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Chandrababu Naidu to Announce Welfare Schemes Calendar Soon

Amaravati, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Chandrababu Naidu has announced that the Andhra Pradesh government will soon release a comprehensive calendar for the implementation of various welfare schemes to ensure that benefits reach eligible citizens in a timely and transparent manner.

The Chief Minister made the announcement during a review meeting with district collectors and senior officials at the state Secretariat. During the meeting, he discussed the progress of several government initiatives and emphasized the need for systematic planning in delivering welfare benefits to the people.

Naidu said the proposed welfare calendar will clearly outline the schedule for implementing major schemes and distributing financial assistance to beneficiaries. According to him, having a structured timeline will help the administration maintain transparency, improve coordination among departments and ensure that benefits reach the people without delays.

He stated that the government aims to create a predictable system where citizens know when they will receive support under various welfare programs. Such a calendar, he said, would strengthen public trust in governance and help eliminate confusion regarding the



implementation of schemes.

The Chief Minister stressed that welfare programs should be implemented efficiently at the grassroots level. He instructed district collectors and officials to closely monitor the progress of schemes and ensure that every eligible beneficiary receives the assistance promised by the government.

Naidu also directed officials to provide clear information to beneficiaries about the schemes they are eligible for. He suggested that official communication be sent to families informing them about the benefits they will receive and the timeline for receiving them. This, he said, would help improve awareness among citizens and ensure greater transparency in the welfare delivery system.

The Chief Minister highlighted that while welfare remains a priority, the government is

equally focused on economic development, job creation and improving living standards. He emphasized the importance of balancing welfare initiatives with long-term development policies that strengthen the state's economy.

Naidu also urged officials to ensure strong coordination between government departments and local administrations so that welfare programs are implemented smoothly. He said effective monitoring and accountability will play a crucial role in the success of these initiatives.

Expressing confidence in the state's administrative machinery, Chandrababu Naidu said the upcoming welfare calendar will bring clarity to the implementation process and help deliver government benefits more efficiently to the people of Andhra Pradesh.



Lokesh Lays Foundation for Sagar Defence Facility

Nellore, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Nara Lokesh laid the foundation stone for the Sagar Defence Engineering Industry at Juvvaladinne Fishing Harbour in Nellore district, marking an important step toward strengthening maritime technology and defence manufacturing in Andhra Pradesh.

The upcoming project will feature an autonomous maritime shipyard and systems development centre that will focus on the design and development of advanced maritime technologies. The facility aims to build unmanned surface vessels, underwater vehicles and intelligent maritime platforms that can support defence operations, coastal surveillance and maritime security.

Speaking on the occasion, Lokesh said the project represents a major milestone in the state's efforts to promote innovation and industrial growth in the maritime sector. He stated that the initiative will contribute significantly to strengthening India's indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities while also boosting technological development in Andhra Pradesh.

The minister noted that the project will play a key role in transforming the coastal region into a centre for maritime research and advanced shipbuilding technologies. He said the state government is committed to promoting industries that combine innovation, technology and employment generation.

Lokesh also highlighted that the project will create significant job opportunities for youth in the region.

The facility is expected to generate employment in areas such as marine engineering, shipbuilding, research and development, manufacturing and technical services. In addition, the project is likely to support the growth of related industries and small businesses in the surrounding areas.

Addressing concerns raised by some sections of the fishing community, Lokesh assured that the project will not affect the livelihoods of fishermen. Instead, he said the development of modern maritime technologies could benefit fishermen by improving marine monitoring systems and providing better information related to weather conditions and fishing zones.

The minister emphasized that Andhra Pradesh has a long coastline with immense potential for maritime development. By promoting such projects, the government aims to strengthen the blue economy and attract investments in marine technology, shipbuilding and coastal infrastructure.

Lokesh also said the government is working to position Andhra Pradesh as a hub for maritime innovation and defence manufacturing. Projects like the Sagar Defence Engineering facility will help bring advanced technologies to the state while encouraging collaboration between industry, research institutions and skilled professionals.

He expressed confidence that the new facility will contribute to technological progress, economic growth and employment generation in the region, while also enhancing India's capabilities in maritime defence and advanced marine technologies.

Chandrababu Naidu Stresses Efficient Water Use, Investment Promotion

Amaravati, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Chandrababu Naidu has emphasized the need for efficient use of water resources and stronger focus on attracting investments to accelerate the development of Andhra Pradesh. He said sustainable resource management along with economic growth will play a key role in the state's long-term progress.

During a review meeting with senior officials, the Chief Minister highlighted the importance of conserving water and using it judiciously for agriculture, drinking and industrial purposes. He stated that water is one of the most valuable natural resources and its proper management is essential for ensuring the prosperity of farm-

ers and overall development of the state.

Naidu instructed officials to take steps to prevent wastage of water and improve irrigation management so that farmers receive adequate water supply for their crops. He also stressed the need to adopt modern water management practices and ensure efficient distribution systems that minimize losses.

The Chief Minister pointed out that agriculture remains the backbone of the state's economy and effective water utilization is vital for supporting farmers and boosting agricultural productivity. He asked officials to closely monitor irrigation projects and ensure that water reaches every acre of farmland in a timely manner.

Along with resource management, Chandrababu Naidu

stressed the importance of attracting investments to strengthen the state's economy. He said Andhra Pradesh has significant potential to emerge as a major investment destination and urged officials to actively promote opportunities in various sectors.

Naidu directed district administrations to identify the strengths and resources available in their respective regions and develop plans to attract industries and businesses accordingly. He said sectors such as manufacturing, technology, tourism and agriculture-based industries offer strong opportunities for investment and job creation.

The Chief Minister also stressed improving the ease of doing business in the state. He asked officials to simplify administrative procedures, en-

sure transparency in approvals and provide necessary support to investors willing to establish industries in Andhra Pradesh.

According to him, encouraging investments will not only generate employment opportunities for youth but also contribute to the overall economic growth of the state. He emphasized that balanced development can be achieved only when natural resources are used responsibly while simultaneously promoting industrial and economic expansion.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to development, Chandrababu Naidu said Andhra Pradesh will move forward with a clear strategy that combines sustainable resource management with strong investment promotion to build a prosperous future for its people.

Sunil Nayak Skips Hearing in Raghurama Custodial Torture Case

Vijayawada, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Sunil Nayak did not appear before the investigating authorities in connection with the alleged custodial torture case involving former MP K. Raghurama Krishna Raju, leading to further developments in the ongoing probe.

Officials said Sunil Nayak had been asked to appear before the authorities as part of the investigation into the allegations related to the incident. However, he did not attend the scheduled hearing, prompting investigators to consider further steps in the case.

The case pertains to allegations that Raghurama Krishna Raju was subjected to custodial torture after his arrest in 2021 following remarks critical of the then state government. The incident had



created a major political and legal controversy at the time and led to demands for a detailed investigation into the circumstances surrounding his custody.

Investigating officials have been examining the roles of several police personnel who were involved in the arrest

and interrogation of the former MP. As part of the inquiry, statements are being recorded and evidence is being reviewed to establish what exactly occurred during the period of custody.

Authorities had earlier issued notices directing individuals connected to the case to cooperate with the investigation and appear for questioning whenever required. The appearance of key officials is considered crucial for clarifying the sequence of events and identifying whether any procedural violations took place during the custody.

Sources indicated that the probe team is focusing on gathering detailed information regarding the treatment of the former MP during his detention. Investigators are also verifying various claims and reviewing available records related to the case.

The absence of Sunil Nayak at the scheduled hearing has drawn attention as investigators were expected to question him regarding certain aspects of the incident. Officials are likely to issue fresh notices if required to ensure his cooperation with the investigation.

Legal experts say the inquiry is part of a broader effort to determine accountability in the alleged custodial torture case. The outcome of the investigation could play an important role in establishing the facts and determining whether any action needs to be taken against those involved.

Officials have maintained that the investigation will continue in accordance with legal procedures and that all individuals connected to the case are expected to cooperate with the authorities until the probe is completed.

Welfare Calendar to Be Released Soon: Chandrababu Naidu



Amaravati, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Chandrababu Naidu announced that the Andhra Pradesh government will soon release a comprehensive welfare calendar to ensure transparent and timely implementation of various welfare schemes.

Speaking during a meeting with district collectors, the Chief Minister said the welfare calendar will clearly outline the schedule for implementing key government schemes and delivering benefits to eligible beneficiaries. He directed officials to distribute welfare letters to beneficiaries through public representatives so that people are clearly informed about the assistance they will receive from the government.

Naidu stated that the initiative would improve transparency in the implementation of welfare schemes and strengthen communication between the government and citizens. He emphasized that while focusing on attracting investments and economic development, equal attention must be given to the welfare of the poor and vulnerable sections of society.

The Chief Minister said that beneficiaries should be fully aware of the support they are receiving from the government through schemes such as pensions, free LPG cylinders, "Thaliki Vandanam," and fee reimbursement programs. Providing clear information to beneficiaries, he noted, will help ensure accountability and prevent confusion about welfare benefits.

Naidu also suggested examining the possibility of issuing digital

vouchers under the Deepam 2.0 scheme. He highlighted the success of the free bus travel program for women, stating that women had made over 50 crore trips by March 9. The government, he said, has reimbursed the state road transport corporation with more than ₹1,700 crore for the initiative.

The Chief Minister further instructed officials to effectively implement the "Zero Poverty" initiative and other development programs by utilizing the services of DWACRA and MEPMA self-help groups. He said these organizations can play a vital role in reaching communities and ensuring that welfare benefits are delivered efficiently.

During the meeting, Naidu also called on forest department officials to adopt a more people-friendly approach. He said several complaints have been received regarding the functioning of forest authorities and urged them to cooperate with development activities and infrastructure projects.

Naidu pointed out that development should reach even tribal and remote areas, and officials must work in coordination to avoid unnecessary obstacles. He also referred to recent incidents where forest department actions reportedly created difficulties for devotees and local residents, stressing the need for better coordination between departments.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to both development and welfare, Chandrababu Naidu said the upcoming welfare calendar will help streamline the implementation of schemes and ensure that benefits reach the people of Andhra Pradesh in a transparent and systematic manner.

Sports Infrastructure Proposals Worth ₹1,106 Crore Submitted to Centre



Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The second day of the Delhi tour of Ravi Naidu continued with key meetings aimed at strengthening sports infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh. During the visit, Ravi Naidu met Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya along with Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu and G. M. Harish Balayogi.

The meeting focused on the development of sports infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh and the need to provide better opportunities for athletes across the state. The delegation discussed the importance of strengthening sports facilities in line with international standards to support budding players and promote a strong sporting culture.

During the meeting, proposals were submitted seeking financial support under the Khelo India Scheme for several sports infrastructure projects in the state. The leaders requested the Central Government to sanction funds for multiple projects aimed at enhancing sports facilities and training infrastructure.

According to officials, proposals have been prepared for sports development projects in several regions including Amalapuram, Eluru, Tirupati, Visakhapatnam, Kuppam, Kurnool, Vijayawada, Machilipatnam and Guntur. These projects include the development of sports grounds, training centers and other modern sports infrastructure.

In total, the state has requested the Centre to sanction ₹1,106 crore for 53 sports infrastructure projects.

Foundation Stone Laid for Autonomous Maritime Shipbuilding Centre in Nellore

Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Municipal Administration Minister P. Narayana stated that the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Sagar Defence Autonomous Maritime Shipbuilding Systems Centre in Nellore district is a matter of pride for Andhra Pradesh. He said the establishment of the advanced facility will significantly strengthen India's indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities and mark a new milestone in maritime technology development.

According to the minister, the project is expected to become the first of its kind in the world, focusing on the development of autonomous maritime systems and shipbuilding technologies. The centre will play a crucial role in promoting innovation in marine technology and supporting India's efforts to become self-reliant in defence production. The initiative is also expected to contribute to the broader vision of strengthening the country's defence infrastructure through advanced research and development.

The facility will be set up in Juvvaladinne village of Nellore district, a coastal region that offers strategic advantages for maritime research and development. Officials believe the centre will become an important hub for the design, testing, and manufacturing of next-generation maritime technologies, including autonomous vessels and advanced shipbuilding systems.

Minister Narayana said the project will not only strengthen defence preparedness but will also create new opportunities for the local economy. The development of such a high-technology facility is expected to generate employment and enhance industrial skills in the region. It will also contribute to the development of technical expertise among youth and professionals in maritime engineering, robotics, and related fields.

The centre is expected to bring

significant benefits to coastal communities as well. With the development of advanced marine technologies, the project could support innovations that help improve the fishing sector and maritime infrastructure. By integrating modern technology into coastal operations, authorities hope to enhance productivity, safety, and efficiency for fishermen and other stakeholders who depend on marine resources.

In addition, the minister noted that the facility will strengthen coastal monitoring and maritime security. Autonomous maritime systems can help authorities track activities in coastal waters, improve surveillance capabilities, and enhance preparedness against potential security threats. These technologies are expected to play an important role in safeguarding India's extensive coastline.

Minister Narayana also congratulated Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh for his efforts in bringing this prestigious project to Juvvaladinne in Nellore district. He said the initiative reflects the state government's commitment to attracting advanced technology projects and promoting industrial development in Andhra Pradesh.

The establishment of the Sagar Defence centre is expected to position the state as an emerging hub for maritime innovation, defence manufacturing, and technological advancement in the coming years.

Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya responded positively to the proposals and assured the delegation that the Central Government would examine them and extend necessary support.

The meeting was also attended by Bharani. Officials expressed optimism that these initiatives would play a crucial role in strengthening sports infrastructure and nurturing future sporting talent in Andhra Pradesh.



AP Genco Achieves Historic Power Generation Record of 6160 MW

Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation (AP Genco) has achieved a historic milestone by producing 6160 megawatts of electricity, marking the highest power generation ever recorded in the state's history. Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar described the achievement as a significant moment for the state's power sector and congratulated the officials and employees who contributed to this remarkable performance.

According to the minister, the record-breaking power generation was possible due to the guidance and vision of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu along with the dedicated efforts of AP Genco officials and staff. Along with the total generation of 6160 MW, the corporation also recorded 5730 MW of ex-bus power generation, another important indicator of efficiency in electricity production.

The minister participated in a video conference with AP Genco officials from the State Secretariat to review the performance and discuss future plans. During the meeting, he appreciated the team for achieving an unprecedented



milestone and emphasized that the primary goal of the government is to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply to domestic, industrial, and commercial consumers across the state. He urged officials to continue working with the same dedication to maintain stable power supply and strengthen the electricity system.

Speaking about the upcoming summer season, the minister noted that electricity de-

mand is expected to increase significantly in the coming months. Considering possible climatic impacts such as El Niño conditions, he instructed power utilities to remain fully prepared to meet the rising demand. Officials were directed to make all necessary arrangements to ensure continuous electricity supply and avoid disruptions for consumers during the peak summer period.

The minister also pointed out that successfully meeting the

state's peak power demand along with achieving record generation is a positive indicator for Andhra Pradesh's economic development. Reliable power supply is crucial for industrial growth, commercial activities, and the overall improvement of living standards.

At the same time, the minister criticized the previous government, alleging that the power sector had suffered major setbacks during its tenure. He claimed that excessive electricity purchases from private companies had placed a financial burden of nearly 32,000 crore on the state. He also alleged that electricity tariffs were increased multiple times during that period, which added pressure on consumers.

The present government, he said, is taking steps to reduce the burden on electricity users while strengthening infrastructure in the power sector. As part of these efforts, several new substations are being constructed and power transmission lines are being expanded with investments worth thousands of crores. These measures aim to improve the reliability and efficiency of the state's electricity distribution system.

CM Chandrababu Praises Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh for Securing Key MoU

Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu praised Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh for his proactive efforts in promoting the state's tourism sector and attracting investment during his recent visit to Mumbai. The Chief Minister appreciated the minister's performance during the Collectors' Conference held at the State Secretariat in Velagapudi and commended his initiative in signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with a reputed company.

Speaking during the meeting, Chandrababu Naidu lauded Durgesh for actively participating in tourism promotion activities and securing investment commitments for the state. "Shabash Durgesh... well done, keep it up," the Chief Minister remarked, appreciating the minister's efforts in bringing new opportunities to Andhra Pradesh.

Minister Durgesh explained that he had participated in the 24th Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries (IAAPI) Expo held at the Bombay Exhibition Centre in Mumbai. During the event, he presented the progress made in the Andhra Pradesh tourism sector and explained the state



government's policies aimed at encouraging investment. He highlighted the industrial status granted to tourism in the state and also explained the benefits offered under the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Policy 2024-29 to national and international investors.

