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Anjana Devi Receives 'Bapu Bomma - Vishwa Mahila' Award At Hyderabad Event



12/03/26

Kollu Ravindra And Palla Srinivasa Rao May Exchange Their POSTS IN A POSSIBLE CABINET RESHUFFLE

Amaravati, March 11 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu held a review meeting with officials of the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) and directed them to speed up development works in the capital region of Amaravati.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister assessed the progress of various infrastructure and development projects being undertaken in the capital city. He instructed officials to ensure that all ongoing works are completed within the stipulated timelines while maintaining high standards of quality.

Naidu emphasised that Amaravati must be developed as a modern and world-class capital city with advanced infrastructure. He directed officials to focus on the construction of key government buildings, road networks, drainage systems and other essential civic facilities needed for the smooth functioning of the capital.

Officials briefed the Chief Minister about the current status of several projects in the capital region, including administrative complexes, residential layouts and public infrastructure. They also presented updates on plans to improve connectivity and create



modern urban facilities that would support the city's long-term growth.

The Chief Minister stressed the importance of coordinated efforts among various departments involved in the capital development works. He asked officials to resolve administrative and technical issues quickly so that the pace of construction does not slow down.

Naidu also highlighted the need to adopt modern urban

planning practices in the development of Amaravati. He said the capital city should reflect global standards in terms of planning, design and environmental sustainability. According to him, proper planning and execution will help create a well-structured city that can serve as the administrative and economic hub of the state.

Another key topic discussed during the meeting was the welfare of farmers who contributed their lands for the

Praveen Pullata @praveenpullata

Show translation

కూటమి కేబినెట్ భారీ ప్రక్షాళన దిశగా కనరత్తు.

ప్రస్తుత మంత్రివర్గంలో భారీ మార్పులు!

మెజారిటీ మంత్రులకు ఉద్యోగం తప్పదనే సంకేతాలు.

ఖచ్చితంగా కొత్త మంత్రివర్గంలోకి అవకాశం ఉన్న ఎమ్మెల్యేలు ఏవో!

- 1. పల్లె శ్రీనివాసరావు - గాజువాక
2. బెందాళం అశోక్ - ఇచ్ఛాపురం
3. మద్దిపాటి వెంకటరాజు - గోపాలపురం
4. వేమిరెడ్డి ప్రశాంతి రెడ్డి - కోవ్వూరు
5. కొబతాల రామకృష్ణ - అనకాపల్లి

కొంచెం అటు ఇటుగా లోకేష్ టీమ్ తోనే కొత్త కేబినెట్ కూర్చు! ఉగాదికి కాకపోయినా భారీ మార్పులతోనే కొత్త మంత్రివర్గం.

ప్రస్తుత టీడీపీ రాష్ట్ర అధ్యక్షుడు పల్లె శ్రీనివాసరావుకి రెవెన్యూ అప్పగించే అవకాశం. పల్లె స్టానంలో కొల్లు రవీంద్ర లేదా అనగాని సత్యప్రసాద్ ను పార్టీ అధ్యక్షుడిగా నియమించే అవకాశం.

సశేషం..

Last edited 6:18 PM · Mar 10, 2026 · 88.6K Views

capital city project under the land pooling scheme. The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure that all commitments made to farmers are honoured and that development of infrastructure in their returnable plots is taken up without delay.

The meeting also reviewed proposals aimed at attracting investments and establishing institutions in the capital region. Officials discussed strategies to promote Amaravati as

a destination for education, business and government administration.

Senior ministers, bureaucrats and CRDA officials attended the meeting and provided updates on various development initiatives. The Chief Minister reiterated that the state government is committed to completing the capital city project and transforming Amaravati into a vibrant and well-planned urban centre in the coming years.

Ugadi Gift: Mass Housewarming for 2.5 Lakh Families in AP

Amaravati, March 11 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has announced a large-scale mass housewarming programme across the state as a special Ugadi gift for poor families. The initiative aims to provide new homes to about 2.5 lakh beneficiaries, marking one of the biggest housing distribution drives undertaken by the state government.

The announcement was made during a review meeting with district collectors and senior officials at the State Secretariat in Amaravati. The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure that all arrangements are completed in time so that the beneficiaries can perform housewarming ceremonies on the auspicious occasion of the Ugadi festival. The



government plans to conduct the programme simultaneously across various districts to ensure that eligible families receive their long-awaited homes.

According to officials, the mass housewarming initiative is part of the government's broader goal of ensuring housing for all eligible poor families in Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister reiterated that providing permanent housing to the poor is a key priority of the coa-

lition government and forms an important part of the state's long-term development vision.

Naidu said that housing is not merely about providing shelter but also about improving the dignity and quality of life of economically weaker sections. He emphasized that every family deserves a secure and comfortable place to live, and the government is committed to fulfilling that objective through planned and transparent implementation of housing schemes.

The Chief Minister also instructed district collectors to closely monitor the progress of construction works and resolve any issues at the ground level. Officials have been asked to coordinate with local representatives and ensure that all necessary civic amenities such as electricity, drinking water, and road connectivity are available in the housing colonies before

the beneficiaries move into their new homes.

In addition, Naidu directed officials to conduct field visits and interact with beneficiaries to ensure that government welfare schemes are reaching the intended sections of society. He stressed the importance of accountability and timely completion of projects, noting that effective coordination between government departments is essential for the success of such large-scale initiatives.

The government believes that the Ugadi housewarming programme will significantly improve living conditions for thousands of poor families across Andhra Pradesh. With this initiative, the state aims to accelerate its housing mission and move closer to the goal of ensuring that every deserving household owns a permanent home in the coming years.

Branding Push for DWCREA Products: Chandrababu



Amaravati, March 11 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has emphasized the need for strong branding and marketing for products made by DWCREA (Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas) self-help groups, stating that these products should be promoted in the same way as those produced by multi-million-dollar companies.

During a review meeting with district collectors and senior officials, the Chief Minister said that women from self-help groups across the state are producing a wide range of quality products. However, due to the lack of proper branding, packaging, and marketing strategies, many of these products are not able to reach larger markets or gain the recognition they deserve.

Naidu pointed out that the state government is determined to strengthen the economic independence of women by helping them expand their businesses and improve their market reach. He stressed that if DWCREA products are presented with attractive branding and professional packaging, they can successfully compete with products from large national and international companies.

