketer. Long valued primarily for his bowling, Axar’s batting has stead-

ily improved, making him a genuine all-round asset. His knock demonstrated composure, shot selection, and leadership — qualities that enhance his value across formats. Equally impressive was Parth Vats’ all-round performance for Haryana, combining a century with three wickets. Such displays highlight the emergence of multi-dimensional cricketers capable of influencing matches in more than one discipline. These performances underscore why domestic tournaments remain vital. They provide players with competitive exposure, opportunities to reinvent roles, and a pathway back to national contention. The consistent quality on display ensures India’s bench strength remains robust, allowing smooth transitions at the highest level.

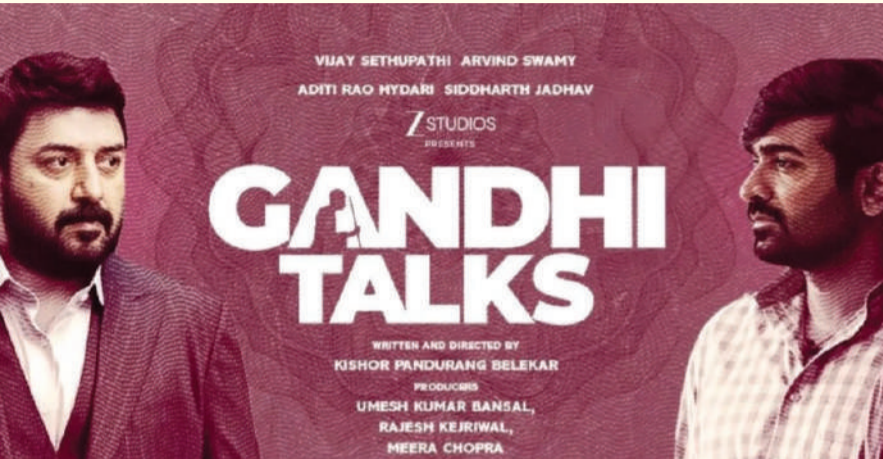
Hardik Pandya’s One-Man Show Redefines Match Impact In Limited-Overs Cricket



Hardik Pandya’s explosive 133 for Baroda in the Vijay Hazare Trophy was a textbook example of how individual brilliance can redefine a limited-overs contest. Walking in at No. 7 with his team struggling, Pandya faced immense pressure. What followed was a calculated assault that completely altered the match narrative. His innings was defined not just by raw power, but by situational awareness. Pandya initially assessed conditions, absorbed pressure, and waited for bowlers to err. Once set, he unleashed a barrage of strokes, including five sixes in a single over, showcasing timing, balance, and confidence. The contrast between Pandya’s score and the rest of the batting

lineup was striking, underlining how decisive one player can be in the modern game. His dominance turned a precarious position into a competitive total, exemplifying the value of finishing ability in limited-overs cricket. Beyond the numbers, the knock served as reassurance amid ongoing discussions around his fitness and workload management. While his bowling remains carefully monitored, his batting prowess remains undiminished. Pandya’s performance was more than a highlight reel moment—it was a reminder that even in team sports, moments of individual excellence can shape outcomes and sustain belief within a side.

Vijay Sethupathi’s Silent Film Gandhi Talks Set for January 30 Release



Excitement is building among fans as the unique silent film Gandhi Talks, starring Vijay Sethupathi, Aditi Rao Hydari, Arvind Swamy, and Siddharth Jadhav, has officially locked in its theatrical release for January 30, 2026. The date holds symbolic significance, coinciding with Mahatma Gandhi’s death anniversary, adding an additional layer of resonance to the project.

Directed by Kishore Belekar, Gandhi Talks is an unconventional cinematic experiment that relies entirely on visual storytelling, expressive performances, and evocative music instead of spoken dialogue. The filmmakers aim to deliver a powerful narrative through emotion, imagery, and sound, harkening back to the earliest forms of cinema while introducing audiences to a modern, experimental take.

The announcement was accompanied by the release of a teaser, which has already created a buzz among audiences. Early reactions suggest

that the film’s silent format does not limit its impact; instead, it intensifies the emotional resonance of the story. The trailer highlights strong performances from the ensemble cast, indicating that the characters will carry depth, nuance, and relatability despite the absence of dialogue.

Vijay Sethupathi, known for his versatility and compelling screen presence, leads the cast, while Aditi Rao Hydari and Arvind Swamy bring additional star power and credibility. Siddharth Jadhav also plays a key role, enhancing the film’s dynamic and emotional range. Fans are particularly eager to see how this combination of talent translates into a silent narrative that demands expressive acting and strong visual storytelling.

Adding to the anticipation is the film’s musical score, which plays a central role in conveying mood, emotion, and pacing. Music in Gandhi Talks essentially serves as the “voice” of the film,

guiding audiences through the story in place of spoken words. The blend of sound and imagery is expected to create a fully immersive cinematic experience.

