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KL University Unveils RS.100 Crore Scholarship for Merit Students



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HYDERABAD | VOL-1 | ISSUE-75 | 23RD JANUARY 2026 | FRIDAY | PAGES 12 | PRICE: ₹ 5 PUBLISHED FROM: VIJAYAWADA • HYDERABAD • DELHI • BENGALURU

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Kavitha's Political Journey: Impact or Influence?

Hyderabad, January 22, 2026— TPN Bureau

Kavitha Kalvakuntla, scion of the influential Kalvakuntla family, is once again in the political spotlight, with experts debating her capacity to translate personal charisma into mass appeal and political power. Known for her rapid-fire speech and sharp thinking, Kavitha undoubtedly possesses the "talking power" that has been a hallmark of her family. However, political analysts question whether this alone can be converted into a force capable of swaying voters and building a strong political base.

The discussions intensified as Kavitha announced her intention to form a new party under the banner "Telan-

gana Jagruthi." Observers point out that while this move could potentially hurt the ruling BRS (Bharat Rashtra Samithi), the bigger question remains whether she can effectively challenge other established parties or if her presence will merely create temporary impact without sustainable political gains.

Kavitha's entry into politics during pivotal moments of public movements provided her with early advantages, much like her cousin K.T. Rama Rao. Her image benefited from this visibility, but within BRS, it was Harish Rao who maintained a strong grip on party cadre and internal organization. While KCR (Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao) had elevated leaders like KTR, Kavitha, and Santosh to positions of influence during his

tenure, the dynamics shifted after KCR's dominance. KTR emerged as a key figure, but even he struggled to maintain momentum after losing power. Observers note that despite her early prominence, Kavitha has not yet demonstrated the ability to fully mobilize the party machinery.

Kavitha's political career has also faced setbacks. Her defeat as Nizamabad MP, coupled with corruption allegations linked to her family and her own implication in the liquor scam, have dented her credibility. These controversies sparked internal conflicts within the family, forcing her into a defensive position and eventually prompting her to adopt a more rebellious approach within the party. This shift from defense to offense marks

her growing assertiveness and eventual decision to chart an independent political path.

Yet, key questions remain unanswered: How many supporters will she be able to bring along? Will any significant leaders defect from BRS to join her? Even experienced strategists like Prashant Kishor can influence voter behavior, but cannot guarantee complete electoral victories on their own. Analysts conclude that discussions around Kavitha currently focus more on the potential damage she might cause to her former party rather than whether she can secure electoral wins herself.

Her political journey now hinges on whether her personal influence can evolve into sustainable organizational power capable of shaping Telangana's political landscape.



Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Highlights Tribal Welfare Initiatives in Asifabad

Asifabad (Jan 22, 2026) | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka addressed a public gathering in Jainoor Mandal, Asifabad district, highlighting the Telangana government's initiatives for tribal development, education, infrastructure, and welfare. Speaking at the event, he emphasized that his visit was primarily to express gratitude to the people for their continued support.

Recalling his People's March foot pilgrimage across Telangana before the Congress government assumed power, Vikramarka stated that citizens had urged him to ensure a people-centric government. "As promised, the Congress government is in power, and we are committed to addressing your concerns," he said.

The Deputy CM elaborated on the state's efforts to provide land and livelihood security to tribal communities. Under the Indira Solar Girijan Vikasam scheme, tribal families in forest areas are be-

ing provided with solar-powered electricity, borewells, and drip irrigation facilities, along with plantation support for crops such as palm oil and avocado, entirely free of cost. Additionally, the government has issued land pattas under the Forest Rights Act, enabling cultivation on assigned plots.

Vikramarka also addressed issues raised during his 2023 foot march across Adilabad, highlighting the resolution of electricity problems. "Officials are now conducting field visits twice a week to resolve issues on the ground. Citizens facing power shortages can call 1912, and the electricity department will respond within 24 hours," he assured.

The Deputy CM further stated that the government is committed to providing Indiramma houses to all tribal families, emphasizing that timely construction ensures faster benefits to the people. He also outlined women-centric initiatives, including interest-free loans to women's self-help groups, free and leased RTC buses, and skill development pro-

grams to empower them as entrepreneurs.

On education, Vikramarka noted that the state cabinet, under CM Revanth Reddy, has sanctioned the construction of Young India International Schools to provide world-class education for underprivileged children, with each school built on 25 acres at a cost of 200 crore.

Infrastructure projects were also highlighted, including road widening on Utnur-Asifabad route and construction of Anarpalli bridge. For traditional artisans, the government has now recognized their craft under the self-employment scheme and established marketing channels through ITDA, enabling better promotion and sales of their hand-made products.

Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka concluded by reiterating the government's commitment to holistic tribal development, ensuring welfare, infrastructure, education, and sustainable livelihoods reach every citizen in Asifabad district.

Schneider Electric to Invest Rs. 623 Crore in Telangana Expansion



Hyderabad (Jan 22, 2026) | TPN Bureau

Schneider Electric India is set to invest Rs. 623 crore to expand its Gajilapur and Shamshabad facilities in Telangana, further strengthening the state's position as a hub for advanced electrical manufacturing. The announcement came during the World Economic Forum (WEF) 2026 in Davos, Switzerland, where Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy led the 'Telangana Rising' delegation and held detailed discussions with Deepak Sharma, CEO of Schneider Electric India.

The expansion will increase the production capacity for electrical safety products, including Air Circuit Breakers (ACB), Molded Case Circuit Breakers (MCCB), contactors, and push buttons. The investment also underlines Schneider Electric's commitment to Telangana's rapidly growing industrial ecosystem.

Discussions during the meeting focused on energy transition, storage solutions, grid modernization, energy efficiency, and digital power management for both industrial parks and urban infrastructure. The delegation and the Schneider Electric leadership explored opportunities for smart-factory setups, automation, and the production of components for electric vehicles (EVs).

Highlighting the significance of the investment, Chief Minister Reddy commended Minister for IT & Industries D. Sridhar Babu for facilitating the deal. He stated that sustainability is a central pillar of Telangana's Net-Zero development vision for 2047 and emphasized that investments in advanced manufacturing are essential to achieve this goal.

Telangana has emerged as one of India's fastest-growing electronics manufacturing hubs, spanning consumer electronics, telecom hardware, industrial electronics,

and advanced systems. The state government is committed to providing a conducive ecosystem for industrial growth, including infrastructure support, land allocation, and workforce development. Schneider Electric also operates 38 skill development centers in Telangana, providing training and upskilling opportunities to the local workforce. The company specializes in energy management, industrial automation, and digital transformation solutions, aligning with Telangana's focus on sustainable, technology-driven industrial development. The expansion is expected to generate direct and indirect employment opportunities, strengthen Telangana's industrial base, and reinforce the state's position as a leading destination for clean, high-tech manufacturing. With the new units, Schneider Electric aims to meet growing demand in India while supporting the state's broader vision for sustainable economic growth.

World Economic Forum to Partner with Telangana Rising 2047 Vision



TPN Bureau | January 22:

Davos, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy-led delegation met with World Economic Forum (WEF) Managing Director Jeremy Jurgens and Manju George, Head of Strategic Impact and Integration, C4IR Network, at the Telangana Pavilion during WEF 2026 in Davos. The meeting focused on strengthening global partnerships and showcasing Telanga-

na's progressive policies and economic growth strategies.

During the discussions, CM Revanth Reddy proposed hosting an annual follow-up WEF session in Hyderabad every July or August. The follow-up forum is intended to review the progress of discussions and decisions made at the January Davos summit, ensuring timely assessment in line with modern business cycles. Telangana offered to host the event as a strategic partner, highlighting the state's resour-

ces, opportunities, and investment potential.

"Seeing is believing. We want to showcase to the world the wonderful opportunities our state can offer. We are ready to host WEF follow-up sessions annually in Hyderabad," said CM Revanth Reddy.

The WEF team responded positively to the proposal. Jeremy Jurgens acknowledged similar proposals from other countries but indicated a decision would be taken shortly. He highlighted China's annual 'Summer Davos'

and noted strong interest from Saudi Arabia.

The Chief Minister presented the Telangana Rising 2047 vision, detailing the roadmap and strategies to transform Telangana into a \$3 trillion economy. The delegation also reviewed progress on C4IR Telangana (Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution), launched at BioAsia 2024 as WEF's first thematic center for healthcare and life sciences in India. The initiative focuses on health-tech innovation, workforce

skilling, and strategic industry-academia partnerships.

Jurgens praised the launch of C4IR Telangana as a model for India and expressed WEF's intent to partner in the Telangana Rising vision. "Hyderabad has a great talent base. We look forward to collaborating on this journey," he said. Ministers D. Sridhar Babu and Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy highlighted Telangana's economic development strategies, including "CURE, PURE, RARE" and the Bharat Future City project—a net-zero greenfield smart city envisioned as a model for sustainable urban development. They also emphasized Hyderabad's advantages in aerospace, defence, bio-design, software, and pharma sectors, along with the state's focus on electric vehicles, renewable energy, and skill development through Advanced Technology Centres, Young India Skills University, and Young India Sports University.

The Davos engagement underscores Telangana's commitment to global collaboration, innovation, and positioning the state as a hub for industrial growth, investment, and sustainable development.

PM's Sports Festival Kicks Off in Secunderabad, Telangana

Hyderabad, January 22, 2025 | TPN Bureau
 In a bid to promote sports culture across India, the 'PM's Sansad Khel Mahotsav 2025-26' was inaugurated with grandeur at the LB Stadium in Secunderabad, Telangana, under the guidance of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Foundation and inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The festival aims to encourage youth participation in sports and nurture talent across multiple disciplines.
 Telangana Governor Dr. Tamilsai Soundara-

rajan and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy were the chief guests at the inauguration, while BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao delivered a keynote address. The event also saw the presence of sports luminaries including the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Foundation, coach of the Indian badminton team, ace shuttler Saina Nehwal, and Indian women cricketers Diana David and Drishti Kesari, among others.
 Addressing the gathering, N. Ramchander Rao highlighted the importance of promoting



sports as a tool for national development. "As India rapidly advances in all sectors, it is equally important to nurture sports talent across the country. The PM's Sansad Khel Mahotsav provides a platform for thousands of young athletes to showcase their skills," he said.
 According to the organizers, nearly 35,000 participants from various age groups have registered for the Secunderabad edition of the festival. The event features competitions in cricket, volleyball, badminton, kho-kho, and

several other sports disciplines. Ramchander Rao emphasized the social benefits of sports, particularly in combating drug culture among youth. "With the rising influence of drugs, encouraging students and young people to participate in sports is one of the most effective ways to steer them away from harmful habits. Parents should actively support their children's involvement in sports," he said.
 The PM's Sansad Khel Mahotsav is being held nationwide as part of a broader initiative to foster healthy competition,

talent development, and active youth engagement. By combining sports with social awareness, the festival aims to build a generation that is not only physically fit but also socially responsible.
 Concluding his address, Rao extended heartfelt congratulations to all participants and urged them to make the most of the opportunities offered by the festival, noting that such initiatives would inspire many younger Indians to embrace sports and lead a disciplined, healthy lifestyle.

Telangana Secures Rs.5,000 Crore Investment for 100 MW AI Data Centre at Bharat Future City

Davos, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 Telangana is set to emerge as a national hub for AI data centres, following a landmark investment agreement signed with UPC Volt during the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was finalized under the leadership of Chief Minister E. Revanath Reddy, with key representatives of UPC Volt including CEO Han de Groot, UPC Renewables APAC Co-Founder Steven Joan, and India CEO Alok Nigam in attendance.
 The Netherlands-based UPC Renewables Group, in partnership with Volt Data Centres, has formed UPC Volt. As per the agreement with the Telangana government, the company will establish a 100 MW AI-optimized data centre at Bharat Future City, with a total investment of 5,000 crore over the next five years. The project will also include a dedicated 100 MW renewable energy plant to meet the facility's electricity requirements, ensuring a sustainable, green energy solution.
 The project is expected to generate over 3,000 di-



rect and indirect jobs during the construction phase. Once operational, the data centre will create an additional 800 employment opportunities, further bolstering the state's digital economy.
 Addressing the MoU signing, CM Revanath Reddy said, "Advanced digital infrastructure will play a crucial role in

Telangana's journey to becoming a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. Our focus is on achieving development in harmony with environmental protection." IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu highlighted that the state government will provide necessary incentives and facilities to support the establish-

ment of state-of-the-art AI data centres. He added that developing net-zero smart cities is a key component of the Telangana Rising vision. Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy was also present at the meeting.
 The UPC Volt project is expected to position Telangana as a leading destination for AI-driven

digital infrastructure in India, attracting further global investment while creating employment and promoting sustainable industrial growth. With this initiative, the state continues to strengthen its reputation as a hub for technology, innovation, and environmentally conscious development.

Minister Tummala Reviews Oil Palm, Seed, and Grain Operations; Orders Reforms to Boost Productivity

Hyderabad, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao held a comprehensive review meeting at the Secretariat today with officials from TG Oil Fed, Markfed, and the Seed Development Corporation to evaluate the progress of agricultural initiatives and streamline operations.
 The Minister directed officials to experimentally test automated drip irrigation systems to enhance efficiency and productivity in oil palm cultivation. He emphasized that oil palm plantation zones showing low performance should be canceled and reallocated to more committed companies. Noting the underperformance of private firms in Karimnagar, Asifabad, Warangal, and Hanamkonda, he instructed that their allocations be revoked, with similar action for TG Oil Fed zones if targets are not met.
 To reduce cultivation costs for farmers, the Minister recommended integrating essential fieldwork into agricultural mechanization programs and providing subsidized inputs, including biofertilizers like Trichoderma, Ganoderma-

resistant VAM, magnesium, and sulfur. Custom hiring centers should be made available for machinery and services to oil palm growers, facilitating efficient operations. He also urged rapid development of oil palm processing units at Kallurugudem and Beechupalli to handle by-products and increase yield.
 On grains and seed management, Minister Tummala instructed Markfed officials to immediately sell procured jowar and maize through tenders, ensuring minimal storage losses. He stressed that technological improvements should replace outdated practices in procurement, seed variety management, and storage, safeguarding both farmers' and government interests.
 The Minister also directed the Seed Development Corporation to produce high-quality, high-yield seeds through TG Seeds, ensuring availability to farmers. Production plans should align with seasonal sowing areas to instill farmer confidence in the seeds provided. Additionally, he urged promotion of marketable crop varieties to enhance profitability for cultivators.

Regarding import duties, Minister Tummala stated that a proposal has been sent to Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Piyush Goyal, and PM Modi to raise the import duty on palm oil from 16.5% to 44% to financially empower local oil palm farmers.
 The meeting was attended by Agriculture Director Gopi, Seed Development Corporation Chairman Anvesh Reddy, Oil Fed Chairman Janga Raghava Reddy, Warehousing Corporation Chairman Rayala Nageswara Rao, TG Oil Fed and Seed Corporation MD Yasmin Basha, along with other senior officials. This review reflects the government's proactive measures to increase oil palm cultivation, ensure quality seed distribution, streamline grain marketing, and enhance farmer income through effective policy interventions.

Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Revisits Adilabad Hamlet, Engages with Villagers from People's Padayatra

Adilabad, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu revisited a village in Utnoor Mandal, Adilabad district, to personally meet residents who had accompanied him during his People's Spots padayatra two years ago, a journey aimed at highlighting public grievances and fostering a people-centric government.
 During the visit to Devuguda Gudam, Vikramarka met villagers Lakshmi Bai and Gangubai, who had walked alongside him for several kilometers and served him food during the original padayatra. Remembering their gesture of support, the Deputy CM invited them to Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad for a meal, assuring that all arrangements for their travel and stay would be made.
 Reflecting on the padayatra, he said, "On that day, Gangubai and Lakshmi Bai walked with me and blessed me, believing that a people's government would come. Their blessings have indeed come true, and I am therefore inviting them to Hyderabad."
 During the interac-



tion with the villagers and district officials, Vikramarka reviewed issues raised during the padayatra. He noted that most long-standing grievances, including those related to housing, drainage water management, pattadar passbooks, and electricity supply, had been addressed by the current administration. He also encouraged residents to share any remaining

concerns and development needs. The villagers requested the construction of permanent buildings for the Anganwadi centre and government school, along with the establishment of a PACS sub-centre. Vikramarka assured that these proposals would be implemented in due course, emphasizing that the administration continues to prioritize grassroots development

and citizen welfare. The Deputy CM's visit symbolically bridged the gap between the padayatra's vision and tangible governmental action. By revisiting the same hamlet and interacting with villagers who actively participated in the journey, Vikramarka reinforced the people-first approach of the current government. Residents expressed satisfaction at

the attention given to their long-standing issues and lauded the administration for resolving critical local problems. The visit highlighted the enduring value of direct engagement between government leaders and citizens and reaffirmed the government's commitment to delivering development and welfare at the grassroots level.

Centre Has No Direct Role in Singareni, But Committed to Protecting Workers' Interests: G. Kishan Reddy

Hyderabad, January 22 | TPN Bureau
 Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy addressed the media at the BJP Telangana state office on Wednesday, providing a detailed account of the ongoing issues concerning Singareni Collieries and highlighting the central government's stance on the matter.
 Speaking at the press meet, Kishan Reddy clarified that the central government has never exercised direct control over Singareni, whether under the Congress-led UPA or the NDA. "Singareni has played a key role in Telangana's development, spreading across eight districts with a history of over 136 years. However, post-formation of the Telangana state, the company gradually slipped into financial difficulties," he said.
 He emphasized that while Telangana holds a 51% stake and the Centre 49%, operational control has largely rested with the state government. The Singareni board comprises seven directors from Telangana and three

from the Centre, and all decisions are taken within the board framework. "The central ministry is not privy to daily tender processes or operational rules, which remain within the board's purview," the minister added.
 Kishan Reddy highlighted mismanagement during the 12-year BRS rule, claiming that the KCR family had unduly interfered in board matters, from minor contracts to tender allocations. He noted that public funds meant for worker welfare and district development, including the District Mineral Fund, remain largely unutilized, delaying infrastructure and employment opportunities in mining areas.
 Addressing the Nainee and Tadicherla coal blocks, he accused both BRS and Congress governments of failing to properly assign captive mines to Singareni, citing issues like arbitrary tender cancellations and improper site visit certificate requirements, which have hindered operations. The minis-

ter also stressed the Centre's active efforts to protect Singareni's financial health. An expert committee was formed to review costs, and recommendations for cost reduction have been implemented. He revealed that coal production costs in Singareni are 66% higher than in Western Coalfields, and sale prices remain opaque due to state government inaction. Kishan Reddy urged transparency, warning that Singareni is not the property of any political family but of its workers. He reiterated that if the state government cannot manage auctions or ensure proper operations, the Centre is ready to conduct transparent auctions and safeguard the company's future.
 The minister concluded by asserting that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's coal production has reached record levels, meeting energy requirements nationwide, and underscoring that Singareni's challenges are primarily due to state mismanagement, not central neglect.

KTR Targets Revanth Reddy Government, Calls SIT Probe a “Political Daily Serial”

Sircilla, January 22 | TPN Bureau
 Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president and former minister K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Wednesday launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and the Congress-led Telangana government, alleging that the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into the phone tapping issue was nothing more than a politically motivated exercise aimed at diversion and harassment. Addressing the media in Sircilla, KTR described the SIT constituted by the government as neither an investigation nor an institution, but “a daily serial meant only for time pass.” He alleged

that the Chief Minister lacked administrative ability and had failed to implement promises made to the people. “The government came to power by making 420 promises and false assurances. Unable to fulfil them, it is resorting to attention diversion tactics,” he said. KTR claimed that over the past two years, the government had achieved nothing substantial for the public except staging one controversy after another. “One day it is Kaleshwaram, another day phone tapping, then sheep scam, Formula-E, coal scam—this government survives only on dramas,” he alleged. Referring to recent allegations raised by former minister Harish Rao regarding coal



irregularities, KTR alleged that the SIT notices were issued swiftly to divert attention after claims surfaced about alleged irregularities involving the Chief Minister’s relatives. He demanded that the SIT instead investigate allegations against Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and others, accusing them of land grabbing and misuse of power. KTR also questioned the role of the Centre, stating that despite repeated references to “RR Tax” by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah’s remarks about Telangana becoming an “ATM” for Congress, no investigation had been ordered into those claims. “If there is looting,

why is there no SIT or CBI probe into those allegations?” he asked. On the phone tapping issue, KTR maintained that surveillance mechanisms existed in the country since 1952 for national security and law-and-order purposes and were part of routine policing. He asserted that ministers and political executives had no direct role in operational intelligence activities. “Every government depends on intelligence inputs. Ministers do not know whose phones are monitored or how information is gathered,” he said. He questioned why senior police officers who held key positions in intelligence and police departments in the past were not being

questioned, alleging that only political leaders were being targeted. “This is nothing but political harassment,” he claimed. KTR reiterated that he would fully cooperate with the SIT, asserting that he had committed no wrongdoing. “We are not afraid because we have done nothing wrong. This is a baseless, frivolous case,” he said, adding that police officers were being made scapegoats in what he termed a political game. He concluded by urging the Chief Minister to stop what he called “senseless theatrics” and focus instead on governance and fulfilling promises made to the people of Telangana.



Fisheries Corporation Chairman Slams BRS Leaders, Defends Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 Mettu Sai Kumar, Chairman of the Fisheries Corporation, launched a scathing attack on BRS leaders on Wednesday, defending Telangana Congress leader Revanth Reddy and accusing the ruling party of spreading falsehoods.

Addressing reporters, Sai Kumar did not hold back, alleging that BRS leaders, including the Kalvakuntla family, had “looted” the state through mismanagement of funds, appointments, and water resources. “The people are watching. In the upcoming municipal elections, the public will deliver their verdict on those who have been involved in corruption and lies,” he said. Kumar also took aim at the leadership of K. T. Rama Rao (KTR), questioning whether they would even speak about the achievements



of Revanth Reddy, particularly in his efforts to strengthen public governance. “Even after the Chief Minister visited multiple villages and implemented large-scale development projects, their mindset hasn’t changed,” he said, referring to alleged attempts by BRS leaders to undermine Reddy’s

work. He went on to praise Revanth Reddy for maintaining focus and steering the government’s programs effectively. “If Revanth Reddy continues with the right focus, the BRS party will gradually lose its prominence. Telangana is now witnessing a government that works for the people,

not for personal gain,” Kumar stated. Sai Kumar also highlighted Revanth Reddy’s recent international visit to Davos, emphasizing the potential of attracting funds worth thousands of crores to Telangana. He accused BRS leaders of being “brand ambassadors of lies” and said their attempts to dis-

credit Reddy were motivated by jealousy over the attention and resources he is bringing to the state. The chairman’s remarks come amid heightened political activity in Telangana ahead of the municipal elections, with Congress attempting to consolidate its support base. Sai Kumar warned BRS leaders against spreading misinformation, saying, “If you continue to speak misleadingly about our Chief Minister, the public will not forgive it.” Concluding his statement, Mettu Sai Kumar reiterated that the state of Telangana is now under a people-centric administration, and any attempt to derail governance through political gossip or baseless claims would fail. “The truth is visible to everyone. The citizens of Telangana know who is genuinely working for their welfare,” he added.

KTR Served SIT Notices: Congress Government Accused of Political Drama

Hyderabad, January 22 | TPN Bureau
 The serving of Special Investigation Team (SIT) notices to BRS Working President and former Telangana Minister K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) has sparked political outrage, with opposition leaders calling it a deliberate attempt by the Congress government to divert public attention from pressing issues.

Former Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy condemned the notices in an official statement, describing them as “a political stunt” and accusing the ruling party of indulging in “cheap theatrics” instead of addressing real problems facing the state. Farmers across Telangana are reportedly struggling to access urea due to a severe shortage, leaving many unable to continue sowing crops. Despite the ongoing crisis, state leaders, including Congress President Revanth Reddy, have reportedly prioritized foreign tours over addressing domestic concerns. Revanth Reddy

recently traveled from Davos to the United States, prompting criticism that the government is enjoying overseas engagements while farmers face hardships. “The government is spending public funds on lavish trips, while farmers continue to suffer from urea shortages,” Singireddy Reddy said. “Not even a review of the relief schemes like Rythu Bharosa has been conducted, leaving farmers uncertain about when they will receive support, even after the Sankranti festival has passed.” The SIT notices come in the backdrop of a high-profile phone-tapping case, which the courts have clarified lacks substantial evidence. Yet, the Congress administration is accused of continuing the case as a political serial, apparently orchestrated to run while Revanth Reddy is abroad. The police machinery, critics claim, is allegedly being misused to carry out the government’s agenda. Singireddy Reddy

further criticized the two-year tenure of the Congress government, asserting that all administrative departments have been left in disarray. “Issuing notices to BRS leaders over unsubstantiated claims has become almost farcical,” he added, highlighting that despite repeated cases and notices, the investigation teams have failed to produce any concrete evidence. KTR had earlier stated that the BRS would legally contest any frivolous cases or notices, underlining that the opposition will not be intimidated by arbitrary government actions. Singireddy Reddy concluded by warning that the public will ultimately hold the government accountable for failing to implement promises and harassing opposition leaders. The political controversy is expected to intensify in the coming weeks, with both parties gearing up for a prolonged confrontation ahead of key local elections.

TPCC Election Coordination Committee Reviews Preparations for Upcoming Municipal Polls

Hyderabad, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 The Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) Election Commission Co-ordination Committee convened a strategic meeting at Gandhi Bhavan today, chaired by Committee President Pulpiti Rajesh Kumar, to review preparations ahead of the forthcoming municipal and corporation elections.

The meeting was graced by TPCC President Shri Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud, who highlighted the critical role of the coordination committee in ensuring smooth electoral management and effective party representation at the grassroots level. Addressing the members, he emphasized the importance of systematic planning, district-level coordination, and proactive engagement with local party units. Mahesh Kumar Goud instructed the committee to consult with district presidents across Telangana and appoint two to three party representatives in each district to oversee election-related activities. He underscored that these representatives should serve as the primary point of contact for elec-



tion strategy, voter mobilization, and addressing local organizational requirements during the electoral process. The meeting focused on defining clear responsibilities for the coordination committee, which includes monitoring polling preparedness, facilitating training for booth-level workers, and ensuring effective communication between district units and the state leadership. Committee mem-

bers were also urged to maintain close liaison with the TPCC headquarters to report developments and challenges in real-time. The committee meeting was attended by members S. Jagadishwar, Thanneer Narendhar, Kache Shashi Bhushan, Raghavender Gopishetty, Kasabha Srinivas, Juluru Dana Lakshmi, Revathi Goud, Dr. Lingam Goud, and Achyuta Yadav, who actively participated in

discussions and shared insights on strategies for better voter outreach and organizational efficiency. Pulpiti Rajesh Kumar, in his concluding remarks, reiterated that the committee’s work would be instrumental in strengthening the Congress Party’s presence across municipal and corporation constituencies, ensuring disciplined campaign execution, and empowering local party units to

achieve electoral success. The meeting emphasized proactive planning, district-level coordination, and robust representation, signaling TPCC’s commitment to strengthening its organizational base and preparing meticulously for the upcoming elections. The committee will continue to meet regularly to review progress and address any challenges ahead of the polls.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Reviews Development Works in Hyderabad District

Hyderabad, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar convened a high-level review meeting with district officials at the Hyderabad Collectorate to assess the progress of ongoing development initiatives in the district. The meeting was attended by District Collector Dasari Harichandana, Additional Collector Jitender Reddy, and senior officials from various government departments. The discussions focused on the implementation and progress of several welfare and development programs, in-

cluding those under the SC, ST, BC, and Minority Welfare Departments. Officials presented updates on initiatives such as Gurukulas, welfare hostels, educational programs, and healthcare facilities being operated under state government schemes. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized the importance of timely execution of development projects to ensure that benefits reach the intended beneficiaries effectively. He also urged officials to maintain transparency and accountability in the implementation of welfare programs and to address



any bottlenecks hindering progress. The meeting reviewed the status of infrastructure development, educational initiatives, and health services, highlighting ongoing government efforts to improve living conditions and opportunities for marginalized communities. Discussions also included measures to enhance the effectiveness of social welfare schemes and ensure that programs targeting underprivileged groups are implemented efficiently. Officials assured the Minister of continued focus and proactive monitoring of all pro-

jects to achieve desired outcomes. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar reiterated the government's commitment to holistic development in Hyderabad district, stressing that coordinated efforts among departments are essential to ensure comprehensive growth and welfare for all sections of society. The review meeting concluded with directives for district officials to intensify monitoring, streamline project execution, and prioritize initiatives that directly impact education, healthcare, and welfare for marginalized communities.

Hyderabad DCC to Launch Three-Day 'MGNREGA Bachao Sangram Yatra' from January 24



Hyderabad, January 22 | TPN Bureau
The Hyderabad District Congress Committee (DCC) will launch a three-day "MGNREGA Bachao Sangram Yatra" from January 24 to 26, 2026, to protest the BJP-led Union Government's dilution and proposed renaming of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The yatra will be led by Hyderabad DCC President Syed Khalid Saifullah and aims to highlight the Congress party's opposition to what it calls the systematic dismantling of the constitutional Right to Work. According to Khalid Saifullah, the yatra will commence at 10 AM on January 24 from Charminar and conclude at Malakpet TV Tower on January

26. Each day, it will cover three to four municipal divisions across Charminar, Bahadurpura, Yakutpura, Chandrayangutta, and Malakpet Assembly constituencies. Khalid Saifullah, along with Assembly in-charges including Rajesh Kumar (Bahadurpura), Boya Nagesh (Chandrayangutta), and Mujeebullah Shaheen (Charminar), met TPCC President B Mahesh Kumar Goud at Gandhi Bhavan to seek formal approval and invite him to participate. Mahesh Goud is expected to join the yatra. Speaking about the initiative, Khalid Saifullah said the yatra would take the party's message directly to citizens, especially youth and daily-wage workers, and highlight how the Modi Govern-

ment's proposed changes threaten rural livelihoods. He claimed the amendments would strip rural families of guaranteed employment, weaken Gram Panchayat powers, shift financial responsibility to states, and convert MGNREGA into a contractor-driven scheme. He also warned that the dilution could trigger large-scale rural-to-urban migration, exacerbating unemployment in cities like Hyderabad. The Congress party, at both state and national levels, has vowed to continue its struggle until the Centre withdraws the anti-poor amendments. The Hyderabad DCC's yatra forms part of a nationwide campaign to defend the rights of India's rural workforce.

TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud Launches Membership Registration App for Disabled Wing

Hyderabad, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
In a significant move to strengthen the political participation of persons with disabilities, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud officially launched a membership registration app for the Congress Party's disabled wing at Gandhi Bhavan. The app is designed to simplify the membership enrollment process, making it more accessible and efficient for differently-abled individuals.