The Chief Minister also instructed officials to develop a unified brand identity for these products so that they can be marketed under a single recognizable label. Such a branding initiative, he said, will help build trust among consumers and create a stronger presence in both domestic and global markets. He directed authorities to explore

multiple marketing channels, including retail outlets, exhibitions, government-supported sales platforms, and e-commerce websites. According to him, digital marketing and online platforms can play a key role in expanding the reach of products made by self-help group members.

Naidu further said that the government should focus on improving product presentation, packaging design, and quality standards to ensure that DWCREA goods meet market expectations. He also encouraged officials to organize training programmes for women entrepreneurs so they can better understand branding, marketing strategies, and business management practices.

The Chief Minister noted that empowering women economically is essential for the overall development of rural communities. By strengthening self-help groups and providing them with better market access, the government aims to increase the income levels of thousands of families across the state.

He also suggested that the products be promoted through large exhibitions, trade fairs, and government-supported marketing campaigns. Such initiatives, he said, will help showcase the talent and hard work of rural women and create wider demand for their products. Naidu expressed confidence that with proper branding and marketing support, DWCREA products can achieve significant success in the marketplace. He added that the initiative will not only improve livelihoods but also strengthen the rural economy and encourage entrepreneurship among women in Andhra Pradesh.

Supreme Court Sets Deadline in Viveka Murder Case

New Delhi, March 11 | TPN Bureau

The Supreme Court has issued important directions in the murder case of former minister Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy, asking the trial court to speed up the proceedings and complete the trial within a fixed timeline. The directive is expected to accelerate the legal process in one of the most prominent and closely watched political murder cases in Andhra Pradesh.

During the hearing, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) informed the apex court that the investigation into the case has been completed. The agency told the court that it has already filed a third supplementary charge sheet related to the murder, indicating that all aspects of the investigation have been concluded from its side.

After considering the submissions made by the parties involved, the Supreme Court

directed the trial court to complete the trial within four weeks. The court also instructed the trial court to examine and dispose of all pending petitions related to the case within the stipulated timeframe. The directive aims to ensure that the case does not face further delays and that the judicial process moves forward efficiently.

The apex court also dealt with petitions seeking cancellation of bail granted to some of the accused in the case. These petitions were filed by the CBI and Vivekananda Reddy's daughter, Sunitha Reddy. However, the Supreme Court dismissed the petitions, observing that since the investigation has already been completed, there was no need to continue hearing them at this stage.

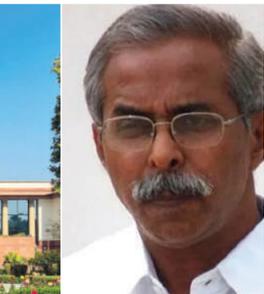
At the same time, the court clarified that if the petitioner has any concerns regarding the investigation or evidence, those matters can be raised before the trial court during the



course of the proceedings. The bench suggested that the petitioner may approach the trial court for appropriate legal remedies if necessary.

The Supreme Court further stated that the trial court should consider all relevant petitions filed under the law and proceed with the trial without unnecessary delay. By setting a specific deadline, the apex court has made it clear that the case should move toward conclusion at the earliest.

Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy, a former minister and the young-



er brother of former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, was found murdered at his residence in Pulivendula in March 2019. The case has since drawn widespread attention due to its political significance and the prolonged legal battle that followed.

With the Supreme Court's latest directions, the trial proceedings are expected to gain momentum in the coming weeks as the court works toward delivering a final verdict.

Coalition MPs Meet in Delhi; Lokesh Attends Luncheon at Ram Mohan Naidu's Residence



Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

A cordial gathering of coalition Members of Parliament took place in New Delhi, where Andhra Pradesh Minister for Education and IT Nara Lokesh interacted with MPs during his visit to the national capital. The informal meeting was hosted by Union Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu at his residence on Wednesday afternoon.

Several coalition MPs attended the luncheon hosted by Ram Mohan Naidu, making it an occasion for friendly interaction and discussions among leaders. Minister Nara Lokesh joined the gathering and spent time with the MPs in a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

During the event, Ram Mohan Naidu's mother greeted Lokesh and offered her blessings. The minister also interacted with the children of the host family, lifting them affectionately and engaging in light-hearted conversation with them. The gathering reflected a sense of camaraderie among the leaders who attended the event.

Lokesh also sought the blessings of senior BJP leader Daggubati Purandeswari, who was present at the meeting. He greeted the MPs individually and exchanged pleasantries with them,

Promote 'Swayam' Brand on Lines of Amul: CM Chandrababu Naidu



Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed district collectors to promote the Swayam brand—developed for products made by women self-help groups—on the lines of the successful Amul cooperative model. The Chief Minister made these remarks while addressing the two-day 6th District Collectors' Conference at the State Secretariat in Amaravati.

Naidu said the government has introduced the Swayam brand to market products manufactured by women belonging to DWCRA and MEPMA self-help groups. The brand logo was unveiled recently on the occasion of International Women's Day. He emphasized that the products should be marketed through a cooperative network similar to Amul, which successfully operates with the participation of dairy farmers. In the same manner, Swayam will function with the participation of DWCRA women across the state.

The Chief Minister stressed that products under the Swayam brand should meet global quality standards so they can compete in international markets. He also highlighted the importance of ensuring traceability and certification for these products. With 28 districts in Andhra Pradesh, Naidu suggested developing 28 unique product brands to encourage healthy competition and improve quality standards.

Naidu also stressed the need to improve digital literacy among government employees and the general public. He directed officials to establish district-level RTGS centres to monitor the performance of government staff. Computer literacy should become a mandatory qualification for gov-

ernment jobs, he said, while proposing the establishment of HR institutes in each district to strengthen employee capacity and skills.

In the agriculture sector, the Chief Minister called for a shift toward diversified farming. Farmers should gradually move towards horticulture and animal husbandry alongside traditional agriculture to increase income. He also highlighted the importance of using technology in agriculture and suggested that awareness on agritech and AI-based agronomy should be promoted through the Raithanna Meekosam programme.

Naidu also spoke about infrastructure development and said a four-lane corridor from Ichchapuram to Chennai is being developed. He urged officials to take advantage of the modernization of railway stations and to construct Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) at over 1,100 railway crossings to improve connectivity.