The narrative reportedly combines elements of black comedy and social commentary, exploring the contrast between Gandhi’s ideals and contemporary societal issues. This thematic richness, paired with the experimental format, makes Gandhi Talks one of the most intriguing and unconventional films on the 2026 release slate.

Silent films are extremely rare in modern Indian cinema, and this bold approach positions Gandhi Talks as a milestone in contemporary storytelling. With a stellar cast, innovative concept, and carefully crafted visual narrative, audiences are eagerly counting down to the film’s release on January 30, ready to experience Vijay Sethupathi’s daring new cinematic venture.

Ranveer Singh & Anushka Sharma’s Band Baaja Baaraat Set for Theatrical Re Release on January 16

Bollywood fans have a reason to celebrate as the beloved romantic comedy Band Baaja Baaraat, starring Ranveer Singh and Anushka Sharma, is set for a special theatrical re-release on January 16, 2026. The announcement has sparked excitement across social media, with both longtime fans and new audiences eager to revisit or experience the film for the first time on the big screen.

Originally released in December 2010, Band Baaja Baaraat marked the acting debut of Ranveer Singh and quickly became a modern classic. Directed by Maneesh Sharma and produced by Yash Raj Films, the movie follows two Delhi University graduates, Shruti and Bittoo, who start a wedding planning business. Their entrepreneurial journey is filled with chaos, humor, and romance, capturing the vibrancy of youth and ambition.

The decision to re-release the film more than a decade after its initial debut is part of a growing trend in Indian cinema to celebrate iconic films that continue to resonate across generations. The film’s enduring charm lies in its relatable storyline, lively humor, and the memorable chemistry between Ranveer and Anushka, which remains one of the most celebrated pairings in contemporary Bollywood.

Music is another highlight of Band Baaja Baaraat, with its soundtrack featuring energetic dance numbers and catchy tracks that



became instant hits. Songs like “Ainviyainviyain” and “Tera Hone Laga Hoon” contributed to the film’s popularity, and fans are especially excited to relive these iconic moments in a theatrical setting, where the music and visuals have an even greater impact.

The re-release also aligns with Ranveer Singh’s current box-office success, allowing audiences to witness his early work while celebrating the actor’s remarkable journey over the years. The film continues to be admired for its storytelling, perfor-

mances, and ability to capture the essence of young love and ambition, making it a perfect choice for a nostalgic theatre experience.

Major multiplex chains across the country are expected to screen the film, offering multiple showtimes for viewers eager to enjoy this Bollywood classic on the big screen once again. With its combination of humor, romance, music, and star power, Band Baaja Baaraat promises to recapture hearts and remind audiences why it remains one of the most cherished romantic comedies in recent Bollywood history.

Akhil Akkineni’s Lenin Unveils Bhagyashri Borse First Look as Bharathi

Tollywood excitement is reaching new heights as the makers of Lenin, the highly anticipated action entertainer starring Akhil Akkineni, have released the first look of actress Bhagyashri Borse in her pivotal role as Bharathi. The reveal has created a buzz among fans, who are eager to see how her character fits into the narrative of this much-awaited film.

Produced by Akkineni Nagarjuna and Naga Vamsi under their respective banners, Lenin is directed by Murali Kishor Abburi, known for his previous work on critically acclaimed projects. The production team has been carefully building anticipation for the film, and this first look is the latest step in its promotional campaign.

The first look poster highlights Bhagyashri Borse as Bharathi, presenting her as both charming and strong, hinting at her character’s emotional significance in Akhil’s journey. The makers have introduced her as “the love of Lenin,” immediately sparking discussions among audiences about the chemistry she will share with Akhil on



screen.

Fans have been particularly attentive to this casting update, especially after reports that the original female lead, Sreeleela, could not take up the role due to schedul-

ing conflicts. Bhagyashri stepping into the role has only heightened curiosity, as viewers are eager to see how her performance will complement Akhil’s intense portrayal of the protagonist.

In addition to the first look, the filmmakers have also teased the release of the film’s first single, which is expected to provide a musical glimpse into the story’s emotional and dramatic

tone. The combination of action, romance, and music is already generating excitement among audiences across social media platforms.

Lenin is slated for a summer 2026 theatrical release, promising to be one of the major Telugu films of the year. Set against the gritty backdrop of the Rayalaseema region, the movie features music by the acclaimed composer Thaman, cinematography by Naveen Kumar, and editing by Navin Nooli. The ensemble of technical talent, combined with Akhil and Bhagyashri’s on-screen presence, is expected to make the film a memorable cinematic experience.