Addressing the gathering, Mahesh Kumar Goud emphasized the party's long-standing commitment to protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. "The Congress Party has always been dedicated to safeguarding the rights of the differently-abled. This app is a key initiative to empower the disabled wing politically and facilitate greater participation in party

activities," he said. The TPCC chief highlighted that the use of modern technology through this mobile platform would serve as a crucial step in strengthening the disabled wing. He added that the app would allow for seamless registration, easy tracking of membership, and better coordination of programs

aimed at supporting the welfare and rights of persons with disabilities. The launch event was attended by prominent leaders of the Congress Party, including Muttimani Veerayya, Chairman of the Disabled Wing Corporation, along with senior party officials and activists from the disabled com-

munity. Participants appreciated the initiative, noting that it would make political engagement and access to welfare programs more transparent and user-friendly for differently-abled citizens. This step reflects the party's broader commitment to inclusive governance and social empowerment, ensuring

that differently-abled individuals have a stronger voice in political and social spheres. The app is expected to enhance the participation of persons with disabilities in the Congress Party's activities across Telangana and serve as a model for digital empowerment within other social wings of the party.

KL University Unveils RS.100 Crore Scholarship for Merit Students

Quthbullapur, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
KL University has announced a 100 crore scholarship program for merit students, with the official brochure unveiled today by Telangana Minister for Labour & Mining, Gaddam Vivek, at the university campus in Quthbullapur. The initiative aims to support academically brilliant students, particularly from economically weaker

sections, in pursuing higher education without financial constraints. During the ceremony, Minister Vivek was accompanied by college directors and principals, who jointly inaugurated the event and addressed students on the theme of "Personal Development and Higher Values." The Minister lauded KL University for taking this significant step to recognize and reward

merit, emphasizing that discipline and education together are key to achieving excellence in life. Highlighting the government's support for skill development, Minister Vivek stated that a total of 250 crore has been allocated across various institutes in Telangana to promote student learning and skill enhancement. He noted that education and healthcare remain major expenses for most families in the

state, and programs like these scholarships are crucial to ensuring that students from underprivileged backgrounds are not left behind. The Minister also referenced the Rajiv Aarogyasri scheme, emphasizing the government's commitment to supporting students with limited means in accessing quality education and healthcare. He stressed that universities like KL University play a vital role in

shaping the future workforce of Telangana, equipping students with the skills and knowledge necessary for meaningful employment opportunities. The event concluded with encouragement for students to make the most of the opportunities provided, combining academic excellence with discipline and personal growth. KL University faculty and staff participated actively in the program,

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Unveils TGMREIS Admissions Poster for 2026-27



Hyderabad, January 22 | TPN Bureau
Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Thursday unveiled the admissions poster for the Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGMREIS) for the 2026-27 academic year. The event was held at the Hyderabad Collectorate Conference Hall in the presence of Hyderabad District Collector Dasari Harichandana. Addressing the gathering, Minister Prabhakar emphasized the government's commitment to prioritizing education and highlighted TGMREIS's key role in providing quality education to minority students. He announced that admis-

sions are now open for students from 5th to 8th grade and praised the society's consistent academic achievements as a model of institutional excellence. Officials highlighted TGMREIS's impressive results, including a 97% pass rate in SSC examinations and 88% in Intermediate exams. Additionally, 38 students secured IIT seats, 39 MBBS/BDS seats, 11 CA/CMA seats, 14 Law (CLAT/LAWCET) seats, and 1,417 students obtained EAMCET seats. Free coaching for competitive exams was credited as a significant factor in these outcomes. The Minister also noted that TGMREIS provides fully free education, including books, accommoda-

tion, meals, and health facilities. Students are taught in English and Urdu mediums, with separate campuses for boys and girls. Across Telangana, 205 schools and junior colleges across 33 districts offer these educational services. Minister Prabhakar urged students and parents to apply for admissions in large numbers and directed them to submit applications via the official website: tgmreistelangana.cgg.gov.in. The event was attended by Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Jitender Reddy, DRO E. Venkatachari, District Minorities Welfare Officer Ilyas Ahmed, RCO Shri Jawwad, Tajuddin, and other senior officials.



HMDA Officials Face Criticism as Bypass Road Expansion Gains Momentum in Sangareddy

Sangareddy, January 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau
The delayed bypass road expansion in Sangareddy town drew sharp criticism from local leaders, including Jagga Reddy and Nir-mala, who expressed their frustration over the slow pace of work by HMDA officials. They directed authorities to accelerate the widening project immediately, prompting swift action on Thursday morning.

Officials began clearing the road with full force, moving machinery onto Agra Meghala to start construction activities. The boundary wall of the IB compound was demolished with the help of JCBs, and trees obstructing the expansion were removed to facilitate the road widening work. The proactive measures were taken to ensure minimal disruption to the construction timeline. To prevent traffic congestion during the works, traffic police set up barricades from the IB Guest House to the Sangareddy Mandal Parishad office, controlling vehicle movement along the construction corridor. This allowed uninterrupted progress on the road expansion

while ensuring safety for motorists and pedestrians. Local residents expressed relief and satisfaction as construction activities picked up pace. They noted that once completed, the bypass road from IB Guest House to the Basaveshwara statue would significantly reduce traffic congestion in the town, improving commute times and overall connectivity. The progress was closely monitored by TPCC General Secretary Topaji Ananth Kishan, Congress town president George, and



party leaders Shafi Hafeez and Kiran Goud, who visited the site to oversee operations and coordinate with officials. The authorities' swift

response to the directives and the visible machinery on-site has raised public expectations for timely completion. Residents are optimistic that the

expansion will not only ease traffic bottlenecks but also enhance the overall urban infrastructure of Sangareddy, benefiting commuters and local businesses



alike. With the active involvement of political leaders and HMDA officials working in coordination, the bypass road expansion is expected to

gain momentum in the coming weeks, marking a significant step in improving the town's transport network.

Chamal Kiran Kumar Reddy Hits Back at Harish Rao Over Nainee Coal Block Controversy

Bhuvanagiri, January 22 | TPN Bureau
Chamal Kiran Kumar Reddy, Member of Parliament from Bhuvanagiri, strongly countered comments made by former minister Harish Rao regarding the Nainee coal block and related tender processes, accusing him and the BRS leadership of spreading misinformation to mislead the public. Addressing the controversy, Reddy clarified that central minister Kishan Reddy had already provided clear explanations about the Nainee coal block tenders and the reasons for their cancellation under the previous BRS government. "The site visiting process is a routine procedure, and

17 applications were received for the Nainee block. No site visiting certificates have been issued yet, and the tendering process is still incomplete," he stated. Reddy also dismissed claims suggesting attempts by Congress leader Revanth Reddy to interfere in the tender process, calling such allegations "baseless propaganda" orchestrated by BRS leaders. He emphasized that any irregularities in the Nainee coal block during the BRS tenure led to the cancellation of tenders and that attempts to divert the SIT investigation using this issue are deliberate missteps by KTR and Harish Rao. He criticized the BRS

government for its governance record, recalling allegations of phone tapping during their rule and highlighting the state's mounting debts. "Under BRS, Telangana was left in a financial mess, which delayed the simultaneous implementation of the six guarantees promised to the people. Citizens were aware of the mismanagement and ensured accountability," Reddy added. On the issue of public welfare and governance, Reddy reiterated the Congress government's commitment to the people of Telangana. "We are dedicated to implementing the six guarantees and serving public interests, not to defame the government or ma-



nipulate facts for political gain," he said. Responding to claims about Singareni coal operations, Reddy reaffirmed that Kishan Reddy had already clarified any concerns. He urged opposition leaders like KTR and Harish Rao to engage in constructive politics, cooperate with

SIT investigations, and refrain from spreading false narratives. Chamal Kiran Kumar Reddy concluded by emphasizing transparency and accountability in governance, urging political leaders to prioritize people's welfare over partisan politics.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Reviews Welfare Schemes, Honours Athletes in Hyderabad



Hyderabad, January 22 | TPN Bureau
Telangana's Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar conducted a detailed review of development and welfare schemes across Hyderabad district, urging officials to ensure that every eligible beneficiary receives government assistance efficiently. The review was held on Thursday at the Collectorate Conference Hall under the chairmanship of District Collector Harichandan Dasari. Speaking at the meeting, Minister Prabhakar emphasized the importance of proactive departmental coordination, highlighting that schemes must reach all deserving individuals. "Officials should work with dedication to ensure effective implementation of welfare programs, keeping in mind the unique challenges of a growing urban district like Hyderabad," he said. The minister urged departments to adopt special strategies for urban planning, considering population growth, migration, and service-oriented economic activities. The review covered multiple welfare areas, including pensions, schemes for the elderly and differently-abled, 2BHK housing, ration card distribution, mid-day meals, Anganwadi

centers, and social programs like Shadi Mubarak and Kalyana Lakshmi. Health initiatives such as Aarogyasri coverage, hospital networks, and community health centers were also discussed, with officials providing detailed updates. Transport and urban development received significant attention. Minister Prabhakar reviewed traffic management, road safety measures, and strengthening public transport through RTC, including the introduction of new bus routes and the Mahalakshmi scheme for free travel for women. He also stressed the promotion of electric vehicles and the establishment of EV charging infrastructure in public spaces. The meeting included discussions on employment and economic sectors, focusing on handloom, textiles, skill development training, cooperative societies, self-help groups, and slum-level federations. The minister highlighted the government's focus on sports and education, noting special incentives for athletes to promote Telangana's presence in national competitions. Environmental issues such as pollution control, air quality, groundwater levels, horticulture, animal husband-

ry, fisheries, and paddy development were also reviewed. Additionally, initiatives like 200-unit free electricity, M-Services for easy governance, disaster management, and grievance redressal were evaluated. In a separate event at the Collectorate Conference Hall, Minister Prabhakar felicitated students from the Tribal Welfare Water Sports Academy, Hyderabad, for their outstanding performance at the 14th National Dragon Boat Championship held in Bhopal from January 6-9, 2026. Thirty students participated, winning multiple gold and silver medals across junior categories. Minister Prabhakar praised their achievements and encouraged continued excellence in sports with proper training and government support. The review and felicitation were attended by Additional Collector Local Bodies Jitender Reddy, D.R.O Venkatachari, CPO Dr. Surender, and other senior welfare, health, and education officials. Minister Prabhakar concluded by stressing that coordinated departmental efforts are crucial to ensure welfare reaches all eligible citizens while promoting development, safety, and public service in Hyderabad district.

1.132 kg of Cannabis Seized in Dhoolpet, Two Arrested

Hyderabad, January 22 | TPN Bureau
In a targeted anti-drug operation, the Special Task Force (STF) "C" team seized 1.132 kilograms of cannabis in Dhoolpet on Wednesday. Acting on information about illegal drug sales in the Jummerat Bazaar area, the team, led by CI Venkateswarlu and SI Shobha, along with supporting staff, successfully apprehended two suspects. The arrested individuals have been identified as Arun Bhai and Manoj Singh. Authorities recovered a total of 1.132 kilograms of cannabis from them. The seized contraband has been handed over to the Dhoolpet Excise Station for further legal action. Officials confirmed that the operation was part of ongoing efforts by the STF to curb illegal drug distribution in Hyderabad and maintain public safety. CI Venkateswarlu urged citizens to assist law enforcement by providing information on drug-related activities, highlighting that community cooperation is vital to prevent narcotics from spreading in neighborhoods. This arrest is the latest in a series of STF operations aimed at cracking down on the sale and distribution of cannabis and other narcotics in the city. Authorities are continuing their investigations to track the supply chain and apprehend any remaining suspects connected to the case. The successful operation reinforces the Hyderabad police's commitment to strict enforcement against drug trafficking and its mission to ensure a safer, drug-free community.



counter opposition propaganda and ensure that the achievements of the government reach every household. As part of election preparations, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar is scheduled to tour the Mahabubabad parliamentary constituency on Saturday. During his visit, he will participate in various development programs and hold preparatory meetings with Congress leaders to review election strategies and ground-level arrangements. The minister is also expected to provide

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Leads Key Meeting on Municipal Elections in Mahabubabad Parliament Segment

Hyderabad, January 22 | TPN Bureau
A crucial strategy meeting on the upcoming municipal elections was held at the Secretariat under the leadership of Mahabubabad Parliament in-charge Minister Ponnam Prabhakar. The meeting focused on strengthening the Congress party's preparedness and formulating a clear action plan to secure victories in all municipalities within the Mahabubabad parliamentary constituency. The meeting was attended by Chief Minis-

ter's Advisor Vem Narendra Reddy, Mahabubabad MP Balram Naik, MLA Dr. Murali Naik, and several senior party leaders. Discussions centered on political coordination, booth-level strengthening, and effective public outreach in the seven municipalities falling under the Mahabubabad Parliament segment. Addressing the gathering, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized that winning all seven municipalities should be the primary objective of the party. He



called for unity, discipline, and coordinated efforts among party leaders and cadres to ensure strong performance in the elections. He stressed the importance of reaching out to

people at the grassroots level and effectively communicating the Congress government's welfare and development initiatives. The minister highlighted that the Con-

gress government's focus on public welfare, inclusive governance, and development should be presented convincingly to voters. He instructed party leaders to proactively

clear guidelines to party leaders on campaign conduct, coordination with local bodies, and addressing key civic issues relevant to urban voters. Emphasis will be placed on addressing local concerns such as infrastructure, sanitation, drinking water, housing, and employment, which are expected to play a crucial role in the municipal elections. Senior leaders at the meeting expressed confidence that with proper planning, coordination, and public engagement, the Congress party can

achieve significant success in the upcoming municipal polls. They reiterated their commitment to working collectively to strengthen the party's position in urban local bodies. The meeting concluded with Minister Ponnam Prabhakar urging leaders to remain accessible to the public, maintain continuous engagement with citizens, and work with dedication to ensure a decisive victory for the Congress party in the Mahabubabad parliamentary constituency's municipal elections.

Are National Memories Short—or Selective? India–Bangladesh Ties at a Crossroads

Are national memories short, selective, or a complicated mix of both? Recent developments in India–Bangladesh relations suggest that historical gratitude and shared sacrifices often yield to contemporary political compulsions. The suspension of non-business visa services on both sides, Dhaka's increasingly visible engagement with Pakistan, and even sporting decisions—such as Bangladeshi cricketer Mustafizur Rahman signing with the Pakistan Super League after being dropped from the Indian Premier League—point to a relationship under unprecedented strain.

That these developments follow closely on the heels of India's External Affairs Minister visiting Dhaka to attend the funeral of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia makes the diplomatic chill appear even more unpropitious. Bangladesh's subsequent request to shift the IPL T20 series away from India, citing security concerns for its players, was predictable—but also revealing. Sports, once a stabilising bridge between the two countries, has now been absorbed into a widening political and diplomatic rift.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of this moment is the apparent fading of memories of the 1971 Liberation War—a defining chapter in the shared histories of India and Bangladesh. India's military, diplomatic, and humanitarian support during Bangladesh's war of independence from Pakistan has long been the moral cornerstone of bilateral ties. Yet today, Bangladesh appears to have decisively moved on from the trauma of genocide, political repression, and marginalisation inflicted by Pakistani rulers on erstwhile East Pakistan. The question is not whether nations should remain bound by history forever, but whether selective forgetting is shaping contemporary policy choices.