The Chief Minister further emphasized the need to reduce power purchase costs, promote skill development among youth, and create employment opportunities through digital platforms like skill portals. He also suggested the use of emerging technologies such as AI, blockchain, IoT, and robotics in sectors like healthcare, education, agriculture, and digital governance.

Highlighting logistics development, Naidu said industrial townships should be developed near ports and airports. Logistics parks should also be promoted under MSME policies to improve supply chains and transportation. He also suggested establishing heliports on five acres of land in each district with support from the central government.

The Chief Minister finally urged municipal commissioners to focus strongly on sanitation and encouraged cities to compete in national cleanliness rankings such as Swachh Survekshan.

Ministers, senior officials, and district collectors participated in the conference.

AI to Transform Tourism in Andhra Pradesh: Minister Kandula Durgesh

Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

A new chapter is set to begin in the tourism sector of Andhra Pradesh, with plans to develop the state as a hub for Artificial Intelligence-driven cultural tourism. State Tourism, Culture and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh announced that the government aims to integrate advanced technologies to create immersive digital tourism experiences.

Speaking during his visit to Mumbai, the minister said the initiative aligns with the vision of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to transform Andhra Pradesh into a global technology hub. Durgesh participated in discussions on the second day of the 24th IAAPI Expo (Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries) being held at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, where he met with senior representatives of Eros Innovation.

Cultural AI Ecosystem

During the meeting, the minister discussed the development of the world's first "Cultural AI Tourism Ecosystem" in Andhra Pradesh using Large Cultural Models developed by Eros Innovation. These models are designed to deeply understand Indian culture, my-



thology, languages, and storytelling traditions. According to the minister, such technology can help showcase the cultural heritage of Andhra Pradesh to global audiences.

Immersive Digital Tourism

Durgesh explained that the project aims to provide tourists with immersive digital journeys around ancient temples, historic monuments, and cultural narratives of the state. Guided by the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu

Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, the government plans to create interactive experiences where visitors can not only see historical places but also digitally experience the stories and heritage associated with them.

Opportunities for Youth and Creators

The minister emphasized that the initiative will benefit young artists, storytellers, designers, filmmakers, and digital creators across the state. By

linking tourism with the rapidly growing creator economy, the government aims to provide global platforms for Andhra Pradesh's creative talent. This move is expected to open new employment opportunities and encourage innovation in the cultural and digital sectors.

Andhra Pradesh on the Global Stage

Officials said the collaboration between the state tourism department and Eros Innovation will combine technology, culture, and tourism to generate new economic opportunities. The government believes the initiative will position Andhra Pradesh as a global leader in immersive heritage tourism and promote the state's rich cultural heritage on the international stage.

The meeting was attended by Vikram Tanna, CEO of Eros Universe and Eros Now; Pi-yush Bhatia, Group Chief Marketing Officer of Eros Innovation; and Dr. Shilpa Desai, CEO of Eros Wellness R&D. From the Andhra Pradesh government, officials including AP Tourism Authority Deputy CEO A. Srinivas, Investments Head Satyaprabha, Marketing Manager Rafiq, and Senior Consultant Shiva participated in the discussions.

Lease Agreement Completed for Basil Woods International School in Amaravati

Amaravathi 11. 03. 2026 TPN Bureau:

A major step toward strengthening the education sector in the capital region of Amaravati was taken on Wednesday with the completion of a lease agreement for establishing the Basil Woods International School. The agreement was finalized between the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) and the Touchstone Educational Foundation, which will set up the educational institution in the capital city.

According to officials, land had earlier been allotted to the educational foundation in Amaravati for establishing the institution. With the completion of the lease agreement, the project has now moved forward to the implementation stage. On behalf of APCRDA, Estates Wing Joint Director Zubin Chiranjit Roy handed over the relevant documents to Kidambi Venugopal, trustee of the Touchstone Educational Foundation.

The agreement registration process was completed at the Mandadam Sub-Registrar Office in the presence of Joint Registrar C.H. Rambabu.



Officials stated that Basil Woods International School will be established on nearly four acres of land in Amaravati with an estimated investment of around ₹40 crore. The institution will be developed according to international standards and is expected to provide world-class educational facilities in the capital region.

Representatives of the educational foundation said that the institution will follow modern teaching methods while integrating Indian values and

life skills into the curriculum. The school will offer education for students from kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12), aiming to provide a comprehensive and globally competitive learning environment.

The proposed campus will feature several modern facilities, including digital classrooms, advanced laboratories, libraries, sports infrastructure, an indoor stadium, a swimming pool, and a multipurpose hall. Other essential infrastructure and learning resources will also be developed

to ensure a holistic educational experience for students.

The institution is expected to accommodate nearly 2,000 students once fully operational. The project is designed not only to provide quality education but also to contribute to the growth of the capital region by creating employment opportunities for teachers, administrative staff, and support personnel.

Officials noted that the establishment of Basil Woods International School will strengthen Amaravati's position as an emerging educational hub. With the addition of such institutions, the capital region is expected to attract students from different parts of the state and country.

Authorities further stated that educational projects like this play a crucial role in the long-term development of Amaravati. Along with administrative and infrastructure development, expanding educational facilities is seen as an important step toward transforming the capital city into a vibrant center for learning and innovation in Andhra Pradesh.

No Need for Panic Over Gulf Tensions: Atchannaaidu

Amaravati, March 11 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaaidu has assured shrimp farmers in the state that there is no need to panic over the ongoing tensions in the Gulf region. He advised farmers not to resort to panic harvesting and urged them to continue aquaculture activities scientifically without being influenced by rumours.

The minister held a video conference from the Vijayawada camp office with officials of the Andhra Pradesh State Aquaculture Development Authority (APSADA), co-vice chairpersons, non-official committee members and members of the Aquaculture Advisory Committee to review the current situation. During the meeting, discussions were held on the possible impact of the tensions in the Middle East on India's seafood exports and the concerns being raised in the media.

Addressing the meeting, Atchannaaidu said some aquaculture farmers were worried due to reports about the tensions in the Gulf region and their possible effect on seafood exports. However, he clarified that only about three to four per cent of India's total seafood ex-



ports are sent to Middle Eastern countries, and these shipments generally pass through the Strait of Hormuz.