During the expo, representatives of M/s Modern Masti Private Limited expressed interest in the rapid development of the state's tourism sector. As a result, the company signed an

MoU with the Andhra Pradesh government to establish a ₹100-crore amusement park in Visakhapatnam. The minister said the agreement was finalized at the event itself, marking an important step toward expanding tourism infrastructure in the state.

Durgesh also held discussions with representatives of the Eros company regarding the use of artificial intelligence in the film industry and skill development initiatives. Accord-

ing to the minister, the company's representatives are expected to visit Andhra Pradesh soon to explore further opportunities for collaboration in creative and digital sectors.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu emphasized that the future belongs to the creative economy and revealed plans to establish a major Creative City in Amaravati. He said the proposed hub would focus on AI-driven film production, digital content creation, YouTube media production, and other electronic and creative industries.

The Chief Minister added that the government aims to transform Amaravati into a global creative hub by promoting innovation and encouraging investments in media, entertainment, and technology sectors. He also advised the tourism minister to continue working actively to place Andhra Pradesh among the leading states in tourism, culture, and creative industries.

The announcement reflects the state government's broader vision to strengthen tourism, attract investment, and build modern creative infrastructure that can generate employment and boost economic growth in Andhra Pradesh.

AGICL MD Reviews Construction Works at Amaravati Government Complex

Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The Managing Director of Amaravati Growth and Infrastructure Corporation Limited, SVR Srinivas, inspected several ongoing construction works in the capital city of Amaravati on Thursday and conducted a detailed review of the progress of major infrastructure projects.

During his visit, the Managing Director inspected works at the Amaravati Government Complex (AGC) and the site of the Andhra Pradesh High Court building. The projects are part of the state government's efforts to develop Amaravati as a modern people's capital with world-class administrative infrastructure.

SVR Srinivas closely examined the progress of construction activities at the respective project sites and interacted with contractors and engineering staff responsible for executing the works. Officials from the engineering department briefed him about the status of the projects, timelines, and the stages of completion of various components of the infrastructure.

During the review meeting held at the project locations, the Managing Director emphasized



the importance of maintaining high standards in construction quality while adhering to the scheduled timelines. He directed contractors and engineering teams to ensure that the works are carried out efficiently and in accordance with the approved designs and specifications.

Particular attention was given to the construction of the High Court building complex, which is being developed within the Amaravati Government Complex in an iconic architectural style. The proposed structure is designed as a B + G + 7

floors building, reflecting modern infrastructure standards and symbolizing the administrative significance of the capital region.

SVR Srinivas instructed officials to ensure that the High Court complex is completed with superior construction quality and according to the targets set by the authorities. He also stressed the need for continuous monitoring of the project to avoid delays and ensure smooth execution of all related works.

The Managing Director further directed engineering

teams to maintain regular coordination with contractors and closely monitor the progress at every stage. He emphasized that the development of administrative buildings in Amaravati is crucial for strengthening the capital region's infrastructure and ensuring efficient governance in the state.

Officials stated that the Amaravati Government Complex is one of the key infrastructure projects aimed at establishing the capital city as a major administrative hub in Andhra Pradesh. The complex will house important government offices and institutions, contributing to the planned development of Amaravati as a modern and well-structured capital city.

The inspection and review meeting highlighted the government's commitment to accelerating construction works and ensuring timely completion of key projects in the capital region. AGICL officials expressed confidence that with coordinated efforts from contractors and engineering teams, the ongoing works will progress steadily and meet the expected standards and deadlines.

YSRCP Leaders Put “Missing” Flex Banner of TTD Chairman in Tirupati

Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau :

Political tensions surfaced in Tirupati after leaders of the YSR Congress Party staged an unusual protest targeting B. R. Naidu, the chairman of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). Party leaders installed a flex banner outside the TTD administrative building claiming that the chairman was “missing,” drawing attention and sparking political debate.

According to reports, YSRCP leaders placed the banner near the TTD administration office in Tirupati as a symbolic protest. Through the flex banner, they questioned the absence of the TTD chairman and alleged that he had not been visible in public or responding to certain controversies related to the temple administration.

The protest quickly attracted attention from devotees, locals, and media personnel near the administrative complex. YSRCP leaders reportedly used the banner to criticize the functioning of the temple administration and to demand accountability from the TTD leadership. The act was intended to highlight what they described as the chairman’s silence on key issues concerning the Tirumala temple management.

Political observers noted that the incident reflects the growing political rivalry between ruling alliance leaders and the opposition YSRCP over matters related to the management of the TTD. The temple administration has been at the center of several political controversies in recent weeks, including debates over temple practices, administration, and governance.



The protest also comes at a time when the TTD has been facing public and political scrutiny over various issues linked to temple administration and religious sentiments. Opposition leaders have been increasingly raising questions about transparency and accountability in the functioning of the trust.

Meanwhile, supporters of the

ruling alliance criticized the protest, calling it an attempt to create unnecessary controversy around a religious institution. They argued that political parties should avoid dragging sacred institutions like Tirumala into political disputes.

The flex banner protest has triggered a fresh political discussion in Andhra Pradesh,

with leaders from different parties exchanging accusations over the functioning of the TTD administration. Authorities have not officially commented on the banner, but the incident has once again highlighted how temple administration issues are becoming part of the broader political discourse in the state

Pinnelli Follower Arrested in High Court Advocate Kidnap Case

Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau :

Police have arrested a follower of former MLA Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy in connection with the kidnapping and torture of an advocate of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. The arrest was made by Patamata police in Vijayawada as part of an ongoing investigation into the case that dates back to November 2023.

According to police officials, the advocate alleged that he was abducted and illegally detained by associates linked to the former legislator. During the incident, the victim claimed he was threatened and subjected to severe torture. The accused allegedly tried to force him to transfer or sign over certain properties under duress. The advocate later filed a complaint with the police detailing the alleged kidnapping and coercion.

Based on the complaint, police registered a case and began investigating the role of several individuals. Authorities identified key suspects including Karnati Veerabhadra Rao and Karnati Satish, who were reportedly associated with Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy. On March 12, police arrested Veerabhadra Rao, who has been listed as the main accused in the case. Efforts are currently underway to trace and arrest the other accused, including Satish.

Investigators also found that two police officials were allegedly involved in the case. Deputy Superintendent of Police Pallamaraju and Sub-Inspector Rabhani were accused of assisting the perpetrators. Both officials have already been placed under suspension pending further inquiry into their alleged role in the incident.

The case has drawn significant attention in Andhra Pradesh as it



involves allegations of kidnapping, intimidation, and abuse of power. Legal circles and political observers have closely followed the developments, especially given the involvement of individuals linked to a former political leader.

Police officials stated that the investigation is still ongoing and more arrests could follow as evidence is collected and statements are recorded. Authorities have assured that the case will be pursued thoroughly to ensure justice for the victim.

The arrest marks an important step in the probe into the alleged kidnapping and torture incident. Law enforcement agencies have reiterated that strict action will be taken against anyone found involved, regardless of their political connections

Minister Nara Lokesh Holds Praja Darbar to Address Public Grievances

Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau :

Andhra Pradesh Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh conducted the 83rd Praja Darbar in Visakhapatnam on Thursday, interacting directly with citizens and listening to their grievances. The public outreach programme was organised at the Telugu Desam Party office in the city as part of the minister’s ongoing efforts to resolve people’s issues through direct communication.

During the Praja Darbar, several residents, party workers, and representatives from different communities met the minister and submitted petitions regarding their problems. These grievances ranged from civic issues and administrative concerns to requests for government support in resolving local disputes and development needs.

Lokesh personally greeted the attendees and patiently listened to their complaints. Many citizens explained their difficulties related to land matters, welfare schemes, infrastructure development, and other local concerns. The minister assured



them that their issues would be examined carefully and appropriate action would be taken by the concerned departments.

Officials present at the programme recorded the details of each petition submitted by the people. Lokesh directed the authorities to address the grievances promptly and instructed them to coordinate with the relevant departments to ensure quick resolution. He emphasized that government officials must respond effectively to the

concerns of the public and work towards improving administrative efficiency.

The Praja Darbar initiative was introduced to provide a platform where people can directly approach government leaders and present their problems without bureaucratic delays. Through this programme, Lokesh aims to strengthen communication between the government and citizens while ensuring transparency and accountability in

governance.

The programme also witnessed the participation of several local leaders and party representatives who accompanied the petitioners. Many people appreciated the initiative, stating that it gives them an opportunity to directly bring their issues to the attention of the minister.

Speaking on the occasion, Lokesh reiterated that the government is committed to resolving public grievances and ensuring that people receive timely support from the administration. He assured that the concerns raised during the Praja Darbar would be forwarded to the respective authorities and monitored until they are resolved.

The 83rd Praja Darbar in Visakhapatnam once again highlighted the government’s focus on public engagement and problem-solving through direct interaction with citizens. The initiative continues to serve as an important platform for addressing people’s issues and strengthening the relationship between the administration and the public.

Non-Bailable Warrant Issued Against YSRCP MLC Anantha Babu’s Wife



Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau :

A significant development has occurred in the sensational driver Subrahmanyam murder case involving Ananta Babu. The Special SC/ST Court in Rajamahendravaram has issued a non-bailable warrant (NBW) against his wife Lakshmi Durga, who has been named as the second accused (A-2) in the case.

The case relates to the murder of Dalit driver Veedhi Subrahmanyam, which created a major political controversy in Andhra Pradesh. According to investigators, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) filed a supplementary charge sheet in the case after collecting additional evidence during the probe. In the charge sheet, Lakshmi Durga was accused of having a role in the crime and allegedly assisting in actions related to the incident.

After examining the supplementary charge sheet and the evidence submitted by the investigators, the Rajamahendravaram SC/ST Court issued a non-bailable warrant against her. The warrant was reportedly issued because she did not appear before the court as required during the proceedings. Following the court’s orders, police launched efforts to trace her and take her into custody.

Officials stated that the investigation into the case has been continuing for several months. Initially, Anantha Babu himself was

named the main accused in the murder of his former driver. The case drew statewide attention after the victim’s family alleged that the murder involved serious violence and demanded justice. Over time, investigators expanded the probe and examined the possible involvement of other individuals connected to the case.

As part of the renewed investigation, the SIT reportedly gathered additional evidence that suggested Lakshmi Durga may have played a role in the events connected to the murder. Based on these findings, she was formally added as A-2 in the case, leading to the filing of the supplementary charge sheet in court.

The issuance of the non-bailable warrant has once again brought the case into public and political focus in Andhra Pradesh. Authorities stated that further legal proceedings will continue once the accused appears before the court or is taken into custody. The police have intensified their search operations to locate Lakshmi Durga and ensure compliance with the court’s orders.

Meanwhile, the case remains under close scrutiny from legal circles and political observers, as it involves serious allegations under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and has already generated significant controversy across the state.

Sharmila Criticizes Jagan Over Adulterated Milk Incident

Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau :

Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee president Y. S. Sharmila Reddy strongly criticized former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy over the alleged adulterated milk tragedy that claimed several lives in Rajamahendravaram. She accused the previous government of failing to take action against milk adulteration during its tenure and questioned the lack of regulatory enforcement in the state.

Speaking to the media after visiting victims undergoing treatment at a hospital in Rajamahendravaram, Sharmila said the incident was not merely an accident but the result of prolonged negligence in monitoring food safety. According to her, at least 11 people lost their lives after consuming allegedly adulterated milk, while several others fell seriously ill. She termed the tragedy a consequence of government inaction and weak enforcement of food safety regulations.

Sharmila alleged that a local milk vendor had been operating



without a valid license for nearly 11 years, yet the authorities failed to detect or act against the illegal activity. She questioned how such a business could continue for so many years without inspections by food safety officials. The Congress leader argued that the incident exposed serious lapses in the Food Safety Department and the state’s regulatory mechanisms.

The APCC chief also criticized Jagan for not visiting the victims or expressing solidarity with the affected families. She alleged that the former chief minister was more focused on political activities than addressing the suffering of ordinary people. According to her, the tragedy highlighted the neglect of public health and food safety during the pre-

vious administration.

During her visit, Sharmila met the victims and their families and demanded stronger action from the government to prevent such incidents in the future. She also called for strengthening the Food Safety Department by increasing the number of inspectors and conducting regular checks on dairy products and other essential food items.

Additionally, she demanded that the government increase compensation for the families of those who died in the incident. While compensation had already been announced, she insisted that the amount should be raised to ₹25 lakh for each victim’s family considering the severity of the tragedy.

Sharmila warned that unless strict monitoring and enforcement are implemented, similar incidents could occur again in the state. She urged authorities to immediately improve food safety regulations and ensure that adulterated food products do not reach the public.

Saraswati Yagam Performed with Devotion at Indrakeeladri Temple

Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

A grand Saraswati Yagam was conducted with great devotion and traditional rituals at the Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam on Indrakeeladri on Thursday. The special ritual was organized on the occasion of Phalguna Bahula Navami and the auspicious Moola Nakshatra, which is considered highly sacred to Goddess Saraswati.

The ritual began at around 9:00 AM in the old Chandi Yagashala within the temple premises. Priests and Vedic scholars performed special homams and prayers seeking blessings for students' academic success, intellectual growth, and a bright future. The ceremony was conducted according to traditional Vedic procedures, drawing the participation of a large number of devotees.

A notable highlight of the event was the participation of many students who arrived at the temple carrying their examination hall tickets. As part of their prayers, students placed their hall tickets at the feet of Goddess Durga, seeking divine blessings to perform well in their upcoming examinations.



The ritual holds special significance during the examination season, as students believe that worshipping the goddess enhances concentration, confidence, and knowledge.

Temple authorities stated that the Saraswati Yagam was specifically organized to help students gain mental strength and focus during their annual examinations. By offering prayers to the goddess, students and their families expressed their hopes for success and academic achievements.

A large number of students, accompanied by their parents, attended the event. Temple officials made necessary arrangements to ensure smooth participation for devotees and students who came to offer their prayers. The authorities also facilitated the rituals so that every participant could seek the blessings of the presiding deity without inconvenience.

Devotees expressed happiness over the spiritual atmosphere created during the ceremony. The chanting of Vedic hymns and the performance of

sacred rituals created a serene environment within the temple premises, adding to the significance of the event.

Temple officials said such spiritual programs not only uphold religious traditions but also inspire students with confidence and positivity during crucial phases like examinations. The Saraswati Yagam concluded with special prayers and blessings for all the participating students, wishing them success in their academic pursuits.

KL Deemed University Wins National Award for Wastewater Treatment and Management

Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

KL Deemed to be University has received a prestigious national-level recognition from the India Water Foundation for its outstanding efforts in sustainable water management. The university was honored with the "Leading Wastewater Treatment and Management Model Award", recognizing its innovative and technology-driven initiatives in the water sector.

According to Vice-Chancellor Dr. G. Parthasaradhi Varma, the award was granted after a thorough evaluation by the distinguished jury committee of the India Water Foundation. The jury carefully reviewed the university's nomination and acknowledged KL University's exemplary contributions toward sustainable water management practices and environmental protection.

The award was formally presented during a special felicitation ceremony organized by the India Water Foundation on March 6 at the India International Centre in New Delhi. The honor was handed over by Om Birla, who attended the event as the chief guest. The award was received on behalf of the university by Commander Gurumurthy Gangadharan, Senior Director of Planning and Development at KL University.

Officials explained that the recognition reflects the univer-



sity's commitment to an integrated water management model developed under the "4R framework"—Reduce, Recharge, Recycle, and Reuse. This comprehensive approach has enabled the institution to establish a campus-wide water stewardship system aimed at conserving water resources and ensuring long-term environmental sustainability.

KL University has invested significantly in advanced infrastructure and real-time monitoring systems to achieve measurable environmental outcomes. One of the key features of its initiative is a wastewater recycling system with a capacity of 2,080 KLD (kilolitres per day). This facility helps meet more than 54 percent of the university's water require-

ments, significantly reducing dependence on external water sources.

The wastewater treatment facility utilizes advanced technologies such as Moving Bed Biofilm Reactor (MBBR) and ORBIT systems, which have improved water recovery efficiency from 53 percent to 74 percent. These modern systems ensure effective purification and reuse of wastewater across the campus.

In addition, the university has established 32 rainwater harvesting pits with a recharge capacity of approximately 3.7 lakh litres per day, which plays a crucial role in improving groundwater sustainability. These measures have helped maintain ecological balance while ensuring adequate water

supply for campus activities.