Growing Ties with Pakistan

India and Bangladesh have been on a sticky wicket since August 2024, when Sheikh Hasina—New Delhi's most trusted interlocutor in Dhaka—was forced to step down amid mass protests. Her exit created a political vacuum that Pakistan was quick to exploit. Islamabad's renewed



outreach to Dhaka has been swift and strategic. When India restricted imports of jute and textile products through land routes, Pakistan offered Bangladesh access to Karachi port. Discussions around potential Bangladeshi purchases of Pakistani fighter jets have surfaced. Direct flights between Dhaka and Karachi are expected to commence soon.

Ironically, Sheikh Hasina often spoke of restoring pre-1965 connectivity between India and what was then East Pakistan. Today, it is Islamabad attempting to revive the historical Bangladesh–Pakistan relationship, albeit under radically altered geopolitical circumstances. While pragmatism dictates that Bangladesh diversify its external partnerships, the symbolism of this pivot—especially amid strained ties with India—is hard to ignore.

Violence Against Minorities: A Persistent Trigger

The most immediate and emotive trigger for India's

current posture has been renewed violence against minorities in Bangladesh. The killing of youth leader Osman Sharif Hadi sparked widespread unrest, with mobs attacking secular institutions, torching media houses, and brutally targeting Hindu communities. The incident became an opportune moment for extremist elements to advance long-standing agendas. The interim government led by Mohammed Yunus appeared hesitant and slow to respond, allowing violence to spiral.

Violence against Hindus in Bangladesh is not a new phenomenon. The critical question is whether a strong political message from India can deter such behaviour or ensure minority safety. History offers mixed lessons. In October 2001, following the BNP's electoral victory, Bangladesh witnessed one of the worst single-day assaults on Hindus. India quietly sent an emissary, and although bilateral relations remained strained during the BNP's five-year tenure, the scale of

violence noticeably declined through discreet diplomacy.

After 2009, minorities were widely perceived to be safer due to Sheikh Hasina's close association with Hindu communities and her insistence on minority representation within the police and local administration, particularly in rural areas. Yet even during her rule, an estimated 600 Hindus continued to leave Bangladesh annually, underscoring the persistence of structural insecurity.

India's Political Signalling—and Its Limits

Given the current impasse, can the hardening of positions on both sides realistically improve minority safety? Expecting decisive action from an interim government seemingly in exit mode—especially with parliamentary elections just weeks away—appears unrealistic. India's decision to declare Bangladesh a non-family posting for its diplomats is a sharp political signal, but one that risks unintended consequences. Securitising Bangladesh

feeds hardliners on both sides of the border. Those seeking to postpone elections, weaken pluralism, and reconfigure Bangladesh's democratic framework now find greater space in this climate of mutual distrust. India's longstanding call for inclusive elections—implicitly meaning the participation of the Awami League—has been reiterated, but its influence appears diminished.

Even during Hasina's tenure, allegations of one-sided elections frequently surfaced. India, however, consistently categorised these concerns as Bangladesh's internal matter. That principled distance now complicates New Delhi's current advocacy for inclusivity.

Electoral Uncertainty and New Political Actors

Bangladesh's election campaign has officially begun, but the political landscape is unlike any seen since 1991. The absence of Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia—who dominated Bangladeshi politics for over three decades—has created unprecedented

uncertainty. While Tariq Rahman's return last month is expected to boost the BNP's prospects, his prolonged absence from frontline politics raises questions about his ability to navigate Dhaka's complex political terrain.

More significantly, the Jamaat-e-Islami appears to be regaining ground. Its student wing's sweeping victories in key university elections signal growing influence among younger voters. The newly formed National Citizen Party, born out of the July movement, has chosen to ally with Jamaat—a controversial decision that has already fractured its leadership, with several prominent women leaders opting to contest independently.

Swing Voters and the Anti-India Mood

Since the restoration of democracy in 1991, Bangladeshi politics has largely revolved around a stable AL–BNP duopoly. This election, however, may hinge on swing voters, particularly those aged 18–38, who constitute nearly 40 per-

cent of the electorate. Among this demographic, anti-India sentiment runs high.

Sheikh Hasina remains a polarising figure. Her media interviews from Delhi, questioning Bangladesh's political trajectory, have further inflamed public opinion. India's decision to allow Awami League leaders to hold public meetings on its soil has also been interpreted in Dhaka as undue interference, reinforcing nationalist backlash.

Bilateral Disengagement and Its Costs

India's disenchantment with Bangladesh began with the formation of the Yunus-led interim government and deepened amid persistent law-and-order breakdowns since August 2024. Over the past 16 months, every bilateral step forward has been followed by two steps back. Connectivity corridors painstakingly built over years have been dismantled through reciprocal measures. Bilateral trade—once nearing USD 20 billion—has plummeted. The suspension of nearly 1.5 million Indian visas annually has hit ordinary Bangladeshis hardest, particularly those reliant on Indian medical services.

Historically, India and Bangladesh weathered disagreements with an underlying commitment to make the relationship work. That intent now appears weakened. Continued disengagement risks long-term damage that will be difficult to reverse.

Conclusion: Seeing the Woods, Not Just the Trees

Large sections of Indian and Bangladeshi societies still favour moderation and cooperation. Unfortunately, it is personality-driven politics, ideological bias, and short-term tactical thinking that dominate the narrative today. National memories may indeed be selective, but strategic amnesia carries costs.

Delhi and Dhaka must recalibrate their lenses—recognising historical bonds without being hostage to them, while resisting the temptation to let present grievances define the future. Losing sight of the larger regional and human stakes may prove far more damaging than any single diplomatic setback. The challenge is not to remember everything, but to remember what truly matters.

Revanth Rhetoric: Telangana First, Everything Next

“Telangana First, Everything else next” is not just a slogan for Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. In my view, it truly reflects how he thinks and acts. As someone who closely watched the Telangana movement from the ground level, I can say this with confidence. I worked with many activists in Karimnagar and took part in protests, road blockades, and strikes. Over the years, I began to feel that many Chief Ministers enjoy power more than responsibility. But watching Revanth Reddy today gives me a very different feeling. Step by step, his actions show commitment. When he speaks in the Assembly, it does not sound like routine political talk. His words carry emotion, honesty, and responsibility. During the discussion on Krishna river waters, one promise he made touched every Telanganite. He clearly said that as long as he is Chief Minister, he will not allow even a small mistake that harms Telangana. In today's politics, such a clear promise is very rare.

What stood out for me was that his words did not seem meant for applause. They felt sincere and heartfelt. Saying openly that the state comes before the party is not easy, especially for a Congress Chief Minister. It needs courage, con-

fidence, and deep belief in the future of the state. With this one stand, Revanth Reddy earned respect not only from party workers but also from ordinary people across Telangana. His speech showed that his full focus is on Telangana's development. He spoke like a leader carrying the hopes, pain, and future of the people on his shoulders. As someone who has worked for BC rights for nearly 15 years as an activist, journalist, and lawyer, his words gave me real satisfaction. It is very rare to hear a Chief Minister say clearly that his life is for the state. He also reminded the Assembly of a basic truth: water is the lifeline of the Telangana movement. Without water, there is no farming, no jobs, and no future. He made it very clear that there will be no compromise on Telangana's rightful share in Krishna waters. He explained the facts simply. Earlier, 811 TMC of Krishna water was given to undivided Andhra Pradesh. After bifurcation, Telangana should have received nearly 71 percent based on catchment area. But the previous government agreed to only 299 TMC. Because of that one decision, Andhra Pradesh got 512 TMC. That single signature caused long-term damage to Telangana. Revanth Reddy



placed these mistakes before the Assembly step by step. By agreeing to just 299 TMC, Telangana became weak both legally and morally. That is why today the Krishna River Management Board says it cannot

give more water. These are not allegations. These are recorded facts. Importantly, Revanth Reddy did not stop at criticism. He spoke about action. He said projects like the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme have al-

ready been stopped. He made it clear that the fight for Telangana's rightful share is a legal and justice-based fight, not a political drama.

He also spoke honestly about the Palamuru–Rangareddy

Lift Irrigation Project. He pointed out how designs were changed without Cabinet approval, how costs rose from ₹32,500 crore to ₹84,000 crore, and how unnecessary pumps were added. He said these decisions helped contractors, not farmers. Even after spending so much money, the project is still incomplete, which is deeply painful. Today, Andhra Pradesh uses more than 13 TMC of water every day, while Telangana struggles even for its small share. This did not happen in one day. It is the result of wrong decisions and political selfishness by previous rulers. For years, no one even raised a strong voice for Telangana's water rights. When these truths came out in the Assembly, the opposition walked out. They had no answers. Revanth Reddy invited the opposition leader for a respectful debate, but instead of facing facts, they avoided the issue with personal attacks. But records, files, and data never lie. At the same time, the present government, especially under the leadership of Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, is strongly and honestly presenting Telangana's case. Even leaders from Andhra Pradesh are now admitting that Telangana's argu-

ment is strong. Some may call this approach aggressive. Some may call it confrontation. I see it as courage. The damage done to Telangana's water rights in the past is very serious, and history will judge it harshly. Correcting that injustice is the responsibility of this generation. Revanth Reddy's fight is not for party politics. It is for protecting Telangana's lifeline. This struggle is not for today's headlines, but for tomorrow's farmers, future generations, and the dignity of Telangana. A government that is ready to fight without fear, without compromise, and without forgetting why Telangana was formed—and a Chief Minister like Revanth Reddy leading it—is exactly what this decade needs.



Sagar Vanaparthi, Policy Analyst.

New BJP President Nitin Nabin Sets West Bengal Poll Strategy, Targets TMC on Governance and Law and Order

Newly appointed Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national president Nitin Nabin has moved swiftly to outline his priorities, convening his first major organisational meeting with West Bengal leaders and election-focused workers to chalk out a comprehensive roadmap for the upcoming assembly elections. The closed-door meeting was aimed at sharpening the party's campaign strategy and intensifying its attack on the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC).

According to sources familiar with the deliberations, the discussions were tightly focused on highlighting what the BJP describes as governance failures under the TMC government over the past 15 years. The leadership stressed the need for a constituency-wise campaign that directly holds local TMC legislators accountable for conditions in their respective areas.

Economic distress in West Bengal was positioned at the core of the BJP's campaign narrative. Party leaders pointed out that despite the state's abundance of natural and human resources, its per capita income remains among the lowest in the country. The leadership underlined the importance of conveying this contrast to voters, portraying it as a result of policy paralysis, corruption and administrative mismanagement.

Healthcare infrastructure featured prominently in the discussions. BJP leaders cited what they described as the near collapse of primary health centres, an acute shortage of doctors in government hospitals, lack of medicines and unhygienic conditions. These shortcomings, the meeting noted, have generated



strong resentment at the grassroots, particularly in rural and semi-urban regions, and should be highlighted through sustained local outreach.

The state of education was also flagged as a major concern, with the leadership alleging a steady decline in standards and limited opportunities for students. Women's safety emerged as another key issue, with the party asserting that crimes against women have increased and that administrative responses have been inadequate. Leaders agreed that the issue resonates across social and demographic groups and should be addressed with consistency and sensitivity.

Concerns related to migrant labourers, unemployment and law and order were also dis-

cussed. The BJP reiterated its charge that West Bengal is witnessing a breakdown of law and order, often describing the situation as "jungle raj." The party further accused the TMC of minority appeasement politics, arguing that it has widened social divisions and weakened governance.

On political messaging, the BJP decided to foreground its promise to identify and remove illegal infiltrators, an issue the leadership believes has traction in border districts as well as urban centres. A key organisational decision taken under Nabin's leadership is the preparation of detailed chargesheets for every assembly constituency, listing alleged local-level failures of the TMC government.

These chargesheets will be released publicly at rallies and followed by door-to-door campaigns to ensure they reach households, with the aim of directly targeting sitting MLAs. The party believes there is visible anger against several local legislators and hopes to channel this sentiment into votes by localising accountability.

The meeting also finalised the slogan "Paltano darkar, chaye BJP sarkar" as the central campaign theme. First articulated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Malda, the slogan will be amplified through rallies, outreach programmes and a campaign song, framing the election as a clear call for change.

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma Critiques Gandhi Family, Outlines Development Agenda at Davos



Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma made his Davos debut with pointed remarks targeting the Congress party and the Gandhi family, while also discussing his vision for Assam's growth. During an interaction with NDTV Editor-in-Chief Rahul Kanwal at the Swiss World Economic Forum, Sarma alleged a rift between senior Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

Sarma, a former Congress member, claimed that Priyanka Gandhi's appointment as head of an election committee in Assam reflected Rahul Gandhi's reluctance to allow her influence in Kerala, where she is a sitting MP from Wayanad. "He doesn't want Priyanka in Kerala. I was in Congress for 22 years and have inside information," Sarma said, asserting that her transfer to Assam was meant to avoid disrupting the Kerala party leadership. He also labelled the Gandhis as the

"world's biggest flop family," contrasting their privilege with his own family's modest upbringing.

On allegations concerning Assam Congress president Gaurav Gogoi, Sarma denied any personal rivalry, stating his responsibility was to report potential links with "an enemy country" to the central government. He reiterated accusations of ties between Gogoi, his wife, and the Pakistani intelligence agency ISI, stressing that such matters went beyond corruption and involved national security. "If you catch a spy, will you not expose him?" he quipped, referencing the Hindi spy thriller *Dhurandhar*.

Beyond politics, Sarma outlined a development-oriented agenda for Assam. Highlighting the state's strategic location and potential, he emphasised diversifying the economy beyond hydrocarbons and leveraging emerging sectors such as semiconductors. "India is diverse. If development is

concentrated only in one part, the country risks collapse," he said, noting that Assam is one of the fastest-growing large states despite geographic and infrastructural challenges.

The chief minister also touched upon identity and demographic concerns, underscoring the importance of balancing growth with the preservation of Assamese culture. "In Assam, national security and the identity of the Assamese people are paramount. Demographic changes are a huge concern. We are fighting for both our identity and development," he said.

Sarma's comments at Davos reflect a dual approach: criticising Congress leadership while projecting Assam as a state with growth potential and strategic importance. His remarks combine political messaging ahead of upcoming elections with a vision of economic transformation and security-conscious governance.

I-PAC Under Scrutiny Over Rs 13.5 Crore Loan from Dissolved Haryana Firm

Political consultancy firm Indian Political Action Committee (I-PAC) is facing questions after its financial filings revealed it received an unsecured loan of Rs 13.5 crore in 2021 from a firm reportedly based in Rohtak, Haryana, that had ceased to exist years earlier. The lender was named in I-PAC's disclosures as Ramsetu Infrastructure India (P) Limited, but official records from the Registrar of Companies show no entity by that exact name. Only a similarly named company, Ramsetu Infrastructure India Private Limited, appears in government records.

Ramsetu Infrastructure India Private Limited was incorporated on December 18, 2013, as a non-government private company in real estate, with an authorised share capital of Rs 5 lakh. Its directors were listed as Vijendar and Vikram. However, the company was struck off on August 18, 2018, under Section 248(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, after failing to commence business



or comply with statutory requirements for two consecutive financial years.

Despite the strike-off, I-PAC's filings indicate it received the loan in 2021, nearly three years after the company's dissolution. Attempts to reach the listed contact number yielded no clarity: a person identified as Mukesh from Yamuna Nagar denied any association with the company or knowledge of why his number was linked to it.

Further examination of public records shows that individuals previously associated with the dissolved company have denied any connection to I-PAC or involvement in providing loans. This raises questions about the loan's source and the accuracy of the organisation's disclosures.

I-PAC's financial statements show that part of the Rs 13.5 crore has been repaid, though a substantial portion remains

outstanding. The consultancy has not provided a detailed public explanation regarding the operational status or identity of the lending entity.