He explained that seafood exports to other major markets such as the European Union, the United States, Japan and China continue through alternative maritime routes including the Red Sea-Suez Canal route, the Cape of Good Hope route and other established sea lanes. Therefore, the current geopolitical situation is unlikely to cause any major disruption to India's seafood exports. The minister also addressed

concerns about the impact of tariffs in the United States market. He noted that demand in the US market is expected to improve by the end of March 2026, particularly after the upcoming Seafood Expo North America scheduled to be held in Boston from March 15 to 17. He said the American market generally has strong demand for shrimp in the 50 and 60 count categories, which are commonly produced by farmers in Andhra Pradesh. Farmers were advised not to harvest prematurely before the shrimp reach the optimal count.

Atchannaaidu also dismissed reports about a shortage of shipping containers. He said the claims circulating about container shortages affecting exports are not true and there is currently no such crisis impacting seafood shipments from the state.

To ensure continuous monitoring of export trends and to provide timely guidance to farmers, the minister said APSADA would conduct review meetings with directors and advisory committee members during the last week of every month. He added that if the proposed Free Trade Agreement between India and the European Union is finalized, it could open up more market opportunities and further boost India's seafood exports in the coming years.

The minister urged shrimp farmers not to believe in rumours or misinformation. He advised them to follow proper culture cycles and harvest only at the appropriate time based on guidance from exporters and fisheries department officials. He assured that the state government is closely monitoring international developments and is taking necessary steps to ensure uninterrupted seafood exports from Andhra Pradesh.

Vasamamshetty Subhash Criticizes Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy Over “False Allegations”

Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Labour Minister Vasamamshetty Subhash strongly criticized Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of spreading misinformation against the coalition government. He said that even after the public rejected the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), there has been no change in Jagan's political approach.

In a statement issued on Wednesday in Amaravati, the minister alleged that Jagan Mohan Reddy continues to make baseless accusations and spread false narratives against the current coalition government. Subhash said that the former Chief Minister is attempting to mislead the public by claiming that the state's debts are increasing under the present administration.

The minister further stated that people are well aware of the financial condition of the state during the previous five-year rule of Jagan Mohan Reddy. According to him, the state's debt burden increased significantly during that period and the economic system of Andhra Pradesh was severely affected.

Subhash alleged that during the previous government's tenure, loans were taken primarily to fund welfare schemes and publicity activities for political gain rather than focusing on development. He said it was ironic that Jagan was now criticizing the current government over the issue of loans.

He clarified that borrowing



by the present coalition government is aimed at development projects, infrastructure expansion, attracting investments, promoting industries, and creating employment opportunities in the state. The minister said the public clearly understands the difference between loans taken for development and those taken for political purposes.

Subhash also responded to comments made by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan regarding 11 YSRCP MLAs, stating that Jagan Mohan Reddy had misunderstood the context of the remark. He remarked sar-

cistically that YSRCP leaders appeared to celebrate the comment without fully understanding its meaning.

The minister also criticized Jagan Mohan Reddy for expressing displeasure over media reports suggesting that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu could play a major role in national politics in the future. Subhash described Chandrababu Naidu as a seasoned political leader who had played a significant role in national politics even before Jagan entered public life.

He further stated that Naidu had earlier declined opportu-

nities at the national level in order to prioritize the interests and development of Andhra Pradesh. Subhash questioned the legitimacy of Jagan Mohan Reddy criticizing such a leader.

Concluding his remarks, the minister advised Jagan Mohan Reddy to understand the actual financial situation of the state before making public statements. He suggested that if the former Chief Minister speaks responsibly and truthfully about economic matters, it might help his party gain at least one seat in the next elections.

YSRCP to Celebrate Foundation Day at Tadepalli Party Headquarters



Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) will celebrate its foundation day on March 12 with a special programme at the party's central office in Tadepalli. Former Chief Minister and party president Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy will lead the celebrations by hoisting the party flag at 9:30 AM.

According to party sources, leaders, cadres, and supporters from different parts of the state are expected to participate in the event. The programme will mark another milestone in the journey of the party, which was founded with the aim of promoting welfare-oriented governance and representing the aspirations of the people of Andhra Pradesh.

The foundation day celebrations will include flag hoisting, party leaders addressing the gathering, and recalling the political journey and achievements of the party since its formation. Party members are expected to highlight the role played by YSRCP in shaping welfare policies and addressing the needs of various sections of society.

The YSR Congress Party was founded in 2011 under the leadership of Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Over the years, the party has grown into a major political force in Andhra Pradesh politics. The party achieved a historic victory in the 2019 Assembly elections, forming the government with a massive majority and implementing several welfare schemes

aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of the people.

Leaders of the party say the foundation day is not only an occasion for celebration but also an opportunity to reaffirm the party's commitment to public service and people-centric governance. They believe the event will energize party workers and strengthen the party's organizational structure across the state.

Senior leaders are expected to address the gathering and call upon party cadres to continue working closely with the public, listening to their concerns and strengthening the party's presence at the grassroots level. The celebrations are also likely to include cultural activities and interactions among party leaders and workers.

Party supporters view the occasion as a moment to reflect on the political journey of YSRCP and the leadership of Jagan Mohan Reddy, who continues to play a significant role in the state's political landscape. The event at Tadepalli is expected to draw considerable attention from political observers as well as party members across Andhra Pradesh.

With preparations already underway, the party leadership hopes the foundation day celebrations will send a message of unity and determination among its cadres while reinforcing its commitment to serving the people of the state.

Atchannaidu Slams Jagan Over ‘False Politics in Farmers’ Name’

Amaravati, March 11 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu ATCHANNAIDU strongly criticised former Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party leader Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of indulging in “false politics” in the name of farmers. Responding to recent allegations made by Jagan on the state's agricultural policies, the minister said the criticism was politically motivated and aimed at misleading the public.

ATCHANNAIDU warned that farmers' issues should not be used for political gain. He said leaders who failed to work for farmers during their tenure have no moral right to question the present government. The minister alleged that Jagan had ignored farmers during his five-year rule and was now attempting to stage political drama by raising concerns about their welfare.

The minister stated that during the previous government's tenure, large promises were made under the Rythu Bharosa scheme, but several payments meant for farmers were delayed or left pending. He alleged that although the previous government claimed to provide ₹13,500 to farmers annually, only ₹7,500 was contrib-



uted by the state government, while the remaining ₹6,000 came from the Central government's PM-Kisan scheme. However, the previous administration projected the combined amount as if it was entirely provided by the state.