Associate Dean for Planning and Development Dr. Kanneganti Jyotishya Brahmachari stated that the combination of real-time water monitoring and efficient irrigation systems has produced significant environmental benefits. As a result, building water consumption on the campus has been reduced by 54 percent, while landscape irrigation has achieved 42 percent savings. These initiatives have also helped maintain greenery across more than 10.6 lakh square feet of landscaped area.

The university leadership expressed pride in receiving the national award and emphasized their commitment to continuing sustainable practices. Vice-Chancellor Dr. Parthasaradhi Varma stated that the recognition motivates the institution to further strengthen its role in environmental stewardship and technological innovation in the water sector.

Senior officials including Pro Vice-Chancellors Dr. AVS Prasad, Dr. N. Venkat Ram, Dr. K. Rajasekhara Rao, and Registrar Dr. K. Subba Rao also participated in the event and congratulated the team for achieving this prestigious recognition. The award highlights KL University's growing reputation as a leader in sustainable campus development and water resource management in India.

Ensure Uninterrupted Drinking Water Supply in Vijayawada: Commissioner Dhyanaachandra

Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Commissioner of the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation, Dhyanaachandra, has directed officials to ensure that there are no disruptions in the drinking water supply across the city. The commissioner issued these instructions during a teleconference held with departmental heads and engineering officials on Thursday morning.

During the meeting, Dhyanaachandra stressed the importance of maintaining a consistent and reliable drinking water supply for residents of Vijayawada. He instructed officials at all levels—including amenity staff, assistant engineers, deputy engineers, executive engineers, supervising engineers, and the chief engineer—to conduct regular field inspections and closely monitor the distribution system.

The commissioner emphasized that officials must visit different areas every day and inspect water supply arrangements at the ground level. If any problems arise during water distribution, they should be identified immediately and resolved without delay so that the public does not face inconvenience. Dhyanaachandra said proactive monitoring and quick response from officials are essential to prevent small issues from turning into major problems.

He also directed that water quality tests must be conducted regularly in every locality when drinking water is supplied to households. This step, he said, will help ensure that the water reaching citizens is safe and suitable for consumption. Special attention should be given to hilly areas and elevated regions where water supply often faces technical challenges. Officials were asked to take necessary measures to ensure uninterrupted supply in such areas.

During the teleconference, the commissioner raised concerns



about complaints received from citizens regarding discoloured water. Responding to the issue, the in-charge chief engineer explained that algae formation in the Krishna River, which is a major water source for the city, has led to additional chlorination of the water supply. As a result, the colour of the water may change temporarily due to the increased chlorination process.

However, Dhyanaachandra instructed officials to remain vigilant and ensure that public concerns are addressed promptly. He emphasized that residents should not face difficulties due to drinking water issues and that complaints from the public must be resolved quickly and effectively.

The commissioner concluded by stating that uninterrupted and safe drinking water supply remains one of the top priorities of the municipal administration. He urged all engineering and field staff to work with responsibility and dedication to ensure that the citizens of Vijayawada receive clean and adequate drinking water every day.

₹ 67.69 Crore to Be Credited to Farmers' Accounts Under Annadata Sukhibhava—PM Kisan Scheme



Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi-sha announced that funds under the Annadata Sukhibhava—PM Kisan scheme will be released to eligible farmers on March 13. As part of the third installment of the scheme, a total amount of ₹67.69 crore will be credited to the bank accounts of farmers in NTR district.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the Collector said the government is implementing the Annadata Sukhibhava—PM Kisan scheme with the objective of ensuring the welfare and financial stability of farmers. Under the third installment of the scheme, 1,18,629 farmers in the district will receive financial assistance of ₹4,000 each under the Annadata Sukhibhava component. This will amount to a total of 47.45 crore being credited to beneficiaries.

In addition, under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi, 1,01,200 farmers in the district will receive ₹2,000 each, totaling ₹20.24 crore. Together, these two components will ensure that farmers receive financial assistance of ₹67.69 crore in the district.

The Collector explained that the financial assistance provided under the Annadata Sukhibhava—PM Kisan scheme plays a crucial role in strengthening the agricultural sector and improving the economic stability of farmers. By providing timely investment support before the cultivation season, the scheme helps farmers meet expenses related to seeds, fertilizers, and other ag-

ricultural inputs. The government is also taking several steps to support farmers by reducing financial burdens and ensuring fair returns for agricultural produce. Along with financial assistance, efforts are being made to ensure that farmers receive minimum support prices for their crops and are able to continue agricultural activities without excessive debt.

Under the scheme, farmer families who own cultivable agricultural land are eligible to receive the benefits, regardless of the extent of their landholding. In addition, farmers cultivating land recognized under the Recognition of Forest Rights (RoFR) are also eligible to receive financial support.

The Collector further explained that under the combined Annadata Sukhibhava—PM Kisan scheme, farmers receive ₹20,000 annually as financial assistance. Out of this amount, the Central Government provides ₹6,000 per year through the PM-Kisan scheme in three installments, while the State Government provides ₹14,000 per year under the Annadata Sukhibhava initiative.

Dr. Lakshmi-sha urged farmers to utilize the funds responsibly for agricultural activities and investment needs. He also stated that programmes related to the crediting of funds will be conducted in all constituencies of the district under the supervision of the Agriculture Department to ensure smooth implementation of the scheme and maximum benefit to farmers.

Grand Arrangements Planned for Vasantha Navaratri and Ugadi Celebrations at Kanaka Durga Temple

Amaravathi 12 .03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Elaborate arrangements are being made for the upcoming Vasantha Navaratri celebrations, Ugadi festivities, and Sri Rama Navami events at the famous Kanaka Durga Temple situated on the sacred Indrakeeladri Hill. Temple authorities have decided to conduct the celebrations in a grand and well-organized manner to accommodate thousands of devotees expected to visit during the festive period.

The festival celebrations will be held from March 19 to March 28, 2026, marking the auspicious Sri Parabhava Nama Samvatsara Vasantha Navaratri along with Ugadi celebrations, Push-parchana rituals, Sri Sita Rama Kalyanam, and Sri Rama Patbhishhekam. Temple Executive Officer VK Seena Nayak directed officials of all departments to ensure smooth arrangements and proper coordination for the festivities.

A review meeting was conducted on Thursday morning by the temple authorities to discuss preparations. The meeting was jointly chaired by Temple Chairman Borra Radhakrishna, popularly known as Gandhi, along with Executive Officer



VK Seena Nayak. During the meeting, they instructed the staff and department heads to take necessary steps to ensure that the celebrations are conducted with traditional grandeur and proper facilities for devotees.

Special focus was placed on arrangements for Ugadi, the Telugu New Year, which will be celebrated with great devotion at the temple. The temple management has planned the traditional Panchanga Sravanam, where the new year's astrological predictions will be read out to devotees. In addition, the evening will witness the grand Silver Chariot Procession

(Vendi Rathotsavam), which is one of the major attractions of the festival. Authorities also instructed officials to make adequate arrangements for devotees participating in Push-parchana Arjitha Sevass, ensuring smooth ticketing and crowd management.

Temple authorities also reviewed the preparations for the Chaitra Masa Kalyana Brahmotsavams, which will be held from March 29 to April 5, 2026, following the completion of Vasantha Navaratri celebrations. Officials were instructed to prepare a detailed plan for the daily Vahana Sevass, which form an important

part of the Brahmotsavam rituals. The Engineering and Festival departments were asked to introduce innovative arrangements this year to enhance the spiritual experience for devotees.

Particular attention was given to the final day event of the Brahmotsavams, the Nadi Viharam (river procession), which is a unique and visually captivating ritual. Authorities emphasized the need for careful planning and safety measures to ensure the successful conduct of this event.

The review meeting was attended by several temple officials and members of the Vedic committee, including Kota Prasad, V. Shiva Prasad Sharma, V. Sridhar Sharma, Assistant Commissioner CH Rangarao, AEOs BV Reddy, P. Chandrasekhar, K. Gangadhar, and Executive Engineer L. Rama.

Temple authorities expressed confidence that with coordinated efforts from all departments, the upcoming festivals will be conducted smoothly and will provide a spiritually fulfilling experience for devotees visiting the temple during this sacred period.

CPM Padayatra Crosses 350 km; Leaders Raise Drinking Water Concerns in Godavari Region

Narsapuram 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The district-level public awareness padayatra organized by Communist Party of India (Marxist) continued for the 15th day on Thursday, covering several villages before reaching Narsapuram. The march, which aims to highlight public issues and mobilize people, has now completed 350 kilometers, according to party leaders.

Speaking on the occasion, CPM district secretary J. N. V. Gopalan said the party would intensify its struggle for people's rights inspired by the sacrifices of the martyrs of Chinchinada. He stated that the spirit of the Chinchinada martyrs continues to inspire movements aimed at addressing the problems faced by the common people.

The day's padayatra began in Chinchinada, where a symbolic programme was organized to mark the completion of 350 kilometers of the march. As part of the event, J.N.V. Gopalan and Chinchinada struggle leader Ketha Surya Rao planted a sapling to commemorate the milestone. Later, residents of Arundhati Peta in Chinchinada welcomed the padayatra participants with enthusiasm.

During the visit, CPM leaders paid tributes to national leaders and martyrs by garlanding statues in the area. Party leaders including K. Kranti Babu offered floral tributes to B. R.



Ambedkar, while Ketha Surya Rao garlanded the statue of Babu Jagjivan Ram. CPM district secretary J.N.V. Gopalan paid homage to former sarpanch and martyr Rudraraju Suryanarayana Raju.

The padayatra continued through several villages including Vipparthivari Peta, Kalagampudi, Y.V.Lanka and Polavaram before reaching the Narsapuram mandal areas of Old Navarasapuram and New Navarasapuram. Senior CPM leaders in the villages such as Tenneti Sampath Rao, Thota Tatarao and Chellaboyina Umamaheswara Rao were also felicitated during the march.

Addressing the gathering, J.N.V. Gopalan said that at every

step of the padayatra, people were sharing their problems with the party leaders. One of the major issues highlighted by residents was the lack of drinking water, even in areas located along the banks of the Godavari River. Villagers expressed concern that despite living close to such a large river, they still struggle to access safe drinking water.

Gopalan criticized the government for failing to address these issues and questioned whether the authorities were paying adequate attention to rural problems. Referring to Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, he said that although he represents the region and also holds responsibilities related to

rural development, the persistent drinking water problems in villages remain unresolved.

He further stated that apart from drinking water shortages, villagers are also facing issues such as poor drainage systems and mosquito-related health problems. CPM leaders asserted that the party would continue its struggle and strengthen its movement to ensure that these public issues receive proper attention from the authorities.

Several CPM district and local leaders, party members and activists participated in the padayatra and extended their support to the ongoing campaign aimed at raising awareness about public grievances across the district.

Advanced Gastro Medical Services for Godavari Region: Dr. Kona Lakshmi Kumari



Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Advanced gastrointestinal (GI) medical services will soon be made more accessible to people in the Godavari region through a special consultation program organized by Yashoda Hospitals. The initiative aims to provide expert medical guidance and advanced treatment options locally, reducing the need for patients to travel long distances for specialized care.

Speaking at a media conference held at Hotel Manjeera in Rajamahendravaram, Dr. Kona Lakshmi Kumari, Consultant Surgical Gastroenterologist, Minimal Access and Robotic GI Surgeon, and Metabolic Bariatric Surgeon at Yashoda Hospitals, Somajiguda, Hyderabad, explained the details of the program. She said the primary objective is to bring super-specialty gastroenterology services closer to patients in the Godavari districts.

Dr. Lakshmi Kumari noted that many patients from the region currently travel to Hyderabad for expert consultations, complex surgeries, and post-operative follow-ups. Through this consultation initiative, patients will be able to receive specialized advice and guidance from experts without having to travel far. She said the program will also help patients undergoing treatment receive regular follow-up care more conveniently.

The services offered through the program include expert consultations for advanced robotic and minimal access gastrointestinal surgeries, which are widely used for treating complex digestive system disorders. In addition, patients suffering from obesity and Type-2 diabetes will be able to seek advice on bariatric and metabolic surgeries, which are considered effective treatments for

weight management and diabetes control.

Dr. Lakshmi Kumari said the consultations will also cover treatments related to hernia and abdominal wall repair, colorectal surgeries, and surgical procedures involving the gallbladder, pancreas, and upper gastrointestinal tract. Patients suffering from conditions such as hernia, gallbladder disorders, acid reflux disease, achalasia cardia, colorectal diseases, and pancreatic disorders can benefit from these services.

She further explained that modern treatment methods such as advanced laparoscopic surgery and robotic surgery allow doctors to perform complex procedures using smaller incisions. These minimally invasive techniques help patients recover faster, experience less pain, and achieve better overall outcomes compared to conventional surgical methods.

Dr. Lakshmi Kumari added that advanced bariatric procedures such as sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass surgery will also be discussed with patients who require surgical treatment for obesity and metabolic disorders. In addition, complex abdominal wall reconstruction procedures will be available for patients with severe abdominal conditions.

Considering that many patients from the Godavari region travel to Hyderabad for advanced GI surgeries, this consultation program centered in Rajamahendravaram will make expert medical services more accessible to people from both East and West Godavari districts, she said.

AP Marketing Manager (Corporate Relations) Nallam Bala Veerabhadra, Assistant Manager M.D. Sharif, Executive Chaitanya, and others were also present at the media meeting.

20 Years Rigorous Imprisonment for Accused in POCSO Case in Vizianagaram

Vizianagaram 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

A special POCSO court in Vizianagaram district has sentenced an accused to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for cheating and sexually exploiting a minor girl under the pretext of love and marriage. The court also imposed a fine of 12,000 and ordered 5 lakh compensation to be paid to the victim.

According to Vizianagaram District Superintendent of Police A.R. Damodar, the judgment was delivered by the Special Court for POCSO cases on March 12. The verdict was pronounced by Special Judge K. Nagamani.

The case was registered in September 2024 at Garividi Police Station. The accused, an 18-year-old youth from Kondapalem village in Garividi mandal, became acquainted with a 10th class student from Boppadam village in Nellimarla mandal. Police said he gained the trust of the girl by promising love and marriage.

Taking advantage of her trust, the accused allegedly took the girl to various places in the district and sexually exploited her multiple times. Police officials said he also secretly recorded videos without her knowledge and later sent those



videos to the girl's Instagram account.

The incident came to light when the girl's uncle checked her mobile phone and discovered the videos. After learning about the incident, the victim filed a complaint with the police.

Based on the complaint, Sub-Inspector B. Lokeshwara Rao of Garividi Police Station registered a case on September 25, 2024 under the POCSO Act. The investigation was later taken up by Cheepurupalli Deputy Su-

perintendent of Police S. Raghavulu, who collected evidence and produced the accused before the authorities.

During the investigation, the accused was taken into custody and produced before the Juvenile Justice Board. After completing the investigation, police filed a charge sheet before the POCSO Special Court.

During the trial, the prosecution presented strong evidence against the accused. Special Public Prosecutor S. Ramamurthy Naidu argued the case on

behalf of the police. After examining the evidence and hearing the arguments, the court found the accused guilty.

The court sentenced the accused to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of 12,000. In addition, the court ordered that 5 lakh compensation be provided to the victim. The accused has been shifted to the Juvenile Home in Visakhapatnam.

SP A.R. Damodar said strict action will be taken against those committing crimes against minor girls and women. He also revealed that in the last six months, convictions have been secured in 17 POCSO cases in Vizianagaram district.

He further stated that Vizianagaram district is currently leading in the state in terms of securing punishments in POCSO cases. The SP warned that anyone committing atrocities against minor girls and women will face strict legal action.

He also advised young girls to focus on their education and future and not to trust individuals who deceive them with false promises of love and marriage. He emphasized that the police department will continue to work firmly to ensure justice for victims and protect women and children.

Women Should Come Forward Boldly and Report Their Problems: Rayapati Sailaja

Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh State Women's Commission Chairperson Rayapati Sailaja said women should come forward with courage and report their problems so that authorities can help them get justice. She stated that the Mahila Jan Sunwai program is being conducted with the objective of providing quick justice and resolving women's grievances effectively.

Speaking to the media on Thursday after attending the Mahila Jan Sunwai program organized by the State Women's Commission at the R&B Guest House in Rajamahendravaram, Sailaja explained that the initiative aims to create a direct platform where women can share their issues with officials. She encouraged women not to remain silent about the problems they face and instead approach the Commission to seek help and support.

Sailaja said that the Mahila Jan Sunwai programs are being organized across the state from March 9 to March 13 as part of the celebrations marking Inter-



national Women's Day. As part of this initiative, meetings are being conducted in various districts to listen to women's grievances and ensure that their issues are addressed quickly.