The revelations, first reported by *The Indian Express*, have sparked scrutiny from corporate observers and analysts. The gap between I-PAC's financial reporting and official corporate records has led to concerns over transparency and accountability, particularly given the size of the loan and the firm's role in political campaigns.

As questions mount, I-PAC faces growing pressure to clarify the circumstances of the loan, including the legitimacy of the lending firm and how the funds were handled. The incident underscores the importance of accurate disclosures in political consultancy finances, especially when large sums are involved, and raises broader concerns about compliance and regulatory oversight in corporate transactions linked to politically connected organisations.

NGT Launches Suo Motu Probe After Noida Engineer Drowns in Waterlogged Trench

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has initiated suo motu proceedings following the tragic death of 27-year-old software engineer Yuvraj Mehta, who drowned in a heavily waterlogged trench at a commercial site in Noida. The incident occurred in the early hours of January 17, claiming the life of Mehta, a resident of Tata Eureka Park in Sector 150, while he was returning home from Gurugram through dense fog.

Reports indicate that Mehta's SUV veered off the road, struck a boundary wall, and plunged into a deep pit, estimated at around 70 feet. Despite remaining trapped for nearly 90 minutes and making desperate calls to his father, he succumbed to drowning, asphyxiation, and cardiac failure.

Investigations revealed that the site had accumulated rainwater and untreated wastewater over a decade, effectively forming a stagnant pond. A stormwater management plan, proposed by the Irrigation De-



partment in 2015, including the installation of a head regulator to manage water flow, was never implemented. The lack of proper signage, barricades, and visibility during foggy winter nights transformed the trench into a deadly hazard.

The NGT has flagged environmental violations, including improper wastewater discharge, untreated stormwater accumulation, and the failure to address persistent waterlogging. In its proceedings, the tri-

bunal has impleaded the Noida Authority, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Irrigation Department of Uttar Pradesh, Principal Secretary (Environment), and the District Magistrate of Gautam Budh Nagar as respondents.

All authorities have been directed to file affidavits explaining the causes of waterlogging, compliance with environmental regulations, the status of the 2015 stormwater plan, and measures to prevent recur-

rence. Responses must be submitted at least a week prior to the next hearing, scheduled for April 10.

The case comes amid widespread public outrage. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordered a Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe. The CEO of Noida Authority, Lokesh M, was removed, and the CEO of the real estate firm involved has been arrested, with multiple FIRs filed.

The NGT's move underscores that such preventable tragedies, rooted in environmental and regulatory negligence, fall squarely under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The matter will proceed as an original application before the tribunal, with the potential for directives on remedial measures, compensation for the victim's family, and long-term infrastructure improvements to avert similar incidents in the future.

Chandigarh Mayoral Polls: Congress and AAP Explore Strategic Tie to Block BJP



Ahead of the Chandigarh mayoral election scheduled for January 29, the Congress and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) appear to be keeping the door open for a potential "strategic understanding" aimed at preventing the BJP from retaining the mayor's post. While both parties have engaged in recent sharp exchanges, senior Congress leaders indicated that discussions with AAP are ongoing, though no formal alliance has been announced.

Chandigarh Congress President Harmohinder Singh Lucky confirmed the talks, saying, "No formal alliance with AAP as of now, but talks are on to block BJP." He added that a high-level meeting with the party's senior leadership will soon be held to finalise strategies for the upcoming polls.

Tensions between the two opposition parties flared earlier this month when AAP's Chandigarh in-

charge Jarnail Singh accused the Congress of having a tacit understanding with the BJP for power-sharing. Lucky strongly rebutted the claim, pointing to AAP's role in the 2024 municipal setup, where the mayor was from AAP but the senior deputy mayor and deputy mayor positions went to the BJP.

The election arithmetic is delicately balanced in the 35-member Municipal Corporation House. Currently, the BJP holds 18 councillor seats following the defection of two AAP councillors in late December. AAP has 11 councillors, while Congress has six. With the Congress MP's ex-officio vote included, a united Opposition could potentially match the BJP tally at 18. A simple majority of 19 votes is required to win the mayor's post, assuming all 36 votes are cast.

This year's election also introduces a procedural

shift. Voting for the mayor, senior deputy mayor, and deputy mayor will be conducted via an open show of hands instead of a secret ballot, a move designed to enhance transparency after controversies in previous polls.

Meanwhile, suspense continues over candidate announcements, with both BJP and Opposition keeping their choices under wraps amid concerns about potential councillor backlash. Analysts suggest that the outcome will hinge on whether Congress and AAP can successfully coordinate their strategies to consolidate opposition votes.

As the city prepares for the vote, political observers note that this mayoral election could set the tone for broader electoral dynamics in Chandigarh, highlighting the strategic calculations parties must navigate in a closely contested municipal setup.

Trump Announces 'Board of Peace' at Davos, Expands Vision Beyond Gaza Conflict



US President Donald Trump on Tuesday formally announced the launch of the first charter of his proposed 'Board of Peace', a new international body aimed at resolving global conflicts, during an event on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland. The initiative, which reportedly carries a \$1 billion price tag for permanent membership, has drawn attention for both its ambitious scope and the high-profile leaders associated with it.

Originally conceived as a mechanism to oversee post-war reconstruction and governance in Gaza following the Israel-Palestine conflict, the Board of Peace has since evolved into a broader platform intended to address international disputes worldwide. Trump said the board would initially focus on stabilising Gaza before expanding its mandate to other global flashpoints.

Several heads of government and senior leaders were present at the Davos event to lend support to the initiative. Among them were Argentina President Javier

Milei, Indonesia President Prabowo Subianto, Paraguay President Santiago Peña, Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, and Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev. The presence of leaders from diverse regions underscored Trump's claim of growing international interest in the body.

In his opening remarks, Trump said that "everybody wants to be a part of the Board of Peace" and emphasised that the initiative would work alongside existing global institutions. "I think the combination of the Board of Peace with the kind of people we have here, coupled with the United Nations, can be something very, very unique for the world," he said. Trump has previously described the body as potentially the "most prestigious board ever formed."

The US President expressed confidence that progress in Gaza would pave the way for the board's expansion. "Once this board is completely formed, we can

do pretty much whatever we want to do," he said, adding that success in Gaza could allow the board to intervene in other conflicts.

Trump claimed that the war in Gaza is "really coming to an end," though he acknowledged that lingering issues remain. He warned that Hamas must disarm or face severe consequences and reiterated his demand for the return of the remaining hostage bodies to Israel. "They have to give up their weapons, and if they don't do that, it's going to be the end of them," he said.

The US President also repeated his assertion that he has helped settle eight global conflicts in the past and suggested that the Russia-Ukraine war could be resolved soon. "Another one's coming pretty soon," Trump said, without providing details.

India has not yet confirmed whether it will join the Board of Peace. According to a PTI report, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is among several global leaders invited by Trump, though New Delhi is still evaluating the proposal.

Trump Administration Eyes Regime Change in Cuba After Venezuela Success, Report Says



Buoyed by what it views as a major foreign policy success in Venezuela, the administration of US President Donald Trump is now reportedly turning its attention to Cuba, with officials exploring ways to push for a change in the island nation's long-standing communist leadership. According to a report by The Wall Street Journal, the White House is actively seeking Cuban government insiders who could help negotiate the removal of the current regime before the end of the year.

The report said the Trump administration does not yet have a fully developed plan to dismantle the communist government that has ruled Cuba for nearly seven decades. However, US officials believe President Miguel Díaz-Canel's grip on power has weakened significantly following the ouster of Venezuelan

leader Nicolás Maduro, Cuba's closest regional ally and economic benefactor.

Cuba's economy, already strained by years of US sanctions, is now facing severe pressure after the collapse of Venezuelan support. Havana has long relied on subsidised oil from Caracas in exchange for medical, intelligence, and security assistance. Nearly three dozen Cuban agents protecting Maduro were reportedly killed during the US-led operation that resulted in his capture, with their bodies repatriated to Cuba last week during a ceremony attended by former President Raúl Castro and Díaz-Canel.

US intelligence assessments cited in the report suggest that Cuba is facing acute shortages of fuel, food, and medicine, along with widespread power outages. Officials believe the country could

run out of fuel within weeks, potentially paralyzing the economy. As part of its strategy, Washington is reportedly working to block any further Venezuelan oil shipments to Cuba and targeting Havana's overseas medical missions—its main source of hard currency—through visa restrictions on officials linked to the programme.

Despite the worsening economic and humanitarian situation, Cuba continues to maintain close ties with US adversaries such as Russia and Iran, raising concerns in Washington about security and intelligence cooperation in the region.

According to The Wall Street Journal, US officials view the operation against Maduro as a potential template for Cuba. In meetings with Cuban exile groups and civil society organisations in Miami and Washington, officials

have focused on identifying figures within the Cuban government willing to negotiate an "off-ramp" for the current leadership. Trump has publicly warned Havana to "make a deal before it is too late," while signalling that no further oil or financial support would be permitted.

The State Department has framed its approach as a matter of national security, saying the US wants Cuba to be "competently run by a democratic government" and to reject hosting hostile foreign military or intelligence forces. At the same time, the administration has said it is open to negotiations that could allow senior leaders, including Raúl Castro and Díaz-Canel, to exit power peacefully.

Cuban officials have dismissed Washington's rhetoric. Deputy Foreign Minister Car-

los Fernández de Cossío called the threats "clear miscalculations," while Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez accused the US of politicising humanitarian aid, even as Washington sent \$3 million in disaster relief following Hurricane Melissa.

Analysts caution that replicating the Venezuelan model in Cuba may prove difficult. Unlike Venezuela, Cuba lacks an organised opposition or functioning civil society, making internal regime change far more challenging. Former US officials have warned that destabilising the island could trigger a humanitarian crisis without a clear successor government.

Nevertheless, Trump has privately suggested that ending the Castro-era system would secure his legacy, accomplishing what previous US administrations failed to achieve during the Cold War.

Tarique Rahman Launches BNP Campaign in Sylhet Ahead of February 12 Bangladesh Elections



Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Chairman Tarique Rahman formally launched his party's election campaign on Thursday with a large rally at the Alia Madrasa ground in Sylhet, marking his first major political mobilisation ahead of the February 12 national elections. The rally was held about 242 kilometres north-east of the capital Dhaka and drew thousands of supporters.

Rahman, the son of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, is widely viewed as a leading contender for the prime minister's post. His return to frontline politics has energised the BNP, which is seeking to reclaim power after years in opposition. Rahman returned to Bangladesh in December 2025 after spending 17 years in exile in the United Kingdom. The Sylhet rally was his first trip outside Dhaka since his return.

Addressing the gathering, Rahman focused on domestic economic issues, including unemployment, farmers' hardships and the controversial "family card" initiative. He also spoke on region-

al foreign policy, launching a veiled attack on ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina, accusing her of surrendering Bangladesh's interests to "other countries." Reiterating a slogan he has used previously, Rahman declared, "Not Dilli, not Pindi — Bangladesh before everything," a phrase widely interpreted as signalling distance from both India and Pakistan.

Rahman also criticised the Jamaat-e-Islami, accusing the party of siding with Pakistan during the 1971 Liberation War and attempting to mislead voters with what he described as false promises. Following the Sylhet rally, the BNP chief is scheduled to address seven more campaign meetings across Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Brahmanbaria, Kishoreganj, Narsingdi and Arahazar in Narayanganj.

The elections are being held after a two-year gap following the political upheaval that led to Sheikh Hasina's removal from office despite her victory in the 2024 polls. An interim government led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus has

since been overseeing the country, with the upcoming vote expected to restore an elected administration.

The Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh has also launched its election campaign, holding a rally in Dhaka's Mirpur area, which falls under Jamaat chief Shafiqur Rahman's Dhaka-15 constituency. Leaders from Jamaat and its 10-party alliance addressed supporters at the event.

In addition to electing a new government, voters will also take part in a referendum on the proposed July National Charter, a reform document backed by the interim government. Signed by 25 of Bangladesh's 52 registered political parties, the charter seeks to introduce institutional reforms aimed at curbing authoritarianism. The Awami League has opposed the charter, while several other parties declined to endorse it.

Supporters argue that a referendum is necessary to make the charter legally binding and part of the constitution — a change that would ultimately require parliamentary approval.

Karachi Mall Fire Death Toll Rises to 61; Rescue Efforts Continue Amid Safety Concerns

At least 61 people have been confirmed dead after a devastating fire tore through Gul Shopping Plaza in Karachi over the weekend, making it the city's deadliest blaze in more than a decade, authorities said. Among the victims were at least 30 people who died inside a single shop located on the mezzanine floor of the building, highlighting the scale of the tragedy.

The fire broke out on January 17 in the basement of the three-storey commercial complex in Karachi's densely populated Saddar area. The mall housed more than 1,200 shops and was packed with shoppers due to the ongoing wedding season, a factor officials say contributed to the high number of casualties. Firefighters battled the blaze for nearly 36 hours before it was fully extinguished.

Search and rescue operations are still underway, with officials warning that the death toll could rise further. Authorities fear that more bodies may be trapped beneath debris after parts of the structure collapsed due to the intense fire. Karachi Mayor Murtaza Wahab announced that the Sindh provincial government will provide compensation of 10 million Pakistani rupees (around \$35,000) to the families of each victim.

Rescue officials said their efforts were se-



verely hampered by poor ventilation, heavy smoke, and rubble blocking access to parts of the building. Humayun Khan, chief fire officer at the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, said it could take another 10 to 15 days to complete operations to locate all missing persons.

Hassan ul-Haseeb, spokesperson for the provincial rescue service, said narrow roads and large crowds of on-lookers obstructed emergency vehicles on the night of the fire. "Water tankers had difficulty reaching the site

because the entire road was blocked," he told Al Jazeera. He added that flammable materials such as plastic goods inside the plaza caused the fire to repeatedly reignite, prolonging firefighting efforts.

While people on the ground floor managed to escape using the building's multiple entry and exit points, many on the upper floors were unable to find their way out in time. Karachi Commissioner Syed Hassan Naqvi said preliminary findings indicate that the building's fire safety measures failed to

meet international standards. Senior lawyer Abid Mateen confirmed that at least three court cases regarding the building's safety and structural condition were already pending before the incident.

Police believe the fire may have been triggered by a short circuit, though experts say a detailed investigation is required. Urban researcher Namra Khalid noted that the key issue is not how the fire started, but why it spread so rapidly. "Such incidents reflect deeper structural and system-

ic failures that allow fires to grow at an unimaginable scale," she said.

The Gul Plaza inferno has drawn comparisons to Karachi's 2012 Baldia factory fire, which killed over 250 people. Despite being a city of more than 20 million residents, Karachi has only 35 fire stations, 57 fire trucks and six ladder trucks. Urban experts warn that if a relatively modern building like Gul Plaza could suffer such losses, much of the city remains dangerously vulnerable to similar disasters.

Markets Rebound After Three-Day Fall as Global Cues Lift Sentiment; Nifty Ends Above 25,280

After three consecutive sessions of losses, Indian equity benchmarks staged a strong rebound on January 22, supported by positive global cues following US President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw his proposed tariff threat against European partners. The easing of trade concerns boosted investor confidence, helping domestic markets recover from recent volatility.

The session began on a strong footing, with the Nifty opening above the 25,300 mark. Early buying momentum pushed the index past 25,400 during intraday trade. However, profit booking at higher levels erased most of the early gains by mid-session. Renewed buying interest in the latter half of the day helped the benchmarks recover and close firmly in positive territory. At the close, the Sensex rose 397.74 points, or 0.49 percent, to settle at 82,307.37, while the Nifty gained 132.40 points, or 0.53 percent, ending at 25,289.90.