ATCHANNAIDU said the current coalition government has increased the annual financial assistance to farmers to ₹20,000, which is being released in three instalments. He noted that two instalments have already been distributed, benefiting farmer families with a total of ₹6,309.44 crore. The third instalment is scheduled to be re-

leased on March 13.

He also criticised Jagan for allegedly misrepresenting facts regarding crop insurance premiums. According to the minister, the previous government had failed to pay premiums for multiple seasons, leaving a financial burden of about ₹1,990.06 crore on the current administration.

Referring to recent natural disasters, the minister said the government responded promptly to support farmers. Compensation of ₹25 crore, ₹34 crore and ₹310 crore had already been distributed for losses caused by cyclones. He added that damage

assessment for the recent Monda cyclone had been completed and compensation would be released as soon as funds from the Central government are received.

ATCHANNAIDU said the government had allocated ₹300 crore in the 2025-26 budget but had already spent around ₹588 crore to address farmers' needs. He also pointed out that micro-irrigation schemes were expanded significantly after the coalition government assumed office, benefiting over 2.10 lakh farmers across 2.33 lakh hectares with an expenditure of ₹1,857 crore.

The minister further stated that input subsidy for paddy farmers had been increased from ₹17,000 to ₹25,000. Since June 2024, around two lakh farmers have received ₹310 crore as input subsidy. Pending compensation for families of farmers who died by suicide during the previous regime has also been cleared, and additional payments are being processed.

Concluding his remarks, ATCHANNAIDU said the era of misleading farmers with false propaganda is over and warned that attempts to exploit farmers' sentiments for political purposes would not succeed.

Satya Kumar Yadav Slams Former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy



Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Health and Family Welfare Minister Satya Kumar Yadav strongly criticized former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, questioning his recent statements and accusing him of avoiding accountability on several issues related to governance and public welfare.

In a sharp reaction issued on Wednesday in Amaravati, the minister asked Jagan Mohan Reddy whether he truly believes he had delivered exceptional governance during his tenure. If that were the case, he questioned why the people had rejected him politically. Satya Kumar Yadav also asked why Jagan Mohan Reddy has not been attending the Assembly sessions if he is genuinely concerned about public welfare.

The minister further raised questions about several welfare schemes and pending payments that he alleged were left unresolved during the previous government's tenure. According to him, there are still dues related to various programmes implemented during the YSRCP administration.

Satya Kumar Yadav also accused the former Chief Minister of damaging the public healthcare system in Andhra Pradesh. He said that several financial liabilities were left behind, including

pending dues related to NTR Vaidya Seva, procurement of medicines, and construction projects in the health sector. These pending obligations, he said, had created significant financial pressure on the state's health department.

The minister further remarked that Jagan Mohan Reddy should realize that he does not have the moral authority to criticize the current Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. He asserted that the present government is working to correct the financial and administrative challenges inherited from the previous regime.

Satya Kumar Yadav went on to allege that the economic policies followed during Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure had placed a heavy burden on the state's finances. He described the situation as “economic damage” that the current government is now trying to overcome through reforms and improved governance.

The minister concluded by stating that the public expects responsible and constructive political discourse rather than baseless criticism. He urged the former Chief Minister to respond to the questions being raised about his administration and to participate actively in democratic processes such as Assembly debates if he truly intends to represent the interests of the people.

Bhanu Prakash Criticises YSRCP Leaders

Tirupati, March 11 | TPN Bureau

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) board member and BJP leader Bhanu Prakash Reddy strongly criticised leaders of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), accusing them of attempting to politicise religious institutions and create unnecessary controversies. He said sacred institutions like Tirumala should not be dragged into political disputes.

Speaking to the media, Bhanu Prakash alleged that some YSRCP leaders were deliberately making statements about Tirumala and temple administration for political mileage. He said the temple is a place of deep faith for millions of devotees and any attempt to use it for political purposes would hurt religious sentiments.

He said that during the YSRCP government's tenure from 2019 to 2024, several controversial decisions and irregularities took place in temple administration. According to him, many of these issues are now coming to light and discussions are being held about them. He added



that the public deserves to know the truth about what happened during that period.

Bhanu Prakash said some leaders were now trying to shift the focus by making allegations against the present administration. He described such attempts as political diversion tactics meant to mislead people and avoid accountability.

The TTD board member also stressed that temple administration should remain transpar-

ent and focused on serving devotees. He said the current administration is committed to maintaining the sanctity of Tirumala and ensuring that all religious traditions are followed properly.

He further stated that matters related to temple management should be handled with responsibility and sensitivity. Political leaders, he said, should refrain from making irresponsible remarks about religious institu-

tions, as such comments can hurt the sentiments of devotees across the country.

Bhanu Prakash also accused certain political leaders of creating unnecessary controversies through protests and statements aimed at gaining attention. According to him, such actions only create confusion among devotees and the general public.

He said people of the state are closely watching the developments and are capable of understanding the difference between genuine concerns and politically motivated allegations. He expressed confidence that the truth about temple-related issues would eventually come out.

Concluding his remarks, Bhanu Prakash said religious institutions like Tirumala should remain above politics and should continue to function solely for the spiritual welfare of devotees. He urged all political parties to act responsibly and respect the sanctity of temples and the faith of millions of devotees.

Demand to Increase Salaries of Village Revenue Assistants in Andhra Pradesh

Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The AP Village Revenue Assistants Association has demanded an immediate salary hike for Village Revenue Assistants (VRAs), stating that employees have been struggling with inadequate wages for several years. The demand was raised during a state-level meeting of the association held at the Vijayawada Revenue Bhavan on Wednesday.

The meeting was conducted under the leadership of Bopparaju Venkateswarlu, Chairman of AP JAC Amaravati and State President of the Andhra Pradesh Revenue Services Association (APRSA). The AP Village Revenue Assistants Association, which is affiliated with APRSA and registered under number 29/2020, organized the meeting to discuss several long-pending issues affecting VRAs across the state.

During the meeting, leaders and members of the association highlighted that Village Revenue Assistants have been facing severe financial hardships due to the absence of salary revisions for the past eight years. They pointed out that despite performing crucial responsibilities at the village level, their wages have not been increased for a long time, making it difficult for them to man-



age their livelihoods.

The participants discussed various issues related to VRAs, including the need for a salary hike, implementation of pending benefits, and providing promotional opportunities within the revenue department. The association leaders stressed that VRAs play a key role in assisting revenue officials and maintaining records at the village level, yet their welfare has been largely neglected.