She mentioned that similar programs had already been held in Nellore, Guntur, and Vijayawada, and the program conducted on Thursday was for the combined East Godavari district. The next Mahila Jan Sunwai program will be organized in Visakhapatnam on Friday, she added.

Rayapati Sailaja said the State Women's Commission has

been taking special steps to address women's problems and ensure that their complaints are resolved at the earliest. Officials review petitions received from women, discuss them with the victims directly, and coordinate with concerned departments to resolve the cases. If the issues are addressed satisfactorily, the cases are closed after verification.

According to her, the Commission has received complaints related to family disputes, harassment of women, workplace harassment, and property disputes. The Mahila

Jan Sunwai platform helps bring together officials from various departments so that women can receive quicker support and justice.

She further explained that the Commission is also working to improve services for women by introducing a dedicated website and QR code system for submitting complaints. Awareness is also being created about the Sakhi One Stop Centre toll-free helpline number 181, which provides assistance to women facing distress or violence.

Sailaja said the main objective of the program is to bring together the police department, judiciary, and women and child welfare department on a single platform to ensure prompt action and justice for women.

Officials including ICDS Project Director T. Sridevi, Kona-seema Additional SP Prasad, Kakinada SB DSP K.V. Satyanarayana, Rajamahendravaram Women Police Station CI Mangadevi, and other departmental officers participated in the program.

Former MP G.V. Harsha Kumar Calls for Honouring Poet Kusuma Dharmanna's Legacy



Amaravathi 12.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Amalapuram MP G.V. Harsha Kumar and leaders of various Dalit organizations have called upon people to remember and carry forward the ideals of great poet Kusuma Dharmanna, who fought tirelessly for the rights of Dalits and against untouchability and social discrimination. They urged people to participate in large numbers and make the 126th birth anniversary celebrations of Kusuma Dharmanna, scheduled to be held on March 17, a grand success.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Rajiv Gandhi College meeting hall on Thursday, Harsha Kumar said Kusuma Dharmanna was a courageous voice who raised his pen against the injustices faced by Dalits in society. Born in 1900, Dharmanna emerged as a powerful Dalit poet and social reformer who exposed the harsh realities of caste discrimination through his writings. Harsha Kumar stated that it is essential for all sections of society to unite and continue the struggle for Dalit rights by drawing inspiration from Dharmanna's life and works.

He said Dharmanna wrote several impactful literary works such as Makoddi Nalladoratanam, Harijana Satakam, and Malakaki, which highlighted the oppression faced by marginalized communities. Through his publication "Jaibheri", he brought the grievances of Dalits to the forefront of public discussion. Apart from being a poet and social reformer, Dharmanna also complet-

ed a Vaidya Vidwan course and provided medical services to many people.

Harsha Kumar also noted that Kusuma Dharmanna was a multi-lingual scholar who had command over Telugu, Hindi, English, and Sanskrit. He further said Dharmanna played a key role in bringing Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to Rajahmundry and also influenced Mahatma Gandhi to participate in a community meal there. Dharmanna strongly opposed caste discrimination and once led Dalits into the Pandiri Mahadeva temple in protest against restrictions on their entry. According to Harsha Kumar, Dharmanna passed away in 1946 after consuming prasadam offered at the temple.

The leaders demanded that a bronze statue of Kusuma Dharmanna be installed on the banks of the Godavari River in Rajahmundry. They also urged authorities to name the road from Devi Chowk to the Ambedkar statue at Gokavaram Bus Stand after Dharmanna, and the road from the Ambedkar statue to Pushkar Ghat after Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

Speakers at the meeting emphasized the need to introduce the contributions of great reformers like Kusuma Dharmanna and Boyi Bhimanna to the younger generation. Dalit leaders, social activists, and supporters also appealed to the public to attend the birth anniversary event on March 17 at Prakruti Vedika auditorium near Fourth Bridge Highway Road and make it a successful gathering.

Trump, Netanyahu and the Iran War: A Strategic Gamble Turning Risky

The ongoing confrontation involving Iran, Israel, and the United States has sparked a crucial debate in global politics: is former U.S. President Donald Trump beginning to question the wisdom of supporting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's aggressive strategy against Iran? What initially appeared to be a swift and decisive military campaign is increasingly turning into a complicated and potentially costly conflict with uncertain consequences.

A War Born from Strategic Calculations

The roots of the conflict lie in a series of political and strategic calculations made by leaders in Washington and Tel Aviv. In recent months, internal protests and political unrest within Iran created an impression among some international observers that the Iranian government was vulnerable. Israeli leadership believed that this moment provided a rare opportunity to significantly weaken Iran's political and military establishment.

Prime Minister Netanyahu has long regarded Iran as Israel's most serious security threat. Concerns over Iran's nuclear ambitions, missile capabilities, and its support for militant groups across the Middle East have shaped Israel's security doctrine for decades. From Israel's perspective, confronting Iran directly could potentially eliminate or significantly weaken this long-standing threat.

Donald Trump, who has often favored bold and direct approaches in foreign policy, appeared willing to support Israel's position. The belief among supporters of the strategy was that strong military pressure could weaken Iran's leadership, encourage internal unrest, and possibly trigger political change within the country.

With these assumptions in mind, the United States and Israel launched a series of coordinated military strikes targeting Iran's military installations, missile systems,

and strategic infrastructure. The campaign was presented as a limited but powerful operation intended to dismantle Iran's military capabilities and force its leadership into submission.

Iran's Unexpected Resilience

However, the conflict did not unfold exactly as expected. Instead of collapsing under the pressure of military strikes, Iran responded with force. Iranian missile and drone attacks targeted various strategic locations in the region, including military installations and shipping routes. These retaliatory strikes demonstrated that Iran still possessed significant military capabilities despite the initial attacks.

More importantly, the expectation that Iranian society would quickly turn against its leadership has not materialized in the way some strategists predicted. While many Iranians have expressed dissatisfaction with their government over economic and political issues, foreign military attacks often produce a different reaction. External threats can create a sense of national unity, strengthening support for the country's leadership rather than weakening it.

As a result, the Iranian government has managed to maintain its authority and project defiance in the face of military pressure. Instead of showing signs of immediate collapse, the leadership has vowed to continue resisting external intervention and defend the country's sovereignty.

Different Political Incentives

The war also reflects different political calculations in Israel and the United States. For Netanyahu, confrontation with Iran aligns with long-standing national security priorities. Israeli leaders have consistently warned about Iran's growing regional influence and potential nuclear capabilities. A conflict with Iran reinforces Israel's

argument that it faces a major existential threat that requires decisive action.

Domestic politics may also play a role in shaping Israel's approach. During times of war or national security crises, political leaders often gain greater public support as the country rallies behind its government. In such circumstances, internal political disputes can temporarily fade into the background.

The situation is somewhat different for the United States. While Washington initially presented the operation as swift and decisive, the financial and strategic costs of the conflict are becoming increasingly evident. Military campaigns involving advanced weapons systems, logistics, and regional deployments are extremely expensive. If the conflict continues for an extended period, the financial burden on the United States could grow significantly.

The Problem of an Unclear Endgame

One of the most significant challenges facing the U.S.-Israel strategy is the lack of a clearly defined long-term objective. Military strikes can damage infrastructure and weaken an opponent's capabilities, but they do not automatically produce political change.

If the ultimate goal of the campaign is to force regime change in Iran, that objective raises difficult questions. Removing or weakening a government is only the first step in a much larger and more complicated process. Without a detailed plan for what comes afterward, such strategies can create instability rather than lasting solutions.

History has shown that military victories do not always translate into political success. Even if Iran's military infrastructure suffers heavy damage, the country's leadership could survive and eventually rebuild its capabilities. In that case, the conflict might achieve only temporary gains while creating



long-term tensions.

Economic and Global Consequences

The conflict also has broader implications for the global economy. The Middle East remains one of the world's most important energy-producing regions, and any large-scale military confrontation there can disrupt global oil markets. Even the possibility of escalation can cause sharp fluctuations in energy prices.

Higher oil prices affect economies across the world, increasing transportation costs, raising inflation, and slowing economic growth. For the United States and its allies, these economic consequences could become a major concern if the conflict drags on.

Additionally, prolonged instability in the region can affect international trade routes and create uncertainty in global financial markets.

Trump's Public Confidence

Despite these growing complications, Donald Trump has publicly maintained a tone of confidence regarding the military cam-

paign. He has suggested that the operation has significantly weakened Iran's strategic capabilities and that the conflict may not last long.

Trump has also emphasized the close coordination between the United States and Israel, highlighting the strong relationship between his administration and Netanyahu's government. Public statements from both sides stress unity and determination to achieve their objectives.

However, political observers note that leaders often express confidence during military conflicts even when uncertainties remain behind the scenes. Governments typically seek to project strength and stability in order to maintain domestic and international support.

The Risk of Regional Escalation

Another major concern is the possibility that the conflict could expand beyond the immediate confrontation between Iran and Israel. Iran maintains relationships with various political groups and militias across the Middle East. These net-

works could potentially become involved in the conflict, widening the scope of the war.

If additional actors enter the conflict, the situation could become far more complex and difficult to control. Regional escalation might draw in other countries, disrupt shipping lanes, and create long-term instability throughout the Middle East.

Such a scenario would significantly increase the strategic and economic costs of the war for all parties involved.

A Strategic Gamble

Ultimately, the confrontation between Iran, Israel, and the United States represents a high-stakes strategic gamble. Supporters of the military campaign argue that decisive action is necessary to prevent Iran from expanding its influence and developing stronger military capabilities.

Critics, however, warn that military solutions alone rarely resolve deep political conflicts. Without a clear diplomatic pathway or long-term strategy, the war could evolve into a prolonged struggle with unpredictable

consequences.

For Netanyahu, maintaining pressure on Iran may reinforce Israel's security priorities and political narrative. For Trump, however, the calculation may be more complicated. American leaders must consider not only military outcomes but also economic costs, public opinion, and global stability.

Conclusion

The unfolding conflict demonstrates how quickly strategic assumptions can be tested in real-world situations. What began as a military campaign intended to weaken Iran rapidly has instead developed into a complex geopolitical struggle with uncertain outcomes.

While both Trump and Netanyahu continue to project confidence in their strategy, the long-term consequences of the conflict remain unclear. If the war continues or expands, the initial decision to pursue aggressive military action could ultimately be judged either as a bold strategic move—or as a risky miscalculation with far-reaching consequences.

LPG Crisis Amid the Iran War: Will Your Piped Gas Supply Be Affected?

The ongoing conflict involving the United States, Israel, and Iran has triggered a global energy shock that is being felt far beyond the battlefield. One of the most immediate consequences has been disruptions in the supply of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), a fuel used by millions of households and businesses for cooking and heating. In India, the emerging LPG shortage has raised an important question for consumers: will the crisis also affect piped natural gas (PNG) supplies used in many urban homes?

How the War Disrupted Energy Supplies

The root of the current LPG crisis lies in disruptions to global energy trade routes in the Middle East. One of the most critical routes is the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow waterway through which a large share of the world's oil and gas shipments pass. When tensions rise in this region, shipping becomes risky and energy supplies can slow down.

The conflict has created uncertainty for shipping companies transporting fuel across the Gulf. Some vessels have avoided the area due to security risks, while others have faced delays. This disruption has reduced the flow of LPG shipments and pushed global energy prices higher.

Countries that depend heavily on imported fuel, including India, are particularly sensitive to such changes. When global shipments slow down, the effects quickly spread through domestic markets, leading to shortages and higher prices.

The Growing LPG Shortage India relies heavily on LPG

cylinders for household cooking. Hundreds of millions of homes use LPG as their primary cooking fuel, making it one of the most important energy sources for daily life.

As global supplies tighten due to the conflict, the availability of LPG cylinders has started to decline in several regions. Commercial users such as restaurants, hotels, and catering services have reported difficulty obtaining enough cylinders to run their operations.

In some cities, eateries have even been forced to return temporarily to traditional cooking fuels like firewood or coal in order to keep their kitchens running. Such developments highlight how quickly international geopolitical tensions can affect everyday life in distant countries.

To manage the situation, authorities have begun prioritizing household LPG consumption over commercial demand. The aim is to ensure that families continue to have access to cooking fuel even if supplies remain limited.

Why Piped Gas Is Less Vulnerable

Despite the pressure on LPG supplies, piped natural gas (PNG) networks in many Indian cities have remained relatively stable so far. The reason lies in the fundamental differences between how LPG and PNG are delivered to consumers.

LPG is typically supplied through cylinders that must be transported through a long distribution chain involving international imports, shipping routes, storage facilities, and road transport. If any part of this chain is disrupted, deliveries can be delayed or reduced.



PNG works differently. It is delivered directly to homes through underground pipeline networks that distribute gas continuously from supply points to households. Once the pipeline infrastructure is established, gas flows steadily without the need for cylinder deliveries.

This makes piped gas systems less vulnerable to short-term disruptions in international shipping or transportation.

India's Natural Gas Supply System

India meets its natural gas demand through a combination of domestic production and imports. A portion of the gas used in the country is produced within India, while the rest is imported from international suppliers.

The imported gas typically

arrives as liquefied natural gas (LNG) at specialized terminals, where it is converted back into gas and distributed through pipelines. These pipelines connect to city gas networks that supply homes, industries, and businesses.

Because the gas already flows through established infrastructure within the country, consumers using PNG may not immediately feel the effects of international shipping disruptions.

Potential Risks to Piped Gas

Although piped gas supplies are currently more stable than LPG cylinders, they are not completely immune to global events. If the conflict continues for a long time or escalates further, broader disruptions in the natural gas market could eventually occur.

One possible risk is damage

or disruption to energy infrastructure in the Middle East. If gas production facilities or export terminals are affected by the conflict, global supply could decline.

Another concern involves shipping routes used to transport liquefied natural gas to importing countries. If tanker movement becomes unsafe or heavily restricted, imports could be delayed.

Finally, even if supplies remain stable, global price increases may eventually raise the cost of natural gas for consumers.

A Possible Shift Toward Piped Gas

Ironically, the current LPG shortage could encourage more households to shift toward piped natural gas where it is available. Many energy experts have long argued that

PNG is a cleaner, safer, and more reliable alternative to cylinder-based cooking fuel.

One major advantage is convenience. With piped gas, households no longer need to wait for cylinder deliveries or worry about running out of fuel unexpectedly. The gas flows continuously through pipelines, ensuring a steady supply.

PNG is also considered environmentally friendlier compared to traditional fuels. It produces fewer emissions and burns more efficiently, making it an attractive option in cities trying to reduce pollution.

As the LPG crisis highlights the vulnerability of cylinder-based supply chains, urban households may increasingly consider switching to piped gas connections.

Government Response and Long-Term Planning

The Indian government has been taking steps to manage the current situation and reduce future risks. Authorities are encouraging energy companies to increase domestic production and ensure that household LPG demand is met.

At the same time, long-term plans are focusing on expanding the city gas distribution network to more cities and towns across the country. By increasing the reach of pipeline infrastructure, policymakers aim to create a more reliable and resilient energy system.

Expanding PNG networks can also reduce dependence on imported LPG, which is more vulnerable to geopolitical tensions and global market disruptions.

Lessons From the Crisis

The current LPG shortage

demonstrates how closely connected global energy systems have become. A conflict taking place thousands of kilometers away can quickly influence fuel supplies and prices in countries across the world.

It also shows the importance of energy diversification. Countries that rely on a single type of fuel or a limited number of supply routes are more exposed to international crises.

By investing in multiple energy sources and expanding domestic infrastructure, governments can reduce the risk of similar disruptions in the future.

Conclusion

The ongoing conflict in the Middle East has created a ripple effect across global energy markets, leading to disruptions in LPG supplies in several countries, including India. While the availability of LPG cylinders has tightened due to shipping disruptions and rising prices, piped natural gas systems have remained relatively stable for now.

However, the situation is still evolving. If the conflict continues or expands, even natural gas markets could eventually feel the impact. For the moment, households connected to piped gas networks appear better protected from the immediate effects of the LPG shortage.

In the long run, the crisis may strengthen the case for expanding piped gas infrastructure and reducing dependence on cylinder-based fuel systems. Such changes could make India's energy supply more secure and resilient in an increasingly uncertain global environment.

No Fuel Shortage in India Despite West Asia Crisis, Says Hardeep Puri in Lok Sabha

Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri told the Lok Sabha that India currently faces no shortage of petrol, diesel, LPG, or other petroleum products, despite the ongoing crisis in West Asia and disruptions to global energy supply routes.