The broader market outperformed the frontline indices, with the BSE Midcap and Small-cap indices advancing more than 1 percent each, reflecting selective buying in mid- and small-sized stocks. Among Nifty gainers, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Bharat Electronics, Adani Ports, Adani Enterprises and Tata Steel led the rally. On the downside, SBI Life Insurance, Eternal, Eicher Motors, Titan Company and Max Healthcare ended



lower. Sectorally, barring realty and consumer durables, all indices closed in the green. FMCG, power, metal, media, PSU banks and pharma stocks recorded gains in the range of 1-2 percent. Stock-specific action remained in focus. Shares of Eternal slipped 2 percent despite reporting a sharp 73 percent jump in Q3 profit. Dr Reddy's Laboratories surged 5 percent after posting strong quarterly earnings. Waaree Energies rallied nearly 10 percent following a 115 percent jump in Q3 profit, while Bank of India gained 5 percent on improved financial performance. Bajaj Consumer Care hit the upper circuit, jumping 20 percent after reporting an

83 percent surge in profit. Despite the rebound, market breadth showed caution, with more than 260 stocks touching their 52-week lows. These included Aditya Birla Lifestyle Brands, Sapphire Foods, Devyani International, Kalyan Jewellers, Siemens Energy, Lodha Developers, Godrej Properties, Jubilant FoodWorks, Tejas Networks, Syngene International and Brigade Enterprises, among others.

Outlook for January 23

Technically, the Nifty displayed high volatility near recent lows around the 25,000 mark before bouncing back. The index formed a high-wave candle on

the daily chart, signalling heightened uncertainty. Importantly, Nifty reclaimed its crucial 200-day exponential moving average and closed above it for the second consecutive session.

While the near-term trend remains weak, a short-term bounce is unfolding. A sustained move above the 25,500 level could confirm a near-term bottom reversal. On the downside, any renewed weakness may drag the index back toward the 24,900-25,000 zone. The India VIX remains elevated at 13.35, indicating continued volatility. For the next session, resistance is seen in the 25,480-25,500 range, while immediate support lies near 25,125.

Franklin Templeton Launches Nationwide Financial Literacy Drive From Kanyakumari to Kashmir

Amid persistent market volatility that continues to keep investor sentiment on edge, Franklin Templeton India has launched a month-long nationwide investor awareness campaign aimed at strengthening financial literacy, particularly among women in smaller towns and underserved communities. The initiative was rolled out on Tuesday, with the fund house's India head, Avinash Satwalekar, embarking on an ambitious 4,000-kilometre journey from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

Titled 'Change the Soch - Kanyakumari to Kashmir Drive', the campaign seeks to encourage informed investing habits at a time when retail participation outside major urban centres remains uneven, despite the steady expansion of mutual fund penetration across the country. Franklin Templeton said the programme is designed to address the gap between rising awareness of financial products and actual long-term investment behaviour among households.

The 30-day initiative also marks Franklin Templeton's three decades of presence in In-



dia. Over the course of the campaign, Satwalekar will travel across 21 cities, stopping every alternate day to conduct investor education sessions. These interactions are focused on helping individuals shift from a traditional savings-led mindset to a disciplined, long-term investment approach.

A key emphasis of the drive is on engaging women from diverse socio-economic backgrounds. According to the fund house, the sessions will reach women from farming and fishing communi-

ties, self-help groups, students and educators, small entrepreneurs, government employees, and even members of the armed forces. The objective is to empower women with financial knowledge that enables better decision-making at the household level.

"While urban centres have made meaningful advances in financial awareness, lakhs of women across Bharat—especially in Tier 2 and Tier 3 regions—remain underserved when it comes to access to financial knowledge and tools," Satwale-

kar said. He added that informed financial decision-making within households is essential for long-term economic resilience and inclusive growth, particularly in an environment of rising financial complexity and market uncertainty.

Franklin Templeton clarified that the initiative is purely educational in nature and does not involve discussions around specific mutual fund schemes, return projections, or product recommendations. The sessions will instead focus on basic financial concepts such as goal-based investing, risk awareness, and the importance of staying invested through market cycles.

The fund house believes that sustained investor education is critical to building confidence among first-time investors and ensuring that the growth of India's mutual fund industry is both broad-based and durable. By taking the message directly to communities across the country, Franklin Templeton aims to reinforce the idea that long-term wealth creation begins with awareness, discipline, and the right financial mindset.

IndiGo Q3 FY26 Profit Slumps 78% to ₹549.8 Crore on Labour Code Impact, December Disruptions

InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of India's largest airline IndiGo, reported a sharp decline in profitability for the third quarter of FY26, weighed down by the impact of new labour regulations and severe operational disruptions in December 2025. The airline posted a consolidated net profit of ₹549.8 crore for the quarter ended December, marking a steep 77.5 percent drop from ₹2,448.8 crore reported in the corresponding period last year.

The company said profitability during the quarter was significantly affected by exceptional items linked to the implementation of India's new labour codes and large-scale flight cancellations and delays witnessed in early December. Excluding total exceptional losses amounting to 1,546.5 crore, IndiGo's net profit would have stood at ₹2,096.3 crore, representing a more modest 14 percent year-on-year decline.

Despite the hit to profits, IndiGo continued to deliver steady topline growth. Revenue from operations increased 6 percent year-on-year to ₹23,471.9 crore in Q3 FY26, supported by capacity expansion and sustained passenger demand. The airline, which commands nearly two-thirds of India's domestic aviation market, remains the country's dominant carrier by scale.

During the quarter, IndiGo's



capacity rose 11.2 percent year-on-year to 4,540 crore available seat kilometres (ASKs). However, passenger growth lagged capacity expansion, increasing just 2.8 percent year-on-year to 3,190 crore passengers. As a result, the airline's load factor declined by 2.4 percentage points to 84.6 percent. Yield also softened by 1.8 percent to ₹5.33, reflecting pricing pressure amid network adjustments.

On the cost front, fuel cost per available seat kilometre (CASK) declined 2.8 percent to ₹1.53, offering some relief. Nevertheless, overall costs during the quarter climbed nearly 10 percent year-on-year, driven by higher fuel expenses, which rose 8 percent, and employee-related costs following regulatory changes. IndiGo expects its capacity, measured in ASKs, to grow by around 10 percent in the fourth quarter of

FY26.

Operationally, the airline reported a technical dispatch reliability of 99.9 percent for the October-December period. Its on-time performance at six key metro airports stood at 76.6 percent, with a flight cancellation rate of 1.03 percent.

A major portion of the exceptional losses stemmed from the implementation of India's new labour codes, which came into effect on November 21. The new framework mandates a uniform definition of wages, requiring basic pay to account for at least 50 percent of total cost-to-company (CTC), thereby increasing statutory payouts. IndiGo reported a one-time exceptional loss of ₹969.3 crore related to the labour code transition.

The airline was also hit by widespread operational disruptions in early December follow-

ing the introduction of revised Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) norms. The new rules, which mandate longer rest hours and more humane rostering for crew, led to acute pilot shortages and network realignment challenges. The disruption reportedly impacted over 300,000 passengers and resulted in a one-time exceptional loss of ₹577.2 crore. Subsequently, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) imposed a ₹22 crore fine on IndiGo after the carrier cancelled 2,507 flights and delayed 1,852 flights between December 3 and 5.

Commenting on the performance, IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers said the company deeply regretted the inconvenience caused to customers during the December disruption. "We are grateful to our colleagues who worked tirelessly to stabilize operations and to the government and aviation authorities for their support," he said.

Elbers added that despite the challenges, the airline delivered strong revenue growth and carried nearly 32 million passengers during the quarter and about 124 million passengers in calendar year 2025. "Our long-term fundamentals remain strong, backed by an expanding fleet and network. We remain committed to reliability, operational excellence and an enhanced customer experience," he said.

Adani Energy Solutions Shares Rise Over 3% After Q3 Results; Revenue, EBITDA Hit Record Highs



Shares of Adani Energy Solutions climbed more than 3 percent on January 22 after the company announced its financial results for the October-December quarter (Q3) of the ongoing financial year 2025-26. The stock ended the session at ₹927.45 apiece, reflecting positive investor sentiment despite a marginal year-on-year decline in net profit.

For the quarter under review, Adani Energy Solutions reported a consolidated net profit of ₹552.31 crore, marking a nearly 2 percent decline compared to ₹561.78 crore recorded in the corresponding period last year. However, on a sequential basis, profit improved by over 3 percent from ₹533.97 crore posted in the previous quarter, indicating steady operational momentum.

Revenue from operations witnessed a strong performance, rising 15 percent year-on-year to ₹6,729.65 crore during the quarter. The growth was driven by robust execution in the company's transmission and smart metering businesses, along with stable performance in its distribution segment.

The Adani Group company also reported a record-high EBITDA of ₹2,210 crore for the quarter, registering a 20.7 percent year-on-year growth. According to the company, this improvement was supported by rapid expansion in the transmission network, increasing smart metering installations, and effective cost management. Cash profit surged around 23 percent year-on-year to ₹1,227 crore, reflecting strong underlying cash generation.

Adani Energy Solutions highlighted a healthy project pipeline going forward. The company said that its aggregate transmission projects under construction now stand at ₹77,787 crore. Additionally, the smart metering order book has reached 2.46 crore meters, translating into a revenue potential of ₹29,519 crore. The company further noted that the near-term tendering pipeline in the transmission sector remains strong at approximately ₹1 lakh crore, while the overall market opportunity for smart metering across India stands at nearly 103 million meters.

Commenting on the performance, Kandarp Patel, CEO of Adani Energy Solutions, said the company had delivered another strong quarter despite prevailing challenges. He attributed the progress to efficient on-ground execution, focused operations and maintenance, and disciplined capital management.

During the current financial year, the company has commissioned four transmission projects and achieved a milestone of installing approximately 92.5 lakh smart meters—the highest by any single player in the country—at a benchmark daily installation rate.

Looking ahead, Patel expressed confidence in the growth outlook across all business segments. He said the company expects a significant increase in asset capitalisation and anticipates strong momentum in bidding activity over the short to medium term, positioning Adani Energy Solutions for sustained expansion.

Bank Nifty Snaps Three-Day Losing Streak, Rises 0.6%; PSU Banks Outperform



The Nifty Bank index staged a recovery on January 22, snapping a three-session losing streak as broader equity markets traded firmly in positive territory. Buying interest in select banking stocks, particularly public sector lenders, supported the index's rebound amid an otherwise cautious market environment.

At around 2:52 pm, the Nifty Bank index was trading 0.60 percent higher at 59,155.45. IDFC First Bank emerged as the top gainer on the index, rising nearly 3 percent to trade at ₹83.81 per share. The stock is currently inching closer to its 52-week high of ₹87, reflecting renewed investor interest.

Several other banking heavyweights also contributed to the gains. Shares of Canara Bank, Bank of Baroda, and State Bank of India (SBI) climbed nearly 2 percent each. Federal Bank and Union Bank of India advanced over 1 percent, while Kotak Mahindra Bank, Axis Bank, and Punjab National Bank (PNB) posted gains of around 1 percent each.

Private lenders HDFC Bank and AU Small Finance Bank were also trading in the green, though with marginal gains. However, not all stocks participated in the rally. IndusInd Bank slipped more than 1 percent, bucking the broader trend. Meanwhile, Yes Bank and ICI-Bank were trading lower with modest losses.

The Nifty PSU Bank index outperformed the broader Bank Nifty, surging more than 2 percent during the session.

The rally in PSU banks was led by sharp gains in stocks such as Bank of India and Indian Bank, which jumped up to 5 percent, supported by improved sentiment and stock-specific triggers.

Bank Nifty: Technical Outlook
On the technical front, market experts continue to flag key support and resistance levels. According to Bajaj Broking, the 58,700-59,000 zone remains an important short-term support for the Bank Nifty. A decisive breakdown below 58,278 could accelerate further downside pressure. On the upside, immediate resistance is placed at 59,500, while the all-time high zone of 60,200-60,400 remains a major hurdle for the index.

Rajesh Bhosale, Equity Technical Analyst at Angel One, said that the Bank Nifty may find support around 58,500, followed by 58,300 if weakness persists. On the upside, resistance is expected near 59,100 and then at 59,500.

Echoing a cautious outlook, Akash Shah, Technical Research Analyst at Choice Equity Broking, noted that while Bank Nifty continues to show relative resilience, it remains below crucial resistance levels. He added that immediate support lies near the 58,500-58,600 range, and sustained upside may remain capped unless there is a visible improvement in earnings visibility and broader market confidence.

Overall, the short-term trend for Bank Nifty remains volatile, with market participants closely tracking support levels amid mixed cues.

Passengers on Aizawl–Guwahati Train Win Praise for Civic Sense, Spark National Reflection



Concerns over cleanliness in public spaces—especially on trains—remain a recurring topic of debate in India. Passenger trains often reflect the worst of civic behaviour, with littering treated casually and the responsibility of sanitation pushed entirely onto authorities. Amid these conversations, a viral video from the North East has once again drawn attention to how collective responsibility can make a tangible difference.

Shared on Instagram by the account @daily.passenger, the video shows passengers aboard the Aizawl–Guwahati train taking personal initiative to keep their surroundings clean. Instead of discarding waste on the floor or tracks, passengers were seen collecting garbage in small bags and hanging them neatly beside their seats. The act was quiet, organised, and entirely voluntary—without announcements, instructions, or enforcement from railway staff.

“People were tying their waste in small bags and hanging them neatly beside their seats. No announcements. No instructions from the railways. Just a habit,” read the caption accompanying the clip.

The post quickly struck a chord, prompting introspection among viewers across the country. The user who shared the video, identifying themselves as being from North India, reflected on how easy it is to blame poor infrastructure or government agencies for dirty public spaces while overlooking individual responsibility.

“Clean spaces do not stay clean because of authorities alone,” the caption continued. “They stay clean because people choose to care. There is so much to learn from Mizoram and the North East. Respect for public spaces is not a campaign—it is a way of life.”

As the video gained traction, social media users flooded the comments section with praise for the passengers and admiration for the civic culture displayed in the North East. Many expressed hope that such behaviour would inspire travellers across other regions of India.

“There is so much to learn for all of us from our fellow Indians of the North East,” wrote one user. Another added, “It’s not about the area, it’s about civic sense.”

Others echoed similar sentiments from different parts of the country. “I’m from Tamil Nadu. This is great to see. Hopefully it is followed across India,” commented one user, while urging that collected waste be disposed of responsibly rather than thrown onto railway tracks. Another user noted that such habits are often instilled early, saying, “We were taught since childhood to carry our waste and throw it only in a dustbin.”

The video serves as a quiet but powerful reminder that meaningful change begins not with rules or penalties, but with everyday choices—and that civic sense, once ingrained, speaks louder than any campaign.

70-Year-Old Man From Uttar Pradesh Goes Viral With First-Ever Vlog, Wins Hearts Online



Breaking age stereotypes and inspiring millions, a 70-year-old man from Uttar Pradesh has become an unlikely internet sensation after his first-ever vlog went viral on Instagram. Vinod Kumar Sharma, who had no prior experience with content creation, stunned social media users after his debut video amassed over 22 million views within days. At the time of writing, the video had crossed nearly 30 million views in just 72 hours, proving that it is never too late to try something new.

In the short yet heartfelt video, Sharma introduces himself with humility and honesty. “70 saal ki umr mein apna pehla vlog bana raha hoon,” he says, explaining that he is experimenting with vlogging as a way to spend his retirement years meaningfully. He openly admits that he does not know how to vlog but is eager to learn and stay engaged rather than remain idle.