Another important development during the meeting was the unanimous election of new office bearers for the state

VRA association. Y. Lakshman was elected as the State General Secretary of the AP Village Revenue Assistants Association. In addition, B. Chandramohan was elected as State Assistant Secretary, Chilaparapu Madhubabu as State Organizing Secretary, and Kathi Manohar Rajan as State Treasurer. The new leadership was chosen unanimously by the members present at the meeting.

Association leaders expressed hope that the newly elected committee would work actively to address the problems

encouraged employees to support the cause. On the same occasion, Dr. P. Kalpana addressed various misconceptions related to organ and body donation. She also explained the process of registering as a donor through the Jeevandan Portal, which facilitates organ donation pledges in the state.

Several officials and staff members from the agriculture department participated in the camp. Among them were Joint Director of Agriculture Krupadas, along with Balu Naik and Hari Babu Choudhary. Others who attended the programme included Dhanunjaya Reddy, Chairman of Manavatha Medical Camps, as well as Pavuluri Ramesh, Kota Srinivas, Chava Shivaji, Mekala Ramarao, K. Anand, B. Murali Kishore, Kali Prasad, and Dr. Ajma Farhad, among several supporting staff members.

At the end of the programme, Dr. Vinay Chand, Additional Director of Agriculture, felicitated the doctors who provided services at the medical camp by presenting them with mementos in recognition of their contribution. Organizers expressed satisfaction over the enthusiastic participation and reiterated their commitment to conducting more such health awareness initiatives in the future.

The meeting concluded with members expressing confidence that united efforts by the association would help bring attention to the concerns of VRAs and lead to positive action from the government.

Devotees Donate ₹4.5 Lakh for Annadanam and Cow Protection at Kanaka Durga Temple



Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Devotees from Hyderabad made a generous donation to support religious and charitable activities at the sacred Kanaka Durga Temple, located on Indrakeeladri Hill in Vijayawada.

Residents of Jubilee Hills, Kotirao and Anju Kumari, along with their family members, donated a total amount of ₹4,50,000 to the temple authorities. The contribution was made in support of the temple's Nitya Uchita Prasadam Scheme and Go Samrakshana (cow protection) programme.

Out of the total donation, ₹2,25,000 was contributed towards the Nitya Uchita Prasadam Scheme, which provides free prasadam to devotees visiting the temple every day. The remaining ₹2,25,000 was donated for the Go Samrakshana programme, aimed at supporting the protection and care of cows maintained by the temple administration.

The devotees handed over the donation to the Executive Officer of the temple, Sina Naik, during a visit to the temple. The contribution was made in the names of Anju Kumari and Tanisha Rao, reflecting the family's devotion and commitment to supporting temple initiatives.

Temple officials appreciated the

generous gesture and stated that such contributions help strengthen various welfare and devotional programmes conducted by the temple. The Nitya Uchita Prasadam Scheme plays an important role in providing free prasadam to thousands of devotees visiting the shrine daily, ensuring that pilgrims receive sacred offerings without any cost.

Similarly, the Go Samrakshana programme focuses on the protection and maintenance of cows associated with the temple, which is considered a sacred responsibility in Hindu tradition. Donations from devotees help the temple authorities maintain goshalas and ensure proper care for the animals.

Officials of the temple expressed gratitude to the donors and noted that the support of devotees from different parts of the country continues to help the temple carry out various spiritual and charitable activities.

The Kanaka Durga Temple on Indrakeeladri Hill is one of the most prominent pilgrimage centers in Andhra Pradesh and attracts thousands of devotees every day. Contributions from devotees play a vital role in sustaining temple services and supporting welfare programmes for pilgrims and the community.

Free Eye Camp and Glaucoma Awareness Programme Held at Agriculture Department Office in Guntur

Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

A free eye medical camp and glaucoma awareness programme was organized for the staff at the Office of the Commissioner and Director of Agriculture in Guntur on Wednesday. The initiative was conducted as part of World Glaucoma Week, observed globally from March 8 to March 14 to spread awareness about glaucoma and the importance of early detection.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. K. Bala Bhaskar, President, and Dr. D. Praveen, Secretary of the State Agriculture Officers Association. The camp was jointly organized by the APAO Association, Sankara Eye Hospital, and Manavatha Voluntary Service Organization. Organizers said the medical camp received an excellent response from agriculture department staff.

Speaking on the occasion, ophthalmologist Dr. Jagruti Muvva from Sankara Eye Hospital explained that nearly 78 million people worldwide are suffering from glaucoma. She pointed out that about 50 percent of the affected individuals are unaware of the disease, which often progresses without noticeable symptoms in the early stages. She stressed that such awareness programmes



and medical camps are essential to educate people about the condition and encourage early diagnosis.

Dr. Jagruti explained that glaucoma can be controlled and prevented from causing severe vision loss if detected early through regular eye examinations. She cautioned the public not to ignore symptoms such as severe headaches, watering of the eyes, eye pain, redness, and blurred vision. She also advised people not to use steroid eye drops without proper medical consultation, as self-

medication could worsen eye conditions.

The doctor particularly recommended that individuals above the age of 40 and those suffering from health conditions like diabetes and hypertension should undergo periodic eye check-ups. Regular screening, she said, plays a crucial role in identifying glaucoma at an early stage and preventing permanent damage to vision.

During the programme, Manda Surendra explained the significance of eye donation and

encouraged employees to support the cause. On the same occasion, Dr. P. Kalpana addressed various misconceptions related to organ and body donation. She also explained the process of registering as a donor through the Jeevandan Portal, which facilitates organ donation pledges in the state.

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Officials Inspect Durga Ghat to Improve Facilities for Devotees

Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Senior officials conducted a field inspection at Durga Ghat on Wednesday to review arrangements and plan improvements for devotees visiting the famous Kanaka Durga Temple. The inspection was aimed at ensuring better facilities and smoother movement for pilgrims who arrive in large numbers to offer prayers at the shrine located on Indrakeeladri Hill in Vijayawada.

The inspection was jointly carried out by the temple's Special Grade Deputy Collector and Executive Officer Sina Naik and Executive Engineer Rama Devi. During the visit, officials carefully examined the surroundings of the ghat and assessed the existing infrastructure used by devotees who come to take a holy dip in the Krishna River before proceeding for darshan at the temple.