The minister made the statement while addressing concerns over the impact of the conflict involving Iran, Israel, and the United States, which has significantly affected shipping through the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz.

Strait of Hormuz Disruption Raises Global Concerns

Puri told Parliament that the world is currently facing an unprecedented energy disruption after shipping activity through the Strait of Hormuz was severely affected during the conflict. Around 20% of the world's crude oil, natural gas, and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) normally passes through this narrow waterway connecting the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea.

The ongoing conflict has made the route extremely risky for commercial shipping, leading to a sharp decline in tanker traffic and causing anxiety in global energy markets.



Government Assures Stable Fuel Supplies

Despite the global uncertainty, Puri assured lawmakers that India's energy supplies remain secure. He said the government has taken multiple measures to ensure uninterrupted availability of petroleum products across the country.

According to the minister, India has adequate stocks of crude oil and fuel and has diversified its import sources over the years. These steps have helped reduce the country's vulnerability to disruptions in any single region.

The government is also closely monitoring international developments and coordinating with energy companies and shipping operators to

maintain stable supply chains. Steps to Protect LPG Availability

Addressing concerns about cooking gas availability, Puri said there is no shortage of LPG cylinders in the country. However, the government has taken precautionary steps to ensure that household consumption is prioritised.

Officials have directed refineries to maximise LPG production and ensure that domestic supply remains stable even if imports face delays due to geopolitical tensions.

India Navigating a Global Energy Crisis

The minister acknowledged that the current situation is

one of the most challenging moments in modern energy markets. The crisis has disrupted global supply chains and pushed up oil prices in international markets.

Countries that depend heavily on Middle Eastern energy supplies have been particularly affected by the disruption.

Call for Unity During the Crisis

Puri urged political leaders and citizens to avoid spreading rumours about fuel shortages. He said India's institutions and energy sector workers are actively managing the situation to safeguard the country's energy security.

He also stressed that India must remain united and focused on protecting national interests during this period of global uncertainty.

Situation Remains Under Watch

While India currently has sufficient fuel supplies, the government continues to closely track developments in West Asia. Any further escalation in the conflict could affect global energy markets and shipping routes.

For now, officials say the country is well prepared to manage the challenges and ensure that households and businesses continue to receive uninterrupted fuel supplies.

Saudi Oil Tanker Reaches Mumbai Amid Iran-Israel-US War Tensions



A major oil tanker carrying Saudi crude oil has successfully reached Mumbai, becoming one of the first vessels to arrive in India after navigating the tense waters of the Strait of Hormuz during the ongoing conflict involving Iran, Israel, and the United States. The arrival of the tanker Shenlong (Suezmax oil tanker) has provided some reassurance about the continuity of India's energy supplies despite escalating regional tensions.

First Tanker to Reach India After Escalation

The Shenlong, a large Suezmax-class tanker capable of carrying around one million barrels of crude oil, sailed from Ras Tanura Port in Saudi Arabia and successfully crossed the Strait of Hormuz before docking in Mumbai.

Its arrival is significant because the Strait of Hormuz has become a highly sensitive maritime route since the conflict intensified. Military tensions and attacks on vessels have raised concerns about the safety of ships transporting oil from the Gulf region to global markets.

Diplomatic Talks Over Energy Security

India has been closely monitoring the situation because a large share of its

crude oil imports passes through the Strait of Hormuz. Amid the tensions, S. Jaishankar, India's External Affairs Minister, has been in contact with Abbas Araghchi, the Foreign Minister of Iran.

Their discussions have focused on maritime security, the safety of commercial shipping, and ensuring stable energy supplies for India during the ongoing conflict.

Strait of Hormuz: A Critical Energy Route

The Strait of Hormuz remains one of the world's most important energy chokepoints. A large share of global oil shipments travels through this narrow waterway connecting the Persian Gulf with the Arabian Sea.

For India, the route is especially crucial since a significant portion of the country's crude oil imports comes from Gulf producers such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and the United Arab Emirates. Any disruption along this corridor can affect global oil prices and energy supply chains.

Impact of the Ongoing Conflict

The current crisis escalated after military strikes involving the United States and Israel against Iranian targets. In response, Iran launched missile and drone

attacks across parts of the region and increased pressure on shipping routes in the Gulf.

These developments have created volatility in global oil markets and heightened fears about potential supply disruptions.

India's Response

Despite the risks, Indian authorities have sought to reassure the public that the country has sufficient oil reserves to handle short-term disruptions. Officials say the government is closely monitoring developments in the region and is prepared to take necessary steps to maintain stable energy supplies.

A Positive Sign for Energy Supplies

The arrival of the Shenlong tanker in Mumbai is being seen as a positive signal that oil shipments to India can still continue despite the tensions in the Middle East. However, experts caution that the situation remains uncertain and further escalation in the conflict could pose additional risks to maritime trade.

For now, the successful journey highlights the importance of secure shipping routes and diplomatic engagement in maintaining the flow of energy supplies to major importing countries like India.

"Real Kerala Story Is Our Communal Harmony," Says Pinarayi Vijayan

Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala, said the "real Kerala story" lies in the state's long tradition of communal harmony and social progress, rejecting attempts to portray the state negatively through what he described as politically motivated narratives.

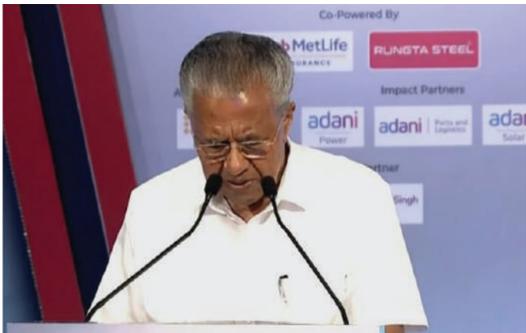
Speaking at the NDTV Kerala Power Play Summit, Vijayan criticised campaigns that he believes try to misrepresent Kerala ahead of the upcoming elections. Referring to controversies surrounding the film *The Kerala Story* and discussions around similar narratives, he said such portrayals spread misinformation about the state.

According to the chief minister, Kerala's true identity is defined by peaceful coexistence among communities and a long-standing commitment to inclusive development.

Emphasis on Social Harmony

Vijayan stressed that Kerala has always been known for strong religious harmony and social unity. He said the state's development model has been built on these values and highlighted initiatives aimed at poverty reduction and improving education and healthcare.

He argued that critics often focus on isolated incidents



while ignoring the broader achievements of the state. In his view, Kerala's success lies in building a society where people from different religions and social backgrounds live together peacefully.

Development Initiatives Highlighted

During the discussion, Vijayan also outlined several infrastructure and development projects undertaken by the state government led by the Left Democratic Front.

He mentioned major infrastructure improvements, including highway development and the completion of a 450-kilometre gas pipeline project. According to him, the state government played a crucial role in pushing these projects

forward and ensuring their completion.

The chief minister said these initiatives have helped attract investment and strengthen the state's economic prospects. He also highlighted improvements in key social indicators such as education, healthcare services and infant mortality rates.

Remarks on Centre-State Relations

Vijayan also discussed Kerala's relationship with the central government, suggesting that the state has not always received adequate support during times of crisis. He referred to the devastating floods that struck Kerala in 2018 and said the state had expected greater assistance during the disaster.

Despite these concerns, he said the Kerala government continues to focus on cooperation with the Centre while working to advance development within the state.

Concerns Over West Asia Conflict

The chief minister also expressed concern about the ongoing conflict involving Iran, Israel and the United States, noting that it could have economic consequences for India.

He pointed out that thousands of Indians working in the Gulf region come from Kerala and said the situation could affect their safety as well as economic stability in the region. He also warned that disruptions in the Middle East could influence global energy prices.

"Real Kerala Story"

Reiterating his main message, Vijayan said Kerala's identity cannot be reduced to controversial narratives or political campaigns. Instead, he described the state as an example of communal harmony, social welfare and inclusive growth.

According to him, these values represent the true "Kerala story" — one built on unity, development and shared progress among its people.

Rahul Gandhi Says India's Energy Security 'Compromised', Criticises Government in Lok Sabha

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Thursday alleged that India's energy security has been compromised, warning that the country could face serious challenges due to disruptions in global fuel supplies amid the ongoing West Asia crisis.

Speaking in Parliament, Gandhi expressed concern over the impact of the conflict involving Iran, Israel and the United States, particularly on energy routes that are crucial for India's oil and gas imports.

Warning of a Potential Energy Crisis

Gandhi said energy security forms the foundation of any nation's economic stability. According to him, recent geopolitical developments in West Asia could significantly affect India's ability to secure stable fuel supplies.

He warned that the disruption of shipping routes, especially through the Strait of Hormuz, could lead to major problems for the country. The narrow waterway is one of the most important global energy corridors and a large share of the world's oil and gas passes through it.

Highlighting India's heavy



dependence on imported energy, Gandhi said the ongoing conflict could trigger rising fuel prices and supply disruptions, affecting households and industries across the country.

Criticism of Government's Foreign Policy

The Congress leader also criticised the government's foreign policy approach, claiming it had weakened India's ability to independently decide its energy partnerships. He alleged that India had effectively given up its freedom to determine relationships with different oil suppliers.

According to Gandhi, this situation has made the coun-

try more vulnerable during global crises such as the current conflict in West Asia.

Claim of Being Denied Opportunity to Speak

Gandhi further claimed that he was initially not allowed to speak in the Lok Sabha on the issue. He argued that the matter was extremely important and deserved a full discussion in Parliament.

Opposition parties have been demanding a detailed debate on the West Asia conflict and its possible impact on India's fuel supplies, economic stability, and the safety of Indians living in the region.

Government's Position

While the opposition raised concerns about energy security, the government has maintained that India's fuel supplies remain stable despite the crisis. Officials have said that the country has adequate reserves of crude oil, LPG and other petroleum products and is closely monitoring the situation.

Authorities have also been coordinating with international partners to ensure the safe movement of energy shipments through key maritime routes.

Growing Political Debate

The issue has now become a major point of political debate during the ongoing Parliament session. The opposition has warned of potential fuel shortages and economic consequences, while the government has repeatedly assured that India's energy supplies remain secure.

As the conflict in West Asia continues to evolve, both sides agree on one point — the developments in the region could have far-reaching implications for global energy markets and for countries like India that rely heavily on imported oil and gas.

R. N. Ravi Sworn In as West Bengal Governor, Exchanges Greetings with Mamata Banerjee



R. N. Ravi was sworn in as the 22nd Governor of West Bengal at a ceremony held at Raj Bhavan, Kolkata. The oath of office was administered by Justice Sujoy Paul, Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, in the presence of several political leaders and senior officials.

Ceremony Attended by State Leadership

Among those present at the swearing-in ceremony was Mamata Banerjee, the Chief Minister of West Bengal. Ravi and Banerjee exchanged greetings during the event, marking a formal interaction between the state's constitutional head and the elected government.

Several other dignitaries also attended the ceremony, including Biman Banerjee, Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, and Firhad Hakim, the Mayor of Kolkata. Senior officials

from the state administration were also present.

The brief ceremony formally marked Ravi's assumption of office as the new governor of the state.

Appointment After Leadership Change

Ravi took charge following the resignation of C. V. Ananda Bose, who stepped down from the post earlier. The change in leadership at Raj Bhavan comes at a politically significant time for the state.

Experienced Administrator

Before assuming his new role in West Bengal, Ravi served as the Governor of Tamil Nadu and earlier as the Governor of Nagaland. A retired officer of the Indian Police Service from the 1976 batch, he has held several key positions in the country's security and administrative

establishment.

Ravi had also served as the Deputy National Security Advisor of India, giving him extensive experience in national security and governance matters.

Key Role Ahead of State Elections

His appointment comes as West Bengal prepares for the upcoming 2026 West Bengal Legislative Assembly election, expected later this year.

As governor, Ravi will play an important constitutional role in the functioning of the state government and in overseeing administrative processes during the election period.

With Ravi now officially taking charge, attention will turn to how the relationship between Raj Bhavan and the state government develops in the months ahead, especially as the state moves closer to the elections.

Why the Strait of Hormuz Is Crucial as US-Israel-Iran War Disrupts Global Oil Supply



The ongoing conflict involving the United States, Israel, and Iran has once again placed the Strait of Hormuz at the center of global attention. As tensions escalate in the Middle East, disruptions to shipping through this narrow waterway have raised concerns about global oil supply and rising energy prices.

A Vital Route for Global Energy

The Strait of Hormuz is a narrow maritime passage connecting the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. Despite its limited width—about 33 kilometres at its narrowest point—it is one of the most important energy transit routes in the world.

Every day, roughly one-fifth of the world's crude oil and petroleum products move through this strategic passage. Major oil-producing countries such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates depend heavily on this route to export crude oil to markets in Asia, Europe, and other parts of the world. Liquefied natural gas shipments, particularly from Qatar, also travel through this channel.

Because such a large portion of global energy trade

passes through this narrow corridor, any disruption can have immediate and widespread consequences.

Impact of the Current Conflict

The ongoing war between the United States, Israel, and Iran has created a tense security situation in and around the Strait of Hormuz. Military strikes, retaliatory actions, and threats of escalation have increased risks for commercial shipping in the region.

As a result, several shipping companies and oil tankers have become cautious about moving through the strait. Some vessels have delayed their journeys or remained anchored outside the conflict zone to avoid potential attacks.

This decline in tanker movement has disrupted the steady flow of oil and gas shipments from the Gulf region. The uncertainty has also contributed to volatility in global oil markets, with prices rising due to fears of supply shortages.

Limited Alternatives

One of the main reasons the Strait of Hormuz is so critical is that it is difficult to bypass. While a few Gulf countries have built pipelines that allow oil to

be transported to ports outside the strait, these pipelines can handle only a portion of the total production.

Most of the region's oil exports still depend on tankers traveling through the strait. This means that any prolonged disruption could significantly affect global energy supplies.

Impact on Global Markets

Disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz can quickly affect economies worldwide. When oil supply becomes uncertain, prices tend to rise sharply. Higher energy prices can increase transportation and manufacturing costs, contributing to inflation.

For countries that rely heavily on imported energy, the consequences can be particularly severe. Rising oil prices can lead to higher fuel costs, increased pressure on government budgets, and slower economic growth.

Implications for India

India is one of the world's largest importers of crude oil, and a significant portion of its oil supplies travels through the Strait of Hormuz. Any disruption in this route can therefore affect India's energy security.

Higher oil prices could increase the country's import bill and place pressure on the econo-

my. This could also lead to higher fuel prices domestically and contribute to inflation.

A Strategic Flashpoint

The Strait of Hormuz has long been considered a critical geopolitical hotspot. Over the years, Iran has occasionally warned that it could block or restrict shipping through the strait during times of conflict.

Such threats are taken seriously because of the strait's importance to the global energy system. Even the possibility of disruption can cause markets to react strongly.

Conclusion

The Strait of Hormuz plays a vital role in the global energy supply chain, acting as a gateway for oil and gas exports from the Middle East to the rest of the world. The ongoing conflict involving the United States, Israel, and Iran has disrupted shipping in the region and heightened concerns about energy security.

If tensions continue or escalate further, the impact on global oil markets could become even more significant. For energy-importing nations like India, developments in this narrow waterway will remain a key factor influencing fuel prices and economic stability.

Explosions Rock Dubai as Iran Intensifies Gulf Attacks on 13th Day of War

Loud explosions were reported in Dubai as the conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel entered its 13th day, signaling a widening of the war across the Gulf region. The blasts were heard in parts of downtown Dubai, including areas near the Burj Khalifa, raising alarm among residents and highlighting how the conflict is increasingly affecting countries beyond the original battlefield.

Drone Incident Triggers Explosion

Authorities confirmed that one of the explosions was linked to a drone crash in the Al Bada'a area of Dubai. Emergency services responded quickly to the incident, and officials reported that no injuries were recorded. The drone crash is believed to be connected to the broader wave of retaliatory attacks taking place across the Gulf region.

Witnesses described hearing a loud blast followed by the sight of smoke rising over a residential area. The explosions occurred during the daytime, increasing concern among residents and visitors in the city.

Conflict Expands

Beyond Iran and Israel

The blasts in Dubai reflect a growing escalation in the regional conflict. Since the war began, Iran has launched missile and drone attacks across several Gulf countries, particularly those hosting American military bases or sup-



porting Washington and Israel.

Cities such as Doha, Abu Dhabi, Manama, and Kuwait City have also reported air defence interceptions or explosions during the conflict. These incidents are widely seen as part of Iran's response to earlier military strikes carried out by the United States and Israel on Iranian targets.