“My name is Vinod Kumar Sharma. I am from Uttar Pradesh. I don’t know how to vlog, but I am trying to make videos to spend my time,” he says in Hindi. He further expresses hope that viewers would like his effort and encourage him to continue. His sincerity and unfiltered approach struck an emotional chord with viewers across age groups.

Apart from garnering massive views, the video also received over two

million likes and thousands of supportive comments. Many users said his innocence reminded them of their parents and grandparents. Comments such as “Age is just a number, uncle,” “Hum aapke saath hain,” and “Uncle ji, you made our hearts happy” flooded the post.

Others praised his willingness to learn at an age often associated with slowing down. “There is no age for learning. You proved it beautifully,” one user wrote. Another commented, “I will not stop until taunts turn into claps—this line gave me so much motivation.”

Following the viral success, Sharma’s Instagram following surged rapidly, crossing 64,000 followers as users rallied behind his journey. His growing popularity also caught the attention of celebrities. Actor Jay Bhanushali left a warm comment under the video, saying he was eagerly waiting for Sharma’s next vlog, while actor Anupam Kher also acknowledged his inspiring effort.

Sharma’s unexpected rise to fame has become a powerful reminder that authenticity still resonates in an era dominated by heavily edited and scripted social media content. His story stands as proof that passion, curiosity, and sincerity can transcend age—and that new beginnings are always possible, no matter the stage of life.

Indian Techie Laid Off for Lagging Behind AI-Assisted Coders Sparks Debate on Speed vs Skill

A recent social media post by an Indian software developer has triggered widespread debate about the growing pressure on programmers to match the speed of colleagues using artificial intelligence (AI) tools for coding. The tech professional, who had over 2.6 years of experience, revealed that they were terminated during their probation period for not being “fast enough” compared to other developers relying heavily on AI.

In a now-viral Reddit post, the developer said their three-month probation had just ended when they were informed of the decision. According to the post, the company cited their inability to keep pace with peers who were using AI tools to generate code rapidly. The techie also shared that they struggled to fully understand the product being shipped within such a short timeframe and did not receive adequate guidance or feedback from senior team members or their manager.



“Others were writing code with the help of AI, and I was not able to match their speed,” the developer wrote. “I was not getting any real feedback from my manager, and by the time I started using AI tools myself, it was already too late.” The developer said they

tried compensating by working extra hours, including weekends, but still failed to meet expectations. The experience has taken a toll on their confidence, leading them to question their future in the tech industry. They also highlighted personal pressures, noting that

they are the sole earning member of their family and had chosen the job because it was remote, allowing them to live with their loved ones.

“I feel shattered. I can’t even solve problems on LeetCode that I used to manage during my college days,” the post read.

“I don’t know if this field is for me anymore.”

The post quickly drew widespread attention, with many users expressing empathy and offering advice. Several encouraged the developer to take a short break, regroup, and begin preparing for new opportunities. Others pushed back against the growing dependence on AI-generated code, warning that speed should not come at the cost of quality.

“A piece of code should be judged by its quality and performance, not how fast it was written,” one user commented. Another warned that unchecked reliance on AI could lead to security vulnerabilities and poorly maintained systems surfacing later in production environments.

The incident has reignited conversations around workplace expectations in the AI era, raising questions about whether companies are prioritising velocity over learning, mentorship, and long-term code quality.

Indian Man’s Viral Post Reveals Eight Hard Truths About Life in Australia

An Indian man who moved to Australia two years ago has gone viral on social media after sharing what he described as the “harsh truths” of living in the country. The Instagram post, shared by Divyesh Gondaliya, struck a chord with thousands of users for its candid portrayal of life Down Under—highlighting that while Australia offers opportunity and comfort, it also comes with emotional and practical challenges that are often glossed over online.

Gondaliya began by acknowledging that Australia is an incredible place with safety, order, and professional opportunities. However, he noted that starting life from scratch in a new country can be isolating, especially for migrants who leave behind close-knit families and long-standing social networks. According to him, Australia teaches resilience precisely because the emotional support system many Indians are accustomed to is largely absent.

In his post, Gondaliya

listed eight realities that stood out to him. While Australians are friendly and open to casual conversations in cafés, universities, or queues, building deep friendships can be difficult since most locals already have established circles from childhood. He also reflected on the contrast between India’s vibrant, people-filled lifestyle and Australia’s quieter pace, admitting that the peace can sometimes feel lonely.

Living alone, he said, fosters independence but also brings moments of emotional vulnerability, especially on nights when homesickness feels overwhelming. Gondaliya also addressed the curated image of Australia on social media—beaches, sunsets, and road trips—pointing out that behind the scenes are long work hours, tight budgets, and constant financial calculations.

Visa uncertainty was another major concern. As an international resident, Gondaliya said life often feels like it is lived in “temporary mode,” with future plans shaped



by immigration rules rather than personal choice. High living costs also featured prominently, with rent, groceries, and utilities requiring careful budgeting, despite the country’s high standard of living.

Interestingly, he noted that Australia’s winters can feel harsher than expected, not because of

extreme temperatures, but due to poorly insulated homes that leave residents feeling cold indoors. On a more positive note, Gondaliya highlighted Australia’s egalitarian work culture, where even police officers and managers interact with approachability and mutual respect.

The post has garnered over 3.1 lakh views, with users praising Gondaliya’s honesty. Many described his account as both “hard and great,” while others resonated deeply with the emotional trade-offs of migration. As one user put it, Australia offers much—but for some, it never quite feels like home.

Viral Video of Youths Damaging Hotel Room Sparks Outrage Over Civic Behaviour



A video showing three young men creating a mess inside a hotel room has gone viral on social media, triggering widespread criticism for their irresponsible and uncivil behaviour. The clip, which has been circulating widely online, has reignited conversations around civic sense, accountability,

and respect for public and rented spaces.

In the video, the youths are seen jumping on a hotel bed while wearing shoes, visibly soiling the bedsheets, pillows, and blankets. As the clip progresses, the room appears increasingly untidy and damaged. The young men can be heard claiming

they are “fully utilising” the ₹500 they paid for the room, suggesting that the low cost justified their actions.

The video was shared on social media platform X by the handle Ghar Ke Kalesh, with a caption questioning the civic responsibility of the individuals involved. Accord-

ing to the post, the incident reportedly took place in Agra. The caption criticised the behaviour as an example of poor manners and disregard for property, sparking sharp reactions from viewers.

Soon after it was posted, the video gained significant traction, drawing thousands of views and comments. Many social media users condemned the actions of the youths, expressing concern over the damage caused to hotel property and calling for stricter accountability. Several users emphasised that paying for a room does not grant permission to misuse or destroy it.

“Showing such disregard for public and private spaces reflects a lack of basic civic sense. Education and awareness are clearly needed,” one user commented. Another demanded legal action, writing, “The hotel owner should file a police complaint for the destruction of property.”

Some users linked such incidents to broader social consequences. “This is exactly why owners hes-

itate to rent rooms to students or groups of young men,” one commenter observed. Another added, “This behaviour explains why students often struggle to find PG accommodations.”

Despite the strong public reaction, there has been no official statement from the hotel management or local authorities so far. It also remains unclear when the video was recorded or whether any action has been taken against the individuals involved.

Even in the absence of official confirmation, the video continues to circulate widely and has fuelled a broader discussion about responsible conduct while using shared or rented spaces. Many users stressed that respect for property is not optional, regardless of cost, and urged greater awareness about civic behaviour.

The incident serves as a reminder that personal actions in public or private spaces can have lasting consequences—not just for individuals, but for communities as a whole.

Bangladesh Pulls Out of T20 World Cup in India Over Security Concerns

Bangladesh on Thursday announced that it will not travel to India to participate in the T20 World Cup, set to begin on February 7, following the International Cricket Council's (ICC) rejection of their request to shift matches to another country. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) reached the decision after a meeting between national team players and Youth and Sports Adviser Asif Nazrul.

The ICC had given Bangladesh a 24-hour ultimatum: either travel to India for the tournament or risk being replaced, asserting there was no credible threat to players, officials, or fans. Despite this, Bangladesh's sports adviser and players took a firm stand against the directive.

Speaking at a press conference, Asif Nazrul said, "While our cricketers have worked hard to qualify for the World Cup, the security risk regarding playing in India remains unchanged. This concern is not based on abstract analysis. We are not giving up hope yet; our team is ready. We expect the ICC to provide justice by considering our genuine security risks and allowing us to play in Sri Lanka."

The BCB has emphasized that it remains committed to participating in



the tournament, but not on Indian soil. The board also indicated it will continue discussions with the ICC to find an alternative solution. "We will continue to communicate with the ICC. We want to play the World Cup, but we won't play in India. We will keep fighting," said BCB President Aminul Islam Bulbul. He added that decisions in the ICC board meeting, including the

ouster of pacer Mustafizur Rahman from the IPL on BCCI instructions, highlighted broader governance issues.

Bangladesh is scheduled to play four matches in India—three in Kolkata and one in Mumbai. Concerns escalated after Mustafizur Rahman was withdrawn from the IPL under unspecified "developmental" all around," which the team views as a

precedent highlighting potential risks.

With Bangladesh opting out, the ICC is likely to replace them with Scotland for the tournament. The decision has sparked significant debate in cricketing circles, raising questions about player security, tournament governance, and the ICC's role in balancing logistical demands with national team concerns.

The standoff underscores a broader tension in international cricket between safety considerations and rigid scheduling. Bangladesh's withdrawal sends a strong message that player security cannot be overlooked, even in high-profile global tournaments, and sets a potential precedent for how cricket boards may negotiate in future events.

MS Dhoni Congratulates RCB on IPL 2025 Triumph, Praises Fans Despite CSK Allegiance



Legendary India captain MS Dhoni has congratulated Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) for clinching their first Indian Premier League (IPL) title in 2025, ending an 18-year wait. Dhoni, who leads Chennai Super Kings (CSK), five-time IPL champions, said he found it hard to imagine any team winning the trophy other than CSK, but lauded RCB's performance and fan support in a video that quickly went viral on social media.

"If I'm part of CSK, I can't imagine any other team winning the IPL. But it was long-awaited and they played very well. Big congratulations to them and I said it even then," Dhoni said at an event.

He reflected on the mindset of players competing in such a high-stakes tournament. "When you are a participant in the competition, you want your team to win. It doesn't always work in your favour, but what's also important is what we can learn from the other teams. That is crucial in a tournament like this," he added.

Dhoni also singled out RCB's loyal fanbase for praise, highlighting their unwavering support. "RCB fans have been brilliant. Every time there is a game, they come and support their team, even when the chips are down," he noted.

Dhoni holds the record as the most successful captain in IPL history, guiding CSK to 10 finals and winning five titles. Notably, CSK's second championship in 2011 came after a victory over RCB in the final. Prior to 2025, RCB had lost three IPL finals—2009, 2011, and 2016—but their perseverance finally paid off under the captaincy of Rajat Patidar, as they defeated Punjab Kings (PBKS) in the 2025 final.

RCB's journey to the title was marked by resilience, teamwork, and consistent performances throughout the season, reflecting the maturation of a team long considered unlucky in finals. Dhoni's comments underscore the competitive spirit of the IPL, where even legendary players can appreciate rival achievements while staying fiercely loyal to their own franchises.

Looking ahead, Dhoni is set to return for CSK in IPL 2026, aiming to add to his record-breaking captaincy tally. While his franchise will undoubtedly strive for another title, Dhoni's gracious recognition of RCB's landmark achievement highlights both sportsmanship and the passionate culture surrounding the IPL, where fans and players alike celebrate moments of triumph across team lines.

Pakistan's T20 Promo Takes Aim at India Ahead of Australia Series

Pakistan has sparked controversy with a new promotional video for their upcoming T20I series against Australia, featuring a veiled reference to the long-running 'handshake' row with India. The video comes in the wake of tensions following the Pahalgal terror attacks, when Indian cricketers notably refused to shake hands with their Pakistani counterparts during several international fixtures. The standoff began during the Asia Cup 2025, where India and Pakistan faced each other three times. Skipper Suryakumar Yadav declined to shake hands with Salman Ali Agha both after the toss and at the conclusion of the matches, creating a diplomatic stir on the cricketing stage.

Pakistan's promo, primarily aimed at welcoming Australian fans, highlights hospitality, with Agha making a brief appearance to speak on friendly reception. However, it ends with a tongue-in-cheek jab: an Australian

tourist exiting a car is reminded, "Handshake bhool gaye aap, lagta hai padosiyon ke paas bhi ruke thay" (You forgot the handshake; it looks like you had an encounter with our neighbours). This playful remark clearly alludes to the earlier handshake controversy that saw Pakistan threaten to withdraw from the Asia Cup midway after a standoff with ICC match referee Andy Pycroft.

The three-match T20 series between Pakistan and Australia will take place at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore, with day-night fixtures scheduled for January 29 and 31, and February 1. These games serve as a lead-up to the ICC T20 World Cup, which will be held in India and Sri Lanka later this year. While Australia will play their World Cup group matches in India, Pakistan is set to compete in Sri Lanka.

This series marks the first time since April 2022 that Australia is touring Pakistan for a T20 series;



their last visit included a Test series and a white-ball series that year. The tour is significant in re-establishing cricketing ties after years of security concerns that limited international visits to Pakistan.

While the promo has drawn attention for its political undertones, the se-

ries itself is expected to be closely contested. Both Pakistan and Australia are using these matches to fine-tune their squads ahead of the World Cup, offering fans a glimpse of strategies and form ahead of the global tournament. The Pakistan Cricket Board has emphasized the spirit of the game, even as

the video underscores the lingering sensitivities surrounding Indo-Pak cricket relations.

As excitement builds, the Lahore fixtures promise not only competitive cricket but also a reminder of the sport's capacity to blend diplomacy, humour, and rivalry on a global stage.

Gavaskar Praises Varun Chakravarthy and India's All-Round Show in T20I Win Over New Zealand



Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar lauded Varun Chakravarthy's bowling and India's overall performance after the Men in Blue secured a commanding victory in the first T20I against New Zealand in Nagpur. The win marked an ideal start to India's final preparations ahead of the Men's T20 World Cup.

Batting first, India posted a formidable total of 238/7 in 20 overs. Opener Abhishek Sharma led the charge with a blistering 84 off just 35 balls, supported by quick-fire contributions from skipper Suryakumar Yadav, all-rounder Hardik Pandya, and Rinku Singh. New Zealand initially lost top-order batters Devon Conway and Rachin Ravindra in the powerplay, but Glenn Phillips and Mark Chapman staged a valiant recovery during their chase. Despite their efforts, India's bowlers struck at crucial moments, ultimately securing a 48-run win at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium on Wednesday.

Chakravarthy, like many bowlers in the high-scoring match, conceded runs but managed figures of 2/37 in four overs. Gavaskar described the spinner as looking slightly "rusty" but emphasized that an economy rate of 9.20 was reasonable given the batters' aggressive approach. He praised Chakravarthy's body language,

noting that the spinner remained composed even after being hit for a few sixes—a crucial indicator of confidence and mental resilience.

"Varun looked a little rusty, but that's understandable. He picked up two wickets and the economy rate, when the batters are going hell-bent for leather, was pretty decent as well," Gavaskar said on JioStar. "The important thing is that his body language was good. He walked back upright, wasn't fazed by being hit for a couple of sixes, and that's very encouraging for a player who sometimes shows self-doubt. He's a magician with the ball and bowls brilliantly. He just has to believe in the next over, and he delivers."