Officials discussed several measures to regulate the increasing crowd of devotees and to ensure their safety and convenience. A key focus of the inspection was to identify ways to streamline the movement of pilgrims visiting the ghat for ritual baths. Authorities reviewed the current facilities and explored options to introduce better access routes.



One of the major proposals discussed during the inspection was the creation of new pathways to the ghat. These new routes are intended to help devotees reach the bathing area easily and leave the premises without congestion. Officials said that additional pathways would help prevent overcrowding and reduce the risk of stampedes, especially during peak pilgrimage days and festival seasons.

Another important aspect reviewed was the effective use of

the existing subways that connect different areas leading to the ghat. Authorities are planning to improve these subways so that devotees can use them comfortably for entering and exiting the ghat area. Enhancing the subway infrastructure is expected to significantly ease pedestrian movement and reduce traffic congestion near the temple premises.

Officials also focused on improving basic amenities at the bathing ghats. Plans include strengthening safety measures,

ensuring proper lighting, and providing essential facilities for devotees who visit the river for religious rituals. Special attention is being given to maintaining cleanliness and ensuring that devotees can perform their rituals in a safe and organized environment.

Authorities stated that these improvements are being planned with a long-term perspective, considering the growing number of pilgrims visiting the temple every year. The aim is to develop permanent infrastructure that can efficiently manage large crowds without causing inconvenience to devotees.

Engineering department staff of the temple and other officials also participated in the inspection and provided technical inputs regarding the proposed changes. Officials expressed confidence that once the planned improvements are implemented, devotees visiting Durga Ghat will experience better accessibility, safety, and comfort.

The initiative reflects the temple administration's commitment to enhancing facilities for pilgrims and ensuring smooth management of the increasing devotee footfall in Vijayawada.

VMC Commissioner Directs Immediate Repairs at Swargapuri



Amaravathi 11.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The Commissioner of the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation, Dhyana Chandra, has directed officials to complete all pending repair works at Swargapuri without delay and ensure that residents and visitors face no inconvenience.

As part of his official tour on Wednesday morning, the Commissioner inspected several areas including Krishnalanka and Ranigiri Thota to assess civic conditions and review ongoing works at the ground level.

During the inspection, Dhyana Chandra emphasized that there should be no pending repair works in Swargapuri and instructed officials to immediately address any issues identified in the area. He directed concerned departments to ensure that all essential civic facilities are provided in a timely manner and maintained properly for public convenience.

The Commissioner also inspected the Netaji Bridge area and reviewed the vertical garden established near the bridge. He instructed officials to develop and maintain the vertical garden in an attractive manner so that the greenery remains well maintained.

Later, the Commissioner visited the Anna Canteen operating under the Andhra Pradesh State Road

Transport Corporation premises in the locality. He directed nodal officers to ensure that there are no operational issues at the canteen and that the facility continues to serve meals to the public without disruption. Officials were asked to monitor the functioning of the canteen regularly and resolve any problems immediately.

The inspection was part of the corporation's ongoing efforts to improve civic infrastructure and maintain public facilities across Vijayawada. The Commissioner reiterated that quick action must be taken whenever issues are reported so that residents receive uninterrupted municipal services.

Several officials accompanied the Commissioner during the inspection. Those present included Zonal Commissioner K. Shammi, Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. K. Arjuna Rao, Estate Officer A. Sridhar, Executive Engineer G. Samarajyam, and Assistant Medical and Health Officer Gopala Naik, along with other staff members from the municipal corporation.

Officials stated that the corporation will continue to conduct field inspections in different parts of the city to ensure that civic amenities are maintained efficiently and that necessary repairs and improvements are carried out promptly.

National Conference on Sustainable Chemistry Begins at Central Tribal University

Vizianagaram, March 11 | TPN Bureau

A three-day national conference titled "Sustainable Chemistry for Health, Energy and Environmental Protection (SCHEE-2026)" began at the Central Tribal University in Vizianagaram. The event is being organised by the Department of Chemistry of the university and was inaugurated with the traditional lighting of the lamp ceremony.

Delivering the welcome address, Head of the Department of Chemistry Prof. M. Sharathchandra Babu explained the importance and objectives of the conference. He said the event aims to bring together scientists, academicians and researchers from across the country to discuss emerging developments in sustainable chemistry and its role in addressing modern challenges related to health, energy and environmental protection.

The chief guest for the inaugural session, noted scientist Dr. L. Giribabu from CSIR, Hyderabad, highlighted the importance of sustainable chemistry research for the welfare of future generations. He said that scientific advancements in this field play a crucial role in environmental protection, efficient utilization of energy resources, development of green energy and innovations in the healthcare sector. He encouraged scientists and researchers to focus on environmentally friendly research that can help create sus-



tainable solutions for global challenges.

Delivering the keynote address, Prof. P. Abbarasan from IIT Madras stated that sustainable chemistry plays a vital role in meeting the needs of modern society. He emphasized the need for expanded research in areas such as healthcare, energy production and environmental conservation. According to him, collaboration among scientists and researchers can lead to innovative solutions that benefit society and promote sustainable development.

Another keynote speaker, Prof. G. Ramakrishna Bhat from IISER Berhampur, stressed the importance of developing chemical industries and technologies that do not harm the environment. He noted that the present era demands

eco-friendly technologies and urged young researchers to actively contribute to the development of sustainable scientific solutions.

Speaking on the occasion, the university's in-charge Registrar Prof. Jitendra Mohan Mishra said that scientific research plays a significant role in achieving sustainable development goals. He added that national conferences like this provide an excellent platform for knowledge sharing and academic discussions among scientists, faculty members and research scholars.

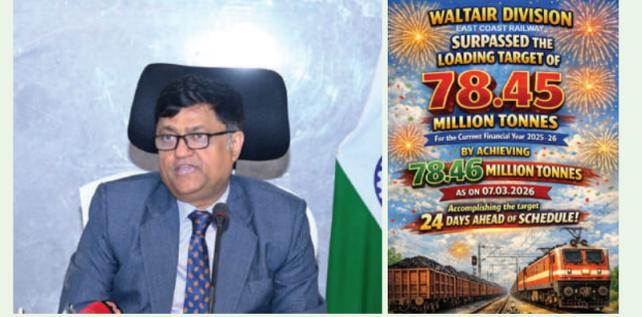
Presiding over the event, the university's in-charge Vice-Chancellor Prof. Tantravahi Srinivasan said such conferences are highly beneficial for faculty members, researchers and students. He observed that

scientific discussions and collaborative research can help identify solutions to contemporary global problems.