Damage and Security Concerns

Although authorities confirmed that the latest drone crash in Dubai caused no casualties, earlier incidents linked to the conflict have caused damage to infrastructure in parts of the Gulf region. Air defence systems in several countries have intercepted missiles and drones, but falling debris has occasionally damaged buildings or vehicles.

In response, governments across the Gulf have tightened security measures. Increased military patrols, heightened air defence readiness, and temporary flight disruptions have been reported in multiple countries.

Rising Regional Tensions

The explosions in Dubai highlight how the conflict is gradually expanding beyond the original areas of confrontation. What began as a war involving Iran, Israel, and the United States is now affecting major Gulf cities that serve as key financial, tourism, and energy hubs.

Analysts warn that continued attacks across Gulf states could further destabilize the region. The Gulf is critical to global energy trade and international shipping routes, meaning prolonged conflict could have wider economic consequences.

A Region on Edge

As the war enters its second week, tensions across the Middle East remain extremely high. Governments in the region are on alert for further attacks, while global markets closely monitor developments.

The explosions in Dubai serve as a reminder that the conflict's impact is spreading beyond traditional battle zones, raising concerns about a broader regional escalation if hostilities continue.

US Denies Detention Claim of Sunny Naqvi at Chicago's O'Hare Airport



A controversy has emerged in the United States after the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rejected allegations that a U.S. citizen, Sundas "Sunny" Naqvi, was detained for more than 40 hours at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. The dispute has sparked debate about what exactly happened when Naqvi returned to the country after an overseas trip.

Family Alleges Prolonged Detention

Naqvi's family and legal representatives claimed that the 28-year-old was held for over a day after arriving at the airport. According to their account, immigration authorities stopped her and several colleagues during the arrival process and later transferred her to an immigration detention facility in Illinois and then to another facility in Wisconsin.

Family members said they were unable to contact her for several hours, which raised concerns about her whereabouts. They alleged that Naqvi was eventually released early in the morning and had to make her way back to a hotel before reuniting with her family.

The incident quickly drew attention on social media and among immigration advocates, who

questioned whether a U.S. citizen could have been mistakenly detained by immigration authorities.

DHS Rejects the Allegations

However, the Department of Homeland Security has strongly denied the claims. Officials described the allegations as "blatantly false," stating that official records and surveillance footage show that Naqvi was never detained for such an extended period.

According to DHS, Naqvi was referred to secondary inspection, which is a routine process at airports where travellers undergo additional screening or questioning. Authorities said she remained there briefly while officers conducted law-enforcement checks and examined her luggage.

Officials stated that she was released within about 90 minutes and was not taken into custody or transferred to any immigration detention facility.

The sharply different versions of events have created confusion and controversy. While Naqvi's family insists she was held for more than a day, federal officials say available evidence contradicts that claim. Authorities in Wisconsin have also indicated that they have no record of Naqvi being held in the detention facility where her family believed she had been taken.

The case has also sparked broader discussions about airport security and immigration procedures. At major international airports, passengers may sometimes be referred for additional checks if travel patterns or documentation trigger further scrutiny.

Debate Over Airport Screening

While such inspections are common, civil rights advocates say prolonged questioning or lack of communication with family members can create distress for travellers. Unresolved Questions

Naqvi has since returned home, but the dispute over what happened during her arrival at the airport remains unresolved. Federal authorities continue to maintain that standard procedures were followed and that no detention occurred.

The incident has prompted calls from some community leaders and advocacy groups for greater transparency in airport screening processes to avoid confusion and ensure travellers understand their rights and procedures during inspections.

Oil Prices Surge After Iran Attacks Ships; Global Powers Release Record Oil Reserves

Global oil markets have been shaken after Iran intensified attacks on commercial ships in the Gulf region, triggering a sharp spike in crude prices and raising fears of a major disruption in global energy supply. In response, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has announced a record release of emergency oil reserves in an attempt to stabilise markets and reduce supply concerns.

Rising Tensions Hit Global Oil Supply

The escalation in the conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel has led to multiple attacks on cargo vessels in the Gulf. Reports indicate that several ships have been targeted during the ongoing crisis, raising serious concerns about the safety of one of the world's most important energy shipping routes.

These attacks have disrupted the flow of oil through the Strait of Hormuz, a strategic maritime chokepoint that carries a large share of the world's crude oil supply. With shipping in the region under threat, energy markets have reacted strongly, pushing crude oil prices higher and creating volatility in global financial markets.

Analysts warn that continued disruption in this route could lead to a significant reduction in global oil supplies.

Oil Prices Jump Amid Supply Fears

The uncertainty caused by the attacks has already pushed oil prices sharply upward. Global benchmark crude prices have surged as traders react to fears of prolonged supply disruptions.

Energy markets have become extremely volatile, with prices fluctuating rapidly as investors



respond to developments in the Middle East conflict. The situation has raised concerns about inflation and economic pressure for countries that rely heavily on imported fuel.

Record Oil Release to Stabilise Markets

To prevent a severe energy shock, the International Energy Agency (IEA) and its member countries have agreed to release hundreds of millions of barrels of oil from strategic reserves. This coordinated action represents one of the largest emergency releases of oil stocks in history.

The move is intended to increase the amount of oil available in global markets and reduce price pressures caused by the ongoing conflict. Several major economies are expected to contribute oil from their national reserves as part of the coordinated effort.

The oil released from these re-

serves will temporarily offset supply disruptions and help reassure markets that adequate fuel supplies remain available.

A Major Disruption to Global Energy

Energy officials describe the current crisis as one of the most serious disruptions to global oil supply in recent years. Threats to shipping routes and reduced exports from parts of the Gulf have created uncertainty across international energy markets.

Even with the release of emergency reserves, analysts warn that oil prices could remain unstable if the conflict continues or if attacks on ships in the region increase.

Impact on the Global Economy

Higher oil prices can have wide-ranging economic consequences. Rising fuel costs increase transportation and manufacturing expenses, which can

contribute to higher inflation and slower economic growth worldwide.

Countries that depend heavily on imported oil are likely to feel the impact most strongly. Governments and central banks are closely monitoring developments as they prepare for potential economic challenges resulting from the energy shock.

Conclusion

The surge in oil prices following Iran's attacks on ships in the Gulf highlights how geopolitical conflicts can quickly disrupt global energy markets. While the record release of oil reserves aims to stabilise supply and calm prices, the situation remains uncertain.

If tensions continue to escalate or shipping routes remain threatened, the global energy market could face prolonged volatility and economic challenges.

Markets Under Pressure: Sensex, Nifty Fall for Second Day as Oil Surge and Weak Rupee Hit Sentiment

Indian equity markets extended their decline for the second consecutive session as rising crude oil prices and a weakening rupee dampened investor sentiment. The benchmark indices—the BSE Sensex and Nifty 50—ended the day lower amid global uncertainty triggered by escalating geopolitical tensions and volatility in energy markets.

The Sensex fell sharply, while the Nifty slipped below key psychological levels as investors remained cautious. Market participants reacted to the surge in global crude oil prices, which has raised concerns about inflation and the impact on India's economy. As one of the world's largest importers of crude oil, India is particularly sensitive to sudden increases in energy prices.

The rally in oil prices has been driven largely by geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. The uncertainty surrounding supply disruptions has pushed global crude prices higher, prompting investors to reduce exposure to riskier assets such as equities. Higher oil prices also increase input costs for businesses, which can hurt corporate profitability and economic growth.

At the same time, the Indian rupee weakened against the U.S. dollar, adding further pressure on the markets. A weaker currency increases the cost of



imports, particularly crude oil, and can worsen inflationary pressures. Currency volatility has also prompted foreign investors to pull back from emerging markets, including India.

The market decline was broad-based, with most sectoral indices ending in the red. Banking, financial services, and automobile stocks were among the major losers as investors worried about rising costs and slowing demand. Higher fuel prices tend to affect sectors such as automobiles and logistics more significantly because they rely heavily on energy.

Mid-cap and small-cap stocks

also witnessed selling pressure as risk appetite weakened. Several companies touched their 52-week lows, reflecting the cautious mood across the market.

Despite the overall weakness, a few sectors managed to perform relatively better. Power and energy-related stocks showed some resilience, supported by expectations of increased demand and stronger pricing power during the summer months.

Market experts believe the direction of the markets in the coming sessions will largely depend on global developments, especially movements in crude

oil prices and geopolitical tensions. If oil prices remain elevated, inflation fears could intensify and weigh further on equities.

Investors are also closely watching foreign institutional investor (FII) activity and currency movements. Continued volatility in the rupee and global markets may keep domestic equities under pressure in the short term.

For now, analysts advise investors to remain cautious and focus on fundamentally strong companies while keeping an eye on global cues that are driving market sentiment.

Coal India Shares Jump 4%, Become Top Nifty Gainer Amid West Asia Tensions



Shares of Coal India Limited climbed about 4 percent to emerge as the top gainer on the Nifty 50 index as escalating tensions in West Asia raised concerns about global energy supplies. The stock's rally came at a time when broader markets were under pressure due to geopolitical uncertainty and rising crude oil prices.

The surge in Coal India's share price was largely driven by expectations that disruptions in oil and gas supply from the Middle East could increase reliance on alternative energy sources such as coal. When global energy markets face uncertainty, power producers often depend more on coal to ensure uninterrupted electricity generation. This possibility has boosted investor confidence in coal-producing companies.

Another factor supporting the stock is the strong availability of coal within India. The country currently has large coal reserves and comfortable stock levels, which are sufficient to meet power generation needs for several weeks. These healthy

stock levels reflect steady production and supply growth in the sector, helping maintain stability in the domestic power industry despite global energy concerns.

Coal production has also been consistently strong, with supply levels in recent months outpacing consumption. As a result, thermal power plants and coal mines have accumulated significant reserves. This situation has reassured investors that India's energy sector is well prepared to handle potential disruptions in international energy markets.

In addition to the domestic supply strength, demand for coal from industries outside the power sector has also been increasing. Sectors such as steel, cement, and other manufacturing industries rely heavily on coal for their operations. Higher consumption from these industries has improved Coal India's growth outlook and strengthened market sentiment around the stock.

Positive developments related to one of Coal India's subsidiaries have

also supported investor interest. The company's consultancy and technical arm, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI), is planning to launch an initial public offering in the future. The proposed listing could unlock value for the parent company and attract further attention from investors.

Meanwhile, the broader energy sector also showed resilience in the market. Shares of major power companies recorded gains during the session, helping energy-related stocks outperform several other sectors.

Overall, Coal India's strong performance reflects how geopolitical tensions in major energy-producing regions can influence market trends. When uncertainty rises in global oil and gas markets, investors often turn toward companies involved in alternative or domestic energy sources.

As long as global energy markets remain volatile, companies like Coal India could continue to benefit from the increased focus on energy security and reliable fuel supply.

NSE Moves Ahead with IPO Plans, Appoints 20 Merchant Bankers and Eight Law Firms

The National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has taken a significant step toward its long-awaited initial public offering (IPO) by finalising a group of intermediaries to manage the process. The exchange has appointed 20 merchant bankers and eight law firms to assist with the proposed public issue, bringing it closer to listing on the stock market.

The selected merchant bankers include a mix of leading domestic and international investment banks. Among the Indian firms appointed are Kotak Mahindra Capital Company, JM Financial, Axis Capital, ICICI Securities, SBI Capital Markets and Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors. Other financial institutions such as Nuvama Wealth Management, HDFC Bank and IIFL Capital Services have also been included in the list of intermediaries.

In addition to domestic firms, several global investment banks have been chosen to participate in the process. Morgan Stanley, Citigroup, J.P. Morgan and HSBC will work alongside Indian investment banks to manage various aspects of the IPO. Other merchant bankers involved include Aventus Capital, IDBI Capital



Markets, 360 ONE WAM, Anand Rathi Advisors, DAM Capital Advisors, Pantomath Capital Advisors and Equirus Capital.

The exchange has also appointed eight law firms to handle legal and regulatory matters related to the IPO. These firms include Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas, Khaitan & Co, AZB & Partners, S&R Associates, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co and Trilegal. International law firms Latham & Watkins and Sidley Austin have also been selected to support the transaction.

These intermediaries will assist NSE with key aspects of the IPO process, including regulatory filings, due diligence, documentation and marketing of the share sale. Additional firms have also been engaged to provide services such as registrar functions and advisory support related to valuation and compliance.

The proposed IPO is expected to be entirely an offer for sale (OFS), meaning existing shareholders will sell a portion of their stake in the exchange to

the public. Market estimates suggest that around 4.5 percent of NSE's equity could be offered through the issue.

Based on the current price of NSE shares in the unlisted market, the IPO could be valued at around ₹23,000 crore, potentially making it one of the largest public offerings in India.

The move follows the Securities and Exchange Board of India granting a No Objection Certificate earlier this year, clearing a major regulatory hurdle for the exchange's listing plans.

The next step in the process will be the preparation of the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP), which is expected to take several months. Once the document is filed and regulatory approvals are completed, NSE will move closer to launching its much-anticipated IPO.

The listing of NSE is expected to be a landmark event for India's capital markets, as the exchange is the country's largest stock trading platform and one of the most widely held unlisted companies among investors. Its public listing could significantly reshape the landscape of the Indian financial market.

Why Defence Stocks Are Muted Despite the US–Iran War: Three Key Reasons

Even as tensions escalate between the United States and Iran, defence stocks in India have shown a surprisingly muted performance. Typically, geopolitical conflicts boost defence-related companies due to expectations of higher military spending and equipment demand. However, the Nifty India Defence index has declined in recent sessions, reflecting profit booking and cautious investor sentiment.

Analysts say there are several reasons why defence stocks have not rallied strongly despite the ongoing conflict.

1. Profit Booking After a Strong Rally

One of the primary reasons is profit booking by investors. Defence stocks had already witnessed a strong rally in recent months as government policies supported domestic defence manufacturing and exports. After such gains, investors often lock in profits when uncertainty rises.

As a result, even though geopolitical tensions usually support defence companies, traders are currently taking a cautious approach and reducing exposure in the short term.

2. Broader Market Weakness



Another major factor is the overall weakness in the stock market. Global markets have been volatile due to rising crude oil prices and concerns about economic stability triggered by the Middle East conflict.

When the broader market experiences selling pressure, sector-specific themes often lose momentum. Investors tend to move money into safer assets or reduce risk rather than chase sectoral opportunities. This broader risk-off sentiment has limited the up-

side in defence stocks despite the geopolitical backdrop.

3. Execution and Supply Challenges

Analysts also point out that the defence sector still faces operational challenges. While India's defence exports are growing steadily, companies continue to deal with issues related to project execution, supply chains and order fulfilment.

Many defence projects involve long production cycles and com-

plex procurement processes. Because of this, the immediate financial impact of geopolitical tensions is often limited. Investors may therefore wait for clearer evidence of new orders or policy announcements before aggressively buying these stocks.

Long-Term Outlook Remains Positive

Despite the recent muted performance, experts remain optimistic about the long-term prospects of the defence sector. India has been actively promoting domestic defence manufacturing through initiatives aimed at reducing dependence on imports. Rising geopolitical tensions globally could eventually increase demand for defence equipment, particularly from countries looking to strengthen their military capabilities. This could benefit Indian defence companies in the long run.

For now, however, investors appear to be balancing optimism about the sector's future with caution about short-term market volatility. As global tensions evolve and government procurement decisions become clearer, defence stocks may regain momentum in the coming months.

PGIM India Mutual Fund Temporarily Stops Fresh Investments in Select Overseas Schemes



PGIM India Mutual Fund has temporarily stopped accepting fresh investments in three of its overseas fund-of-fund schemes to comply with regulatory limits on global investments. The decision affects only new investments, while existing investors will continue to have access to their funds without any disruption.

The schemes impacted by the move are PGIM India Global Equity Opportunities Fund of Fund, PGIM India Emerging Markets Equity Fund of Fund, and PGIM India Global Select Real Estate Securities Fund of Fund. These funds invest in international markets through global mutual funds and real estate securities, offering Indian investors exposure to overseas assets.

As part of the temporary restriction, the fund house will not accept new lump-sum investments or switch-ins into these schemes. Additionally, new registrations for Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) and Systematic Transfer Plans (STPs) have also been suspended

for the time being. However, the restriction applies only to new investors or new investment registrations. Existing investors who had already started SIPs or STPs before the cut-off date will continue to have their instalments processed as usual. Investors can also redeem their holdings, switch out of the schemes, or use systematic withdrawal plans without any limitations.

The move is linked to regulatory guidelines governing overseas investments by mutual funds in India. The entire mutual fund industry operates under a combined limit for investing in foreign securities, along with a separate cap for investments in overseas exchange-traded funds. Asset management companies must ensure that their international investments remain within these prescribed limits.