With this first look generating significant traction, it is clear that Lenin is positioning itself as a must-watch film. Bhagyashri Borse’s portrayal of Bharathi has already left a strong impression, setting the stage for one of Tollywood’s most anticipated releases in 2026. Audiences are now eagerly waiting for the trailer and the first song release, which will provide a deeper glimpse into the story and the dynamic between the lead characters.

Vijay’s Last Movie Jan Neta Trailer Released — Fans Excited for His Grand Farewell

The trailer for Jan Neta, the Hindi version of superstar Thalapathy Vijay’s final film Jana Nayagan, has officially dropped, sending fans into a frenzy across India. Released on January 3, the trailer marks the beginning of the promotional journey for what is being widely anticipated as Vijay’s cinematic swan song before his full-time entry into politics.

Directed by acclaimed filmmaker H. Vinodh and produced by KVN Productions, Jan Neta promises a gripping political action drama. The trailer showcases Vijay in his signature stylish avatar, delivering intense dialogues, high-octane action sequences, and emotionally charged moments that hint at a story of power, sacrifice, and leadership. Key sequences, including Vijay confronting his adversaries and escaping captivity, have already become the center of discussions among fans and film critics alike.

In a strategic move to cater to a pan-Indian audience, the film has been simultaneously promoted in multiple languages. While Jana Nayagan represents the Tamil version, the Telugu version is titled Jana Nayakudu, and the Hindi adaptation is called Jan Neta. This multi-lingual approach has helped expand Vijay’s reach and created nationwide excitement, especially among audiences unfamiliar with Tamil cinema.

The film features a star-studded ensemble cast, with Pooja Hegde playing the female lead and Bobby Deol portraying a formidable antagonist. Veteran actors including Prakash Raj, Priyamani, Narain, and Gautham Vasudev Menon lend depth to the supporting roles, promising strong performances alongside Vijay’s commanding screen presence.

Music plays a key role in amplifying the trailer’s dramatic beats, with



composer Anirudh Ravichander’s score heightening tension and emotion. Several songs from the soundtrack have already created buzz, with fans eagerly sharing their favorite sequences on social media, further building anticipation for the film’s release.

Jan Neta is slated for a grand theatrical release

on January 9, 2026, coinciding with the festive Pongal weekend, one of the most lucrative periods in the Indian film calendar. Advance ticket bookings indicate strong audience interest, suggesting that Vijay’s farewell film could open to massive box-office collections.

With the trailer now in

circulation, fans and industry insiders are dissecting every frame, eager to witness Vijay’s final performance on the big screen. Expectations are sky-high for a film that not only promises thrilling entertainment but also serves as a fitting farewell for one of Indian cinema’s most beloved stars.

Chiranjeevi’s Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu Trailer to Release Tomorrow; Sankranti Buzz Builds

Tollywood megastar Chiranjeevi is back in the spotlight as the highly anticipated trailer for his upcoming action family entertainer Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu is set to release tomorrow, January 4, 2026. The announcement has sent waves of excitement through fan communities, as audiences eagerly await the first glimpse of Chiranjeevi in this festive season blockbuster.

The trailer launch event is scheduled to take place in Tirupati, where the team will host a special unveiling before making the trailer publicly available later in the day. This early promotional activity sets the stage for the film’s grand release, slated for January 12, 2026, coinciding with the Sankranti festival, one of the most lucrative periods for Telugu cinema.

Directed by hit-maker

Anil Ravipudi, the film promises a blend of high-octane action, heartfelt emotion, and family-oriented drama — a combination that has become a hallmark of the director’s work. Fans are particularly excited to see Chiranjeevi in a role that balances intensity with warmth, showcasing his versatility and enduring box-office appeal.

The film boasts a star-studded cast, with Nayanathara playing the female lead and Venkatesh in a pivotal role, marking a rare collaboration between two of Telugu cinema’s most beloved stars. Catherine Tresa also appears in a supporting role, completing an ensemble that has already raised expectations among audiences.

Promotions have steadily built momentum, with the release of hit songs such as Meesala Pilla and Sasirekha, which have



captivated fans and generated excitement ahead of the trailer. The soundtrack, composed by Bheems Ceciroleo, combines dynamic visuals and catchy music, ensuring audiences remain engaged as the release date approaches.

Industry experts view the trailer release as a critical moment in building hype for the Sankranti season, a prime win-

dow for commercial success. With several major films set to release during the festival, the trailer is expected to play a decisive role in drawing audiences to theaters.

Social media is already buzzing with speculation about the film’s storyline, Chiranjeevi’s action sequences, and the dynamics between the lead characters. Fans are eagerly counting down the hours

to the trailer launch, which promises the first full look at the film’s visuals, performances, and festive energy.

As anticipation peaks, Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu is shaping up to be one of the most talked-about releases of the Sankranti season, promising a perfect mix of action, drama, and entertainment for audiences of all ages.