The programme was attended by Associate Professor Dr. Kalidindi Suresh Babu, Assistant Professor Dr. Kishore Padala, guest faculty Dr. S. Chandrasekhar and several organising committee members. Faculty members, researchers and students from various departments also participated.

Scientists, academicians, researchers and students from universities and research institutions across the country are taking part in the three-day conference. The event will feature technical sessions, research presentations and discussions on innovative approaches in sustainable chemistry.

Waltair Division Surpasses Freight Loading Target



Vizianagaram, March 11 | TPN Bureau

The Waltair Division of Indian Railways has achieved a historic milestone by surpassing its freight loading target of 78.45 million tonnes for the first time in any financial year. The division accomplished this remarkable feat 24 days ahead of the close of the financial year, marking a significant achievement in its operational performance.

Divisional Railway Manager Lalit Bohra congratulated the entire team for their outstanding efforts in reaching this milestone. He announced that the division recorded a total freight loading of 78.464 million tonnes, exceeding the set target well before the end of the financial year. Bohra described March 7, 2026 as a landmark day that will remain memorable in the history of the Waltair Division. He appreciated the dedication and teamwork displayed by all departments that contributed to the achievement.

The division's freight loading of 78.464 million tonnes represents a growth of more than 16.5 percent compared to the previous financial year 2024-25, during which the division recorded 67.254 million tonnes up to the same period. Officials said the growth reflects the division's strong operational planning and the successful implementation of various efficiency measures.

Several key factors contributed to this achievement, including customer-centric initiatives, improved coordination with stakeholders, enhanced operational efficiency and better capacity utilisation. Railway officials also highlighted the role of effective crew management and stream-

lined freight operations in boosting the division's performance.

Despite facing multiple challenges during the year, the Waltair Division continued to maintain its momentum. Natural calamities, security-related issues and ongoing infrastructure development works posed difficulties in several areas. At the same time, major projects such as railway line doubling, triple line works and safety-related modernization activities were also underway across the division.

Officials said the ability of different departments to work together with strong coordination played a crucial role in overcoming these challenges. The combined efforts of operations, engineering, mechanical, electrical and commercial departments helped the division maintain a steady pace of freight loading.

The Waltair Division plays an important role in the movement of bulk commodities such as coal, iron ore, steel, fertilizers and other essential goods. Its efficient freight operations significantly contribute to the overall performance of the East Coast Railway zone and support industrial and economic activities across the region.

Encouraged by this achievement, railway officials said the division will continue to focus on maintaining the same level of performance in the coming weeks. The Waltair Division is now aiming to conclude the financial year 2025-26 on a strong note while sustaining its commitment to operational excellence, efficiency and continued growth in freight loading.

MP Purandeswari Raises 'Kavach' Railway Safety System in Lok Sabha

East Godavari, March 11 | TPN Bureau

BJP MP Daggubati Purandeswari raised an important issue related to railway passenger safety in the Lok Sabha, seeking details on the implementation of the 'Kavach' Automatic Train Protection System being introduced across the Indian Railways network. She questioned the Union government on the current progress of the advanced safety system aimed at preventing train accidents and improving operational safety.

During the Question Hour in Parliament, Purandeswari asked the Railway Ministry to provide details about the implementation status of the Kavach system across the country's vast railway network. She particularly sought clarification on the progress of installing the system across nearly 69,439 kilometres of railway tracks in India.

The MP also raised questions regarding the technological components involved in the project, including the installation of RFID technology on railway tracks, the placement of RFID readers and brake interface devices in locomotive driver cabins, and the construction of ra-



dio infrastructure such as towers and modems. She asked whether the government would be able to achieve its target of implementing Kavach across 6,000 kilometres of railway track by 2026.

Responding to the questions in Parliament, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw explained that the implementation of the Kavach system is a highly complex technological process. However, he assured that the work is progressing steadily across different rail-

way zones.

According to the minister, significant progress has already been achieved in the roll-out of the system. So far, about 8,570 kilometres of optical fibre cable has been laid to support the technology. In addition, around 1,100 telecom towers have been constructed, and 767 station data centres have been established to facilitate communication and monitoring systems.

The Railway Ministry also reported that trackside equip-

ment has already been installed along 6,776 kilometres of railway track. At the same time, the installation of necessary equipment inside locomotives is also progressing at a steady pace to ensure full integration of the system.

The minister noted that although the concept of such safety systems had been discussed since the 1990s, the project gained momentum after the formation of the Narendra Modi government. The development work formally began in 2016, and the first version of Kavach was introduced in 2019. The final design of the system received approval in July 2024.

Vaishnaw said the Kavach system represents a major technological advancement in railway safety. He added that the pace at which India is implementing this advanced safety technology is being closely watched by countries around the world.

The government believes that once fully implemented, the Kavach system will significantly reduce the risk of train collisions and strengthen passenger safety across the Indian Railways network.

Debate Sought on AP Bifurcation in Parliament



East Godavari, March 11 | TPN Bureau

The manner in which Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated has once again become a topic of discussion at the national level, with calls for a detailed debate in Parliament. Former minister and ex-MP Undavalli Arun Kumar has appreciated Lok Sabha member Krishnadevarayalu for raising the issue of the state's bifurcation in Parliament and questioning the constitutional validity of the process.

Undavalli Arun Kumar said it was commendable that the issue of Andhra Pradesh's division was brought up in Parliament even after more than a decade. He noted that raising concerns about the constitutional aspects of the bifurcation was an important step toward bringing the facts before the country.

He congratulated MP Krishnadevarayalu for speaking on the issue and urged him to take the matter further by submitting a notice for a short-duration discussion in Parliament. According to him, this would provide an opportunity to present the events that occurred during the bifurcation process before the nation.

Undavalli stated that the developments surrounding the division of Andhra Pradesh need to be openly discussed so that the people of the country can understand the circumstances under which the state was divided. He expressed confidence that Krishnadevarayalu has the abil-

ity to present the issue strongly and effectively in Parliament.

He also stressed the need to highlight the constitutional and procedural aspects related to the bifurcation. A parliamentary discussion, he said, would help bring clarity to the matter and ensure that all relevant issues are examined at the national level.

Undavalli