When inflows into overseas schemes increase significantly, fund houses may temporarily stop fresh subscriptions to avoid breaching the regulatory ceiling. Such pauses

are generally precautionary measures designed to ensure compliance with investment regulations.

The affected PGIM schemes had previously been reopened for investments earlier in the year after earlier restrictions were eased. The latest decision suggests that available capacity for overseas investments within the regulatory framework is once again nearing its limit.

For investors looking for international exposure, the temporary halt means they will need to wait until the schemes reopen for fresh investments. Meanwhile, those who already hold units in these funds can continue their investments without any operational changes.

Temporary restrictions on overseas mutual fund schemes have become relatively common in India due to the limited regulatory headroom for foreign investments. Once additional capacity becomes available within the limits, asset management companies typically resume subscriptions in such schemes.

“Soggy Paper Straw” Memes Go Viral as Global Tensions Dominate Social Media



As global tensions and war-related headlines dominate conversations online, social media users have turned to humour to express their frustration and disbelief. In a surprising trend, the humble paper straw has become the internet's latest symbol of irony, with memes about “soggy paper straws” spreading rapidly across platforms like X, Instagram and Reddit.

The viral meme trend highlights what many users see as a contrast between individual environmental efforts and large-scale geopolitical conflicts happening around the world. In many of these memes, people joke about being encouraged to adopt eco-friendly habits—such as using paper straws instead of plastic—while world leaders simultaneously escalate political and military tensions.

One widely shared meme shows a person struggling to drink through a soft, collapsing paper straw while news headlines about global conflicts appear in the background. The humour lies in the apparent contradiction: individuals are asked to make small lifestyle changes to protect the planet, while major powers appear to engage in actions that could cause far greater damage on a global scale.

Another popular meme jokes that while global leaders talk about serious geopolitical confrontations, ordinary people are trying to “save the planet” with paper straws that quickly become soggy and difficult to use. The relatable frustration has struck a chord with

many internet users, leading to thousands of shares and reposts.

The trend also taps into a long-running complaint about paper straws themselves. Introduced by many restaurants and cafes as an alternative to plastic in order to reduce environmental pollution, paper straws have often been criticised by customers for becoming soft and unusable after only a few minutes. Some social media users humorously claim that the straws start dissolving before they can even finish their drinks.

While the jokes may seem lighthearted, they also reflect how people use humour to deal with serious world events. During periods of political tension, economic uncertainty or conflict, the internet often becomes a place where satire and memes help people process overwhelming news.

Memes have long served as a form of social commentary, allowing users to express opinions and frustrations in a humorous way. In this case, the soggy paper straw has become an unexpected symbol representing the gap many people feel between small individual actions and much larger global issues.

Ultimately, the viral trend shows how quickly everyday objects can turn into powerful internet symbols. What began as a simple joke about paper straws has evolved into a broader reflection on modern life, responsibility and the way people react to major events in the digital age.

Indian Woman Celebrates Holi With Japanese Landlord In US, Viral Video Warms Hearts



A heartwarming video of an Indian woman celebrating Holi with her Japanese landlord in the United States has gone viral on social media, drawing praise for its message of friendship and cultural connection. The clip captures a joyful moment between the two women as they celebrate the festival of colours together, despite being far away from home.

The video was shared on Instagram by the Indian woman, who revealed that she currently lives alone in the US. With no friends or family nearby to celebrate the festival, she expected to spend Holi quietly. However, her elderly Japanese landlord stepped in to make the day special by joining her in the celebration.

In the short clip, the two women can be seen smiling and laughing as they gently apply organic yellow colour to each other's cheeks. The simple yet meaningful celebration reflects a warm bond between the tenant and her landlord. At one point in the video, the Indian woman affectionately refers to her landlord as “pookie,” highlighting the close and friendly relationship they share.

While sharing the video online, the woman explained that her landlord joined her for the festival because she knew she was living alone in the country. She also described the elderly woman as “the sweetest,” expressing gratitude for the thoughtful gesture that made her Holi celebration memorable.

The video quickly gained attention online, with thousands of viewers praising the landlord's kindness and willingness to embrace another culture. Many social media users said the clip was a beautiful reminder that festivals have the power to bring people together regardless of nationality, language or background.

Several commenters admired the warm relationship between the two women. Many described the moment as wholesome and heartwarming, saying it perfectly reflected the true spirit of Holi—a festival that celebrates joy, togetherness and friendship.

Others said the video highlighted how small acts of kindness can have a big impact, especially for people living far away from their families. Some viewers even joked that the landlord should one day visit India to experience a grand Holi celebration in its full spirit.

Holi, often known as the festival of colours, is one of the most widely celebrated festivals in India. It marks the arrival of spring and symbolises the triumph of good over evil. Traditionally, people celebrate by throwing coloured powders, sharing sweets and spending time with loved ones.

For those living abroad, festivals can sometimes feel lonely. However, this touching moment between an Indian tenant and her Japanese landlord shows how compassion and companionship can turn even a simple celebration into a truly special memory.

“Activa Uncle” Helps Stranded Biker in Bengaluru Traffic, Wins Hearts Online

In a heartwarming incident that has captured the attention of social media users, a stranger in Bengaluru came to the rescue of a biker whose motorcycle broke down in the middle of heavy traffic. The simple yet thoughtful gesture has been widely praised online, with many calling it a “true Bengaluru moment.”

The story was shared by a Reddit user who described the stressful experience he faced while returning from a site visit. The man, an architecture student, said his motorcycle suddenly displayed an “Engine Temp High” warning before shutting down completely on a busy road between KR Puram and Kasturinaragar. With traffic building up around him, he had no choice but to push the bike along the crowded street.

The situation quickly turned exhausting. Surrounded by impatient vehicles and constant honking, the biker struggled to move the heavy motorcycle through the congested road. The challenge became even tougher when he had to push the bike uphill on a bridge while trying to navigate through slow-moving traffic.

Just when the situation seemed overwhelming,



help arrived unexpectedly. An elderly man riding a Honda Activa scooter noticed the struggling biker and stopped to check on him. After learning about the problem, the stranger immediately offered to help push the motorcycle to the nearest service centre.

The two then worked together to move the stalled bike through the busy Kasturinaragar-Ramamurthy Nagar stretch. The older man carefully assist-

ed the rider as they made their way through the traffic, helping guide the bike around obstacles and vehicles on the road. At one point, they even had to maneuver around a stalled bus blocking part of the route.

During the journey, the pair also had a brief conversation about modern motorcycles and how their sensors can sometimes cause the engine to shut down when certain issues are detected. Despite the

difficulty of the situation, the unexpected help made the experience much less stressful for the stranded rider.

After some effort, they eventually reached a service centre in Banaswadi. However, before the biker could properly thank the man or offer him something in appreciation, the stranger quietly left the spot without waiting for recognition.

Reflecting on the moment later, the rider said

the act of kindness left a strong impression on him. In the midst of chaotic city traffic, the stranger's willingness to stop and help reminded him that compassion still exists in everyday life.

The story has since resonated with many people online, who praised the anonymous “Activa uncle” for his generosity and shared similar experiences of strangers stepping forward to help when it mattered most.

Google Techie's Rs 1.43 Lakh Monthly Expense Breakdown In Bengaluru Sparks Online Discussion

A young professional working at Google has gone viral on social media after sharing a detailed breakdown of her monthly expenses while living in Bengaluru. The video, posted by 24-year-old techie Pooja Narula, revealed that she spent about Rs 1.43 lakh in February, sparking discussions about the rising cost of living in India's technology hub.

In the video, Narula explained that her spending included both regular living costs and several one-time expenses that pushed the total higher than usual. She began by listing her fixed monthly costs, which make up the basic portion of her budget while staying in the city.

According to her breakdown, her rent for a room in Bengaluru came to Rs 22,400 per month. She also spends about Rs 2,800 on services such as hiring a maid and a cook. Utility bills, including electricity and other basic services, add another Rs 2,000 to her monthly expenses.



Apart from essential costs, Narula also shared details about her lifestyle spending. She revealed that she usually spends around Rs 2,000 every weekend on social activities, which totals about Rs 8,000 a month. These outings include meeting friends, dining out and other leisure activities.

However, she clarified that February was not a

typical month for her financially because it included several additional expenses. During the month, she travelled home, which resulted in Rs 16,000 spent on flight tickets and another Rs 2,000 on airport cab rides.

The tech professional also had to move to a new house during the same period. The relocation process cost Rs 3,000 for mov-

ers and packers, and she paid a security deposit of Rs 66,600, which significantly increased her total spending for the month.

In addition to these costs, Narula mentioned that she spent around Rs 20,000 on dining plans and gifts for friends, further adding to the overall amount. After calculating all these expenses, she concluded that her total

spending for February reached approximately Rs 1.43 lakh.

While acknowledging that the figure may appear high, she explained that many of the expenses were temporary and not part of her regular monthly budget. Once those one-time payments are cleared, she expects her future monthly spending to be much lower.

The video quickly attracted attention online, with many viewers sharing their thoughts about the high cost of living in Bengaluru. Some people were surprised by the total amount, while others pointed out that relocation costs and housing deposits can significantly increase expenses in a single month.

The post has since sparked wider conversations on social media about budgeting, lifestyle spending and the financial realities faced by young professionals living in major metropolitan cities.

Man Rescued After Getting Trapped in Manchester Phone Box While Trying to Order Kebab



A man in Manchester recently found himself in a bizarre and embarrassing situation after getting trapped inside a traditional red phone box while attempting to order a kebab. The unusual incident took place in the city's Deansgate area and eventually required firefighters to come to his rescue.

According to reports, the man stepped into the iconic British phone booth intending to use the telephone inside to place a food order. However, things quickly took an unexpected turn when the heavy door of the booth slammed shut behind him and locked automatically, leaving him stuck inside the small space.

The situation soon became frustrating when the man realized that the phone inside the booth was not working. What was supposed to be a quick stop to order a late-night meal suddenly turned into an awkward predicament, as he had no easy way to get out of the booth.

Friends who were with

him tried to help by pulling on the door and attempting to force it open from outside, but their efforts were unsuccessful. The door appeared to be locked with a mechanism that could only be opened using special keys typically held by maintenance workers or telecom engi-

neers. As a result, the man remained trapped while his friends continued trying to free him.

The incident reportedly lasted for more than an hour. During that time, passersby began to notice the strange situation, and some gathered nearby to watch. A few even record-

ed videos of the unusual scene on their phones as the man waited inside the phone box.

At one point, the trapped man attempted to remove a glass panel from the lower part of the booth in an effort to escape. Although he managed to loosen the panel, it

still did not provide enough space for him to climb out safely.

With no other option left, his friends eventually called the fire brigade for assistance. Firefighters soon arrived at the scene and assessed the situation before working to open the stuck door. After a brief effort, they successfully forced the door open and freed the man from the booth.

Once he stepped out, the man appeared both relieved and slightly embarrassed by the ordeal. He reportedly thanked the firefighters who had come to help him and shook hands with them before leaving the area.

The unusual incident has since amused many people online. Social media users have joked about the situation, with some wondering whether the man ever managed to get the kebab he had originally tried to order. Others simply found the story a humorous reminder that even simple plans can sometimes lead to unexpected situations.

“They Will Always Remember This Trophy”: Suryakumar Yadav Reveals Gautam Gambhir’s Powerful World Cup Speech



India’s T20 captain Suryakumar Yadav has shared a glimpse of the emotional moment inside the dressing room after India lifted the T20 World Cup, revealing a powerful message delivered by head coach Gautam Gambhir that helped define the team’s journey to the title.

According to Suryakumar, Gambhir addressed the players after the final and reminded them about the lasting significance of winning a world tournament. The coach reportedly told the team that players might win many bilateral matches during their careers, but it is trophies like the World Cup that people remember forever.

A New Team Mindset

Suryakumar explained that the victory was the result of a long-term effort to reshape the team’s mindset. The squad worked for months to build a culture focused on collective success rather than individual milestones. The captain said the idea was simple: the team’s only goal was to win the trophy.

He described how the leadership group wanted to remove

what he called a “split personality” in Indian cricket — playing aggressively in bilateral matches but becoming cautious during ICC tournaments. The new approach aimed to ensure that the team played fearless cricket regardless of the stage.

Careful Preparation Behind the Scenes

India’s World Cup triumph was also supported by meticulous planning. Suryakumar revealed that the preparation began well before the tournament, with the coaching staff and players discussing strategies and roles in detail.

Even small decisions were taken seriously. Before the semi-final against England, the team even changed hotels at the last minute after someone suggested it might bring a change in luck. While it may have seemed like a superstition, Suryakumar said the players were willing to try anything that could help them achieve their ultimate goal.

Turning Point in the Tournament

The captain pointed to a tense

group-stage match against South Africa national cricket team as a key moment in the campaign. After that match, Suryakumar and senior all-rounder Hardik Pandya held a long discussion with the batting group about how the team should approach the rest of the tournament.

Following that conversation, the team’s performances improved significantly. India began posting big totals and chasing challenging targets with confidence.

Trust in Young Players

Suryakumar also highlighted the importance of backing young players. He recalled telling opener Abhishek Sharma that he would continue to get opportunities even if he failed in several matches.

That trust paid off in the final, when Abhishek produced a match-winning knock, scoring a rapid half-century that helped India seize control of the game.

Contributions Across the Team

Another standout performer

was Sanju Samson, who delivered crucial innings during the knockout stages despite missing out on centuries. According to Suryakumar, the team valued quick and impactful contributions over personal milestones.

The captain said every player made meaningful contributions during the tournament, which ultimately made the difference in crucial matches.

Emotional Moments After Victory

After the final victory, the dressing room celebrated the achievement while reflecting on the long journey that led to the trophy. The team’s video analyst even prepared a short motivational film for the players, featuring highlights from the previous two years along with dramatic music from popular films.

For Suryakumar, Gambhir’s message about the lasting value of the World Cup summed up the team’s entire journey. The trophy, he said, represented not just a single victory but the success of a collective vision built over many months.

Suryakumar Yadav Reflects on India’s T20 World Cup Triumph and the Rise of New Match-Winners

India’s T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav has opened up about India’s recent T20 World Cup victory, highlighting how the team’s success was built on collective effort and the emergence of new match-winners. He also praised the performances of players like Axar Patel and Abhishek Sharma, noting that their contributions were vital in shaping India’s winning campaign.

According to Suryakumar, the victory was the result of months of preparation and a strong team environment that encouraged players to express themselves freely. He emphasised that the squad focused on maintaining a positive mindset and playing fearless cricket throughout the tournament.

Importance of Team Culture

Suryakumar explained that the team management worked hard to build a relaxed and supportive atmosphere in the dressing room. This environment helped players perform without pressure and allowed young talents to step up on the biggest stage.

He said the leadership group wanted every player to feel confident about their role in the team. Rather than focusing on individual performances, the emphasis was on teamwork and adaptability during challenging situations.

Axar Patel’s Impact

One of the standout performers during the tournament was all-rounder Axar Patel. Suryakumar praised Axar for delivering crucial contributions with both bat and ball.

He noted that Axar often played key innings in difficult situations and also provided breakthroughs with his spin bowling. According to the captain, Axar’s calm temperament and ability to handle pressure made him an important asset for the team during critical moments.

Emerging Talent: Abhishek Sharma
Suryakumar also spoke about the impressive rise of Abhishek Sharma, who has quickly established himself as a dynamic presence in India’s T20 setup. The captain described him as a fearless player capable of changing the course



of a game within a few overs.

He added that the team management has great confidence in young players like Abhishek, who bring energy and fresh ideas to the squad. Their willingness to play attacking cricket has strengthened India’s approach in the shortest format.

Leadership and Responsibility

Reflecting on his own leadership role, Suryakumar said captaining the Indian T20 side is both an honour and a responsibility. He emphasised the importance of backing players during tough phases and creating an environment where everyone feels supported.

He believes that when players feel trusted, they are more likely to deliver strong performances under pressure.

Looking Ahead

After the World Cup triumph, Suryakumar said the team remains focused on maintaining consistency and continuing to build a strong T20 unit for the future. With experienced players and promising young talents working together, he believes Indian cricket is well positioned for continued success in the format.

The captain concluded by saying that the team’s biggest strength lies in its unity and shared commitment to winning matches for the country.

From World Cup Glory to a Train Berth: Shivam Dube’s Unusual Journey Home



Soon after helping India secure the T20 World Cup title, Indian all-rounder Shivam Dube had an unexpected and unusual journey back home. Instead of flying like most international cricketers, Dube quietly boarded a train from Ahmedabad to Mumbai, trying to remain unnoticed among regular passengers.