Gavaskar also highlighted India's all-round performance, calling the win a confidence booster ahead of the World Cup. "You win the first game; that's a ticked box for sure. Within that ticked box, there are smaller boxes to tick off, but starting a new campaign with a win is always positive. India did brilliantly to reach 238 and then bowled well. Yes, a few catches went down, but overall, the performance was very heartening," he added.

With this comprehensive display, India not only showcased their batting firepower but also demonstrated depth in bowling and fielding, setting the tone for a competitive T20 World Cup campaign.

Top Pakistan Cricketers Allegedly Caught in Ponzi Scheme, PCB Investigating



Several leading Pakistani cricketers, including former captain Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan, and pace ace Shaheen Shah Afridi, are reportedly victims of a Ponzi scheme that could cost them millions of rupees, according to sources familiar with the matter.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is understood to have taken notice and is reportedly investigating the financial scam.

Around a dozen current players, including Fakhar Zaman and Shadab Khan, as well as a former Test captain, allegedly invested substantial sums with

a Pakistani businessman who has since fled the country. The businessman, well-known to the players and previously involved in sponsorship deals for Pakistan Super League franchises, reportedly made profit payments in the early months, creating an impression of

a legitimate investment. "Initially, the businessman made profit payments to the players for the first few months but then stopped the payments," the source said. When the players approached him for explanations, he claimed that he had incurred heavy losses, including both their investments and his own, and was unable to return the funds. After that, he reportedly stopped responding to calls and messages and left the country, leaving the players in financial jeopardy.

The affected cricketers are said to have invested not only their personal savings but also money belonging to relatives and close associates, amplifying the potential losses. The source described the scam as a classic Ponzi scheme that went awry, warning that players now face the possibility of losing millions of rupees.

Estimates suggest that the total amount invested by the players and their associates could exceed

one billion rupees, highlighting the scale of the financial impact. The PCB is reportedly assessing the situation to determine the extent of the losses and explore possible legal remedies to assist the affected players. Ponzi schemes, which rely on funds from new investors to pay returns to earlier investors rather than generating legitimate profits, are notoriously risky. In this case, the early payments appear to have lulled the players into a false sense of security, making the eventual collapse more damaging.

The news has sent shockwaves through Pakistan cricket, raising questions about financial guidance and due diligence among professional athletes. With several high-profile players affected, the incident is likely to trigger stricter oversight measures by the PCB to prevent similar scams in the future and safeguard the financial interests of players.

Vishal-Sundar C's "Mogudu" Glimpse Out, Instantly Fires Up Expectations

Director Sundar C, celebrated for his mass-friendly narratives and consistent appeal in the Telugu market, is back with another high-energy commercial entertainer titled "Mogudu." This time, he joins hands with Versatile Star Vishal, promising a film that blends family emotions, humor, and action in equal measure. The project is being produced by A.C.S. Arun Kumar under the banners of Avni Cinemax Pvt. Ltd. and Benz Media Pvt. Ltd., with Khushbu Sundar presenting the film. Tamannaah Bhatia plays the female lead, while comedy favorite Yogi Babu appears in a pivotal role. Music duties are handled by HipHop Tamizha.



With the shoot progressing briskly, the makers have already ignited excitement by unveiling the title along with an extended five-minute glimpse. Unlike typical promotional cuts packed with flashy visuals, the "Mogudu" glimpse dives straight into the narrative core, giving viewers a clear sense of character relationships and emotional beats. This bold move has paid off, as the video quickly went viral and sparked enthusiastic reactions across social media platforms.

The glimpse opens on a humorous note with Yogi Babu delivering a mock-serious, television-serial-style dialogue: "Being a man isn't enough... behaving like a real husband is what matters. Do you understand, mother-

in-law?" This instantly sets the tone for the film's playful yet pointed exploration of marital dynamics. What follows is a neatly constructed sequence where Yogi Babu's character enters Tamannaah's home, is momentarily dazzled by her presence, and then freezes upon meeting her husband—Vishal. The scene effortlessly blends comedy with a hint of tension, showcasing Sundar C's strength in balancing family drama and entertainment.

One of the biggest highlights of the glimpse is the husband-and-wife chemistry between Vishal and Tamannaah. Tamannaah shines as a strong, authoritative woman who doesn't mince words, while Vishal surprises with a

refreshing mix of domestic innocence and trademark action-hero intensity. His transition from doing household chores to taking on villains adds a satisfying mass appeal that fans will relish.

Positioned as Vishal's 36th film, "Mogudu" appears to tick all the right boxes of a commercial entertainer—family sentiment, humor, romance, and action. The extended first look has significantly raised expectations, and with the team promising sustained promotional content, anticipation is steadily building for the teaser and trailer. If the glimpse is any indication, "Mogudu" could well shape up to be a crowd-pleasing entertainer across audiences.

Vijay Deverakonda Launches Telugu Promo of Feel-Good Entertainer "Happy Raj"



After generating solid buzz with its cheerful title announcement, Happy Raj has taken its promotions a step further with the release of its official promo—and the response has been overwhelmingly positive. The Telugu promo was unveiled by Rowdy Star Vijay Deverakonda, whose association instantly amplified the film's reach and excitement. From the moment it dropped, the promo struck a joyful chord with audiences, earning enthusiastic reactions across social media platforms.

Produced by Jayavardhan under the Beyond Pictures banner, Happy Raj marks the production house's first venture and is envisioned as a wholesome entertainer that can be enjoyed by audiences of all age

groups. Written and directed by Maria Elanchezian, the film promises a feel-good cinematic experience rooted in warmth, optimism, and everyday joy. The promo delivers exactly that—offering a vibrant glimpse into a world that celebrates happiness in its simplest and purest form.

One of the major highlights of the promo is the refreshing and lively screen presence of GV Prakash Kumar, who plays the titular role of Raj. Known for his versatility, GV Prakash brings an infectious energy to the character, effortlessly drawing viewers into the film's positive universe. Paired opposite him is Sri Gouri Priya, whose natural charm complements the film's light-hearted tone. Together, they promise a relatable and endearing

on-screen dynamic. Audiences have particularly appreciated the promo's breezy treatment, colorful visuals, and uplifting vibe. In a time when viewers are increasingly seeking content that offers comfort and positivity, Happy Raj appears to hit the right note. Social media reactions highlight the promo's relatability and its promise of a joyful escape filled with laughter and heart.

Adding further excitement to the project is the return of evergreen actor Abbas to Tamil cinema, a comeback that has delighted fans and movie lovers alike. The supporting cast includes George Mariyam, Prarthana, Adhirchi Arun, Madurai Muthu, Sofa Boy Rasool, and others, each contributing to the film's lively ensemble.

On the technical front, Happy Raj boasts a strong crew. Cinematography is handled by Madhan Christopher, while Justin Prabhakaran's music adds soul and emotional depth to the narrative. Editing is by RK Selva, with art direction by Kumar Gangappa and costumes designed by Praveen Raja. The film is co-produced by Jaikanth Suresh, with Vishrath KL serving as executive producer.

With Vijay Deverakonda's launch giving it a major promotional push and the promo receiving such encouraging buzz, Happy Raj is shaping up to be a heartwarming entertainer that celebrates life, positivity, and happiness—just as its title promises.

Pawan Kalyan Creative Works Congratulates Team of Mega Blockbuster "Mana Shankara Varaprasad Garu"

Megastar Chiranjeevi has once again etched his name into box-office history with the mega blockbuster success of Mana Shankara Varaprasad Garu. Celebrating this remarkable achievement, Pawan Kalyan Creative Works has extended heartfelt congratulations to Chiranjeevi garu and the entire film unit, applauding the team for delivering one of the biggest hits of his illustrious career.

With a cinematic journey spanning over four decades, Megastar Chiranjeevi has consistently remained close to the hearts of audiences, creating trends and setting new benchmarks. With Mana Shankara Varaprasad Garu, he has once again proven his unparalleled stardom and enduring appeal. Directed by Anil Ravipudi, the film was produced by Sahu Garapati and Sushmita Konidela under the banners of Shine Screens and Gold Box Entertainments. Released as a Sankranti festive treat on January 12, the film also featured Victory Venkatesh in a special role, making it an added attraction for fans.

Designed to appeal not only to mega fans but to audiences across all age groups, Mana Shankara Varaprasad Garu has turned into a massive crowd-puller. The film has been showering cash at the box office,



@PKCWofl

Heartly congratulations to Megastar Chiranjeevi garu @KChiruTweets, and the entire team of #ManaShankaraVaraPrasaGaru on Mega Blockbuster success.

For over four decades, Chiranjeevi garu has remained close to the hearts of people, continuing to entertain with the same passion and energy through his acting, comedy, and dance. This is yet another successful film to his remarkable filmography.

A special mention to Director Anil Ravipudi garu @AnilRavipudi, for this another Sankranti blockbuster. It was truly delighted to see Megastar and Victory Venkatesh garu @VenkyMama, together on screen.

Music director #BheemaCeciroleo garu has delivered outstanding music that adds great energy to the film.

Special congratulations to the producers Sahu Garapati garu @Sahugarapati7, and Sushmita garu @sushkonidela, for delivering a film that has strongly connected with audiences.

Best wishes also to #Nayanthara, @Shine_Screens and @GoldBoxEnt for

having already crossed an impressive ₹300 crore gross worldwide. This phenomenal performance has made it the biggest success in Chiranjeevi's long and celebrated filmography.

Marking this milestone, Pawan Kalyan Creative Works issued a congratulatory message praising the Megastar and the entire team. The statement highlighted how Chiranjeevi garu, even after four decades, continues to entertain audiences with the same passion, enthusiasm, and dedication through his acting, comedy, and dance. The banner described the film as yet another

glorious chapter in his extraordinary cinematic journey.

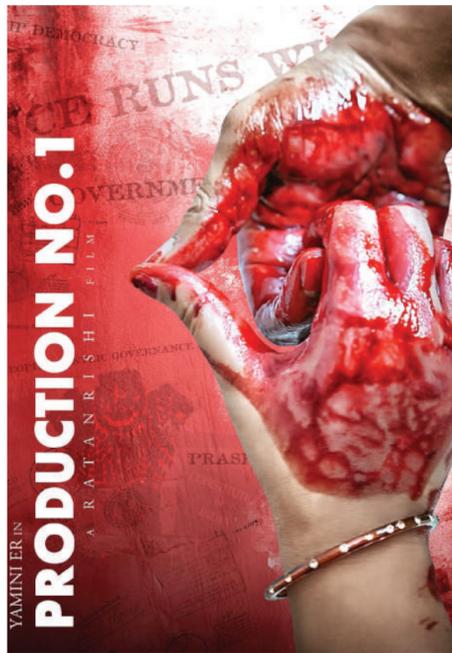
Special appreciation was also extended to director Anil Ravipudi for delivering another memorable Sankranti blockbuster. His ability to blend mass entertainment with family appeal was lauded, along with the delightful on-screen combination of Megastar Chiranjeevi and Victory Venkatesh, which gave audiences a truly memorable experience.

Music director Bheema Ceciroleo received praise for his energetic and engaging soundtrack, which added tre-

mendous value to the film's overall impact. Producers Sahu Garapati and Sushmita Konidela were also congratulated for backing a film that strongly connected with audiences.

Best wishes were further conveyed to Nayanthara, Shine Screens, Gold Box Entertainments, and the entire cast and crew for being part of this successful journey. Overall, Mana Shankara Varaprasad Garu continues its unstoppable run even after the festive season, with the film's mega blockbuster status drawing widespread appreciation from across the film industry.

Yamini ER Makes Big-Screen Debut as Lead in Ratan Rishi's Female-Centric Film



connecting with younger audiences while also exploring contemporary themes.

The film is said to revolve around a love story that reflects the realities of today's social system and evolving relationships. Unlike conventional romantic dramas, this project promises a grounded and socially relevant approach, blending emotional depth with realism. The recently released poster, unveiled with Sankranti festival wishes, offered the first glimpse into the film's tone and theme. It subtly hinted at the narrative's emotional core while positioning the story firmly within a present-day societal backdrop. The poster has been well received, generating positive responses and early buzz among film enthusiasts.

Adding strength to the cast, noted performers Kalakeya Prabhakar and Ajay Gosh have been roped in to play the antagonists. Both actors are known for their intense screen presence and strong character portray-

als, and their inclusion suggests that the film will have solid conflict and dramatic weight. Interestingly, the makers are also in discussions with a well-known hero from the 1990s to play the role of the heroine's father—a casting choice that could bring nostalgia and added credibility to the narrative.

The team has officially announced that the film's title will be revealed on February 14, a date symbolically tied to love, making it a fitting occasion for a love story rooted in contemporary realities. While details about the technical crew are yet to be disclosed, the makers have assured that more announcements will follow soon.

With a fresh face in the lead, a proven director at the helm, and a strong supporting cast, this untitled project is shaping up to be an interesting addition to the growing space of female-driven cinema. All eyes are now on the title reveal, which is expected to further elevate anticipation around the film.

Young and promising filmmaker Ratan Rishi is all set to return with a new and intriguing project, this time placing women at the center of

the narrative. Known for carving a distinct identity with his earlier films Uttara and Artiste, Ratan Rishi has announced his third directorial ven-

"Golla Ramavva" Premieres on ETV Win from January 25

"Golla Ramavva," a deeply moving and historically significant film inspired by the Telangana Armed Struggle, is set to premiere on ETV Win from January 25. Based on a powerful story written by former Prime Minister of India and Bharat Ratna awardee P. V. Narasimha Rao, the film promises to be a timeless cinematic tribute that resonates strongly with Telugu audiences. Veteran actress Talluri Rameshwari plays the titular role, delivering what is being described as a soulful and impactful performance.

Directed by Mullanpudi Vara, the film is produced jointly by Ram Vishwas Hanurkar and Raghavendra Varma (Bujji) under the banners of Suchetha Dream Works and Varma Dream Creations. The project has been mounted with a strong sense of responsibility toward history and storytelling. Adding further strength to the production is young and talented Azhar

Shaikh, who served as Executive Producer and also contributed lyrics, playing a key role in shaping the film's emotional depth.

"Golla Ramavva" narrates a heroic saga rooted in the struggles, sacrifices, and resilience of people during the Telangana Armed Struggle. Staying true to its literary and historical origins, the film blends emotion, courage, and realism, offering viewers an immersive experience that goes beyond conventional storytelling. The makers believe the film will strike a lasting chord with audiences and find a permanent place in the hearts of Telugu viewers.

The trailer launch event was held on a grand scale and witnessed the presence of several eminent personalities. P. V. Prabhakar Rao, son of P. V. Narasimha Rao, and his daughter, MLC Smt. Surabhi Vani Devi, graced the occasion, lending the event historical and emotional signifi-



cance. Renowned lyricists Kasarla Shyam and Maunasi Mallik, actor Rajeev Kanakala, "Razakar" director Yata Satyanarayana, and senior filmmaker Uday Bhaskar were also present and appreciated the team for bringing such an important story to the screen.

Speaking at the event, Smt. Surabhi Vani Devi expressed her happiness,

stating that "Golla Ramavva," one of her father's most powerful stories, has been adapted with great sincerity and respect. The film's team expressed pride in being associated with a project of such cultural and historical value. Notably, the same team earlier delivered "Maunam Nee Bhaasha" on ETV Win, which received an excellent response, further

raising expectations for this film.

With music by Sai Madhukar, cinematography by Gangamoni Shekhar, and editing by Raghavendra Varma, "Golla Ramavva" is poised to be a landmark OTT release. Premiering on ETV Win from January 25, the film stands as a heartfelt homage to history, bravery, and the indomitable spirit of Telangana.