India had just defeated New Zealand national cricket team in the final of the 2026 ICC Men’s T20 World Cup at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. The Indian team posted a massive total and sealed a dominant victory, celebrating a historic triumph in front of thousands of fans.

A Rush to Get Home

After the celebrations ended, Dube’s main priority was returning to Mumbai to spend time with his children. However, he soon discovered that all flights between Ahmedabad and Mumbai were fully booked due to the heavy travel rush following the final.

With no seats available on flights, Dube decided to take the next available option — an early morning train. Accompanied by his wife Anjum and a friend, he boarded the Ahmedabad-Mumbai Sayaji Express. Though travelling by train after such a high-profile victory carried the risk of being recognised, it was the quickest way for him to reach home.

Travelling in Disguise

Knowing how easily cricket stars are recognised in India, Dube tried to keep a low profile during the journey. He wore a cap, a face mask, and a full-sleeved shirt to avoid drawing attention.

After boarding the train, he climbed to the upper berth in the AC 3-tier compartment and wrapped himself in a

railway blanket. His plan was to remain out of sight and quietly complete the journey without being noticed by fellow passengers.

At one point during the trip, a ticket examiner came to check passengers’ tickets and noticed the name on the booking. The official even asked whether the passenger named Shivam Dube was the Indian cricketer.

Dube’s wife quickly intervened and denied it, helping maintain the disguise so that the journey could continue without any complications.

A Quiet End to the Trip

For most of the trip, fellow passengers had no idea that a recent World Cup winner was travelling among them. However, once the train reached Mumbai, Dube sought assistance from local police to exit the station safely and avoid large crowds.

Authorities reportedly arranged for a quick escort so that he could leave the station without attracting attention.

A Memorable Off-Field Story

Dube had played a valuable role during India’s T20 World Cup campaign, delivering impactful performances with the bat during key moments of the tournament.

Yet the image of a World Cup-winning cricketer hiding on the upper berth of a train became one of the most memorable stories after the victory. While fans across the country celebrated the historic triumph, Dube’s simple goal was to return home quietly and spend time with his family.

The unusual journey highlighted a rare and humble side of international sport, showing that even world champions sometimes take the most ordinary routes home.

Navneet Kaur’s Hat-Trick Leads India to Big Win Over Wales in World Cup Qualifiers



The India women’s national field hockey team produced a dominant performance as forward Navneet Kaur scored a brilliant hat-trick to guide India to a 4-1 victory over the Wales women’s national field hockey team in the 2026 Women’s FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers in Hyderabad. The convincing win helped India finish at the top of Pool B and strengthened their campaign for a place in the upcoming World Cup.

Strong Start by India

India started the match aggressively, dominating possession and putting early pressure on the Welsh defence. Their attacking approach quickly paid off when Sakshi Rana scored the opening goal to give the hosts an early lead.

The goal boosted India’s confidence as the team continued to control the tempo of the match with quick passing and coordi-

nated attacks. Wales struggled to break through India’s midfield and were forced to focus mainly on defending during the opening stages.

Navneet Kaur Takes Charge

The match soon turned into a showcase for Navneet Kaur, who delivered a standout performance. She scored her first goal in the second quarter, capitalising on India’s sustained pressure in the attacking circle.

Navneet struck again soon after, doubling her tally and giving India a comfortable lead going into the second half. Her pace and positioning caused constant problems for the Welsh defence.

Later in the game, she completed her hat-trick with another clinical finish, effectively sealing the victory for India. Her performance highlighted her importance to India’s for-

ward line and was the defining moment of the match.

Wales Score but India Stay in Control

Wales managed to pull one goal back during the match, briefly raising hopes of a comeback. However, India’s defence remained disciplined and prevented the visitors from creating further clear opportunities.

The Indian team maintained control of possession and kept pushing forward, ensuring Wales could not build sustained pressure in the final stages of the game.

Important Step Toward World Cup Qualification

The win was significant for India as it confirmed their place in the knockout stage of the qualifiers. Finishing at the top of Pool B also improved their position heading into the next

phase of the tournament.

India’s consistent performances throughout the qualifiers have shown the team’s growing confidence and tactical discipline.

Momentum for the Next Stage

Navneet Kaur’s hat-trick was the highlight of the match and demonstrated the strength of India’s attacking unit. Along with solid performances across the field, the team showed both offensive strength and defensive stability.

As India moves into the knockout rounds of the qualifiers, the emphatic victory over Wales has given the team valuable momentum. With strong support from home fans and growing confidence within the squad, India will now aim to continue their winning run and move closer to securing a place in the next Hockey World Cup.

Rashmika Mandanna Warns of Legal Action Over Media Misinformation



Popular actress Rashmika Mandanna has strongly reacted to what she described as misinformation and invasion of privacy circulating in some media outlets and on social media. The actress warned that strict legal action could be taken if false or misleading content about her and her family continues to be shared.

Actress Slams False Narratives

Rashmika expressed anger over the circulation of a private conversation that recently surfaced online. According to her, the audio clip relates to a personal discussion that took place several years ago and was never meant to be made public.

She said bringing such private matters into the public domain violates her privacy and damages the reputation and dignity of her family members. The actress stated that the situation has caused emotional distress and unnecessary controversy.

Years of Online Criticism

The actress also revealed that she has been facing rumours, criticism and negative campaigns from certain sections of the media and social media for many years. She alleged that some individuals spread false narratives about her simply to gain attention and online engagement.

According to Rashmika, several statements that she never made have been wrongly attributed to her. Despite dealing with these issues for a long time, she said she had chosen to remain silent until now.

Personal Matters Resurface

The controversy reportedly relates to events from several years ago involving her earlier engagement to Kannada actor Rakshit Shetty. During that time, Rashmika had worked with Vijay Deverakonda in the popular film Geetha Govindam.

A private audio conversation involving her mother discussing that period has recently been circulated online, which

Rashmika believes is an unnecessary attempt to bring old issues back into public debate.

She said the situation has dragged several people into the controversy, including individuals who have no connection with the matter.

Warning to Remove Misleading Content

Rashmika has asked media platforms and social media pages to remove the misleading content immediately. She warned that if such material continues to circulate, she will pursue legal action against those responsible.

The actress stressed that spreading unverified information and intruding into someone's personal life is unacceptable.

Protecting Privacy

Rashmika concluded by saying that while public figures often face scrutiny, there must be limits when it comes to personal life and family matters. She made it clear that any future attempts to spread misinformation or violate her privacy would be addressed through legal measures.

Rukmini Vasanth to Star Opposite Dhanush in Upcoming Film



Actor Dhanush is set to collaborate with actress Rukmini Vasanth in one of his upcoming films, creating excitement among fans and the film industry. Reports suggest that Rukmini Vasanth has been chosen as the female lead for the project, marking the first time the two actors will share screen space.

The film is expected to be directed by Tamizharasan Pachamuthu, who gained recognition for his previous work in Tamil cinema. The project is believed to be Dhanush's 56th film, adding another major title to his expanding list of projects.

Rising Popularity of Rukmini Vasanth

Rukmini Vasanth has been steadily building her career in the South Indian film industry. Her performances in films such as Kantara and oth-

er recent projects have helped her gain attention and establish herself as a promising actress.

With her growing popularity and strong screen presence, the makers reportedly felt she would be a good fit for the role opposite Dhanush in the upcoming film.

Strong Cast Expected

The project is also expected to feature Vijay Kumar, known for the Uryyadi films, in a negative role. The movie is still in the early stages of development, and an official announcement from the production team is expected soon.

Dhanush's Busy Film Schedule

Dhanush continues to remain one of the busiest actors in Indian cinema, working across multiple film industries. He has several projects lined up

in Tamil and other languages.

The actor recently completed work on a film directed by Vignesh Raja and is currently involved in another project directed by Rajkumar Periasamy. That film reportedly features actresses Sai Pallavi and Sreeleela in important roles.

High Expectations from the Collaboration

If the reports are confirmed, the combination of Dhanush and Rukmini Vasanth is expected to bring fresh energy to the screen. With a talented cast and a promising director, the upcoming project has already started generating buzz among fans.

More details about the film's storyline, shooting schedule and official launch are likely to be announced in the coming months.

Grand Song Launch Event Held for 'Ustaad Bhagat Singh'

The makers of the upcoming Telugu film Ustaad Bhagat Singh organised a grand song launch event to promote the movie, drawing huge excitement among fans of lead actor Pawan Kalyan. The event was held with much fanfare, with the film's cast and crew participating in the celebrations.

Massive Fan Response

The song launch attracted large crowds of fans, reflecting the massive popularity of Pawan Kalyan. The actor received an enthusiastic welcome as he arrived at the venue, with fans cheering and chanting slogans in support of their favourite star. The event quickly turned into a celebration of the actor's legacy and his upcoming film.

Cast and Crew in Attendance

Several members of the film's team attended the launch event. Director Harish Shankar, who is helming the project, spoke about the excitement surrounding the film and praised the dedication of the cast and crew.

Actresses Sreeleela and Raashii Khanna, who play key roles in the film, were also present at the event. The team interacted with fans and shared their experiences working on the

project.

Energetic Musical Launch

The event featured the launch of one of the film's songs, which was received enthusiastically by the audience. The music for the film has been composed by Devi Sri Prasad, popularly known as DSP, whose energetic compositions are expected to be a major highlight of the movie.

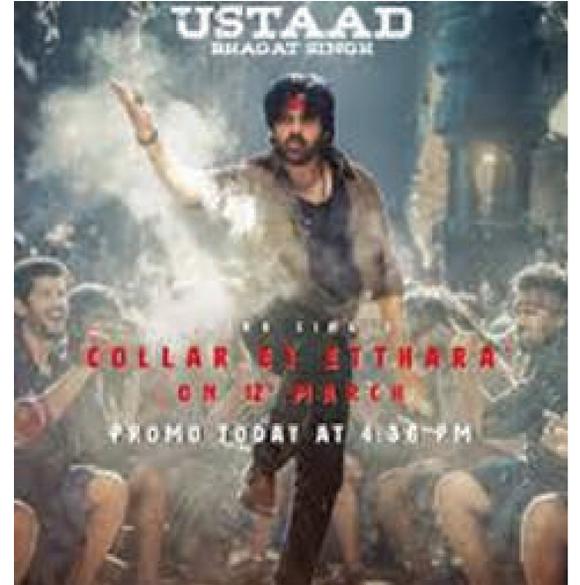
During the event, the makers showcased the song and shared insights into the making of the film's music and action sequences.

Film Gearing Up for Release Directed by Harish Shankar and produced by Mythri Movie Makers, Ustaad Bhagat Singh is one of the most anticipated Telugu releases of the year. The film is an action entertainer and marks the reunion of Pawan Kalyan and Harish Shankar after their blockbuster collaboration on Gabbar Singh.

The movie is scheduled for a theatrical release around the festival of Ugadi, and expectations are high among fans and the industry alike.

High Expectations from the Film

With strong fan support, energetic music, and a popular



star cast, the film has already generated significant buzz even before its release. The grand song launch event further boosted excitement, giving audiences a glimpse of the film's style and scale.

As the release date approaches, the makers are continuing their promotional activities to build anticipation for what promises to be a major Tollywood release.

Vishal Criticises Rajendra Prasad Over Remarks on MGR

Actor Vishal has strongly criticised veteran actor Rajendra Prasad over controversial remarks he reportedly made about legendary actor and former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. G. Ramachandran, popularly known as MGR.

Controversy Over Award Function Comments

The controversy began after Rajendra Prasad spoke at an event where he received the T. L. Kantharao Memorial Award. During his speech, while praising legendary Telugu actor T. L. Kantharao, he allegedly made comments that appeared to belittle MGR.

The remarks quickly sparked criticism and debate among film fans and members of the South Indian film industry.

Vishal Demands Apology

Reacting to the issue, Vishal expressed disappointment and



said he was shocked to hear the comments made about MGR. Taking to social media, he stated that Rajendra Prasad's remarks were hurtful and inappropriate, especially considering the respect and admiration millions of people have for MGR.

Vishal emphasised that MGR is not only remembered as a leg-

endary actor but also as a highly respected political leader in Tamil Nadu. He said speaking negatively about such a figure could hurt the sentiments of fans and admirers.

Respect for Both Legends

While criticising the remarks, Vishal also clarified that prais-

ing T. L. Kantharao was completely justified. However, he said appreciation for one legendary actor should not come at the expense of another iconic personality.

He added that many people across generations continue to hold MGR in high regard and that such comments could create unnecessary controversy.

Call for a Resolution

Vishal urged Rajendra Prasad to address the issue and apologise for the remarks to bring the matter to a respectful conclusion. He also mentioned that he personally holds Rajendra Prasad in high esteem as a senior actor and hopes the situation will be resolved soon.

The incident has sparked discussion within the film community, with fans and industry members closely watching whether Rajendra Prasad will respond to the criticism.

Balakrishna to Star in Fantasy Film with 'Bimbisara' Director Vassishta



Veteran Telugu actor Nandamuri Balakrishna is reportedly set to collaborate with filmmaker Mallidi Vassishta, the director who gained wide recognition for the fantasy action film Bimbisara. The upcoming project is expected to be a fantasy-based film, creating significant buzz among Tollywood fans.

A New Fantasy Adventure

According to industry reports, the film will feature Balakrishna in a powerful and larger-than-life role set in a fantasy backdrop. The project is still in the early stages, but the concept is said to include strong mythological and adventure elements along with high-end visual effects.

Director Vassishta earned praise for his storytelling and world-building in Bimbisara, a fantasy action film that revolves around a king from the 5th century BC who travels to the modern era through time travel.

Because of that film's success, the director has been receiving several big offers in the industry.

Balakrishna Impressed by Vassishta's Work

Balakrishna reportedly appreciated Bimbisara after watching the film and praised the director's vision. He

even expressed interest in working with Vassishta, which eventually led to discussions about a collaboration.

The upcoming movie is expected to combine Balakrishna's strong screen presence with Vassishta's fantasy storytelling style, making it an exciting project for fans.

Director's Growing Career

After the success of Bimbisara, Vassishta has become one of the promising young directors in Telugu cinema. He has also been working on large-scale fantasy projects, including a major film featuring Chiranjeevi titled Vishwambhara, which is being designed as a grand fantasy action spectacle.

High Expectations from the Project

The combination of Balakrishna and Vassishta is expected to deliver a visually rich film with a strong narrative and large-scale production values. With fantasy films gaining popularity in Indian cinema, the project could become one of the most talked-about upcoming Tollywood ventures.

More details about the film's cast, production schedule, and official announcement are expected to be revealed soon.

Nagarjuna to Appear in Vintage Look for Landmark Film 'King 100'

Veteran Telugu actor Nagarjuna Akkineni is preparing for a milestone in his career with his 100th film, currently being made with the working title "King 100." The project is being developed as a landmark movie in the actor's long and successful journey in the film industry.

Vintage Style Look for Nagarjuna

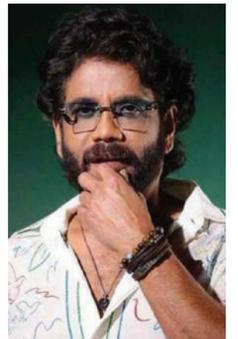
According to the film's director Ra Karthik, Nagarjuna will appear in a stylish vintage look in the movie. The actor is expected to sport multiple get-ups, and some of them are said to resemble the iconic looks from his earlier films like Shiva and Rakshakudu.

The director revealed that Nagarjuna has been putting significant effort into preparing for these looks to give the character a distinctive style. The intention is to recreate the charm of his classic on-screen appearance while presenting it in a fresh and modern way.

A Special Film in His Career

The movie is being planned as a special project since it marks the 100th film in Nagarjuna's acting career. Because of its significance, the makers are designing the film on a larger scale with a strong storyline and stylish presentation.

The film is being produced under the banner of Annapurna Studios, which has been closely as-



sociated with many of Nagarjuna's projects over the years.

Story and Cast

Reports suggest the story will revolve around the relationship between two friends and the situations that arise between them. Actor Ravindra Vijay, known for his performance in the web series The Family Man, is expected to play a key role in the film.

Planned Festival Release

The makers are reportedly aiming to release the film during the Dasara festival season, hoping to make the landmark movie a grand celebration for Nagarjuna's fans.

With a milestone film, vintage styling, and an interesting storyline, "King 100" is already generating curiosity among Tollywood audiences and is expected to be one of the most talked-about projects in Nagarjuna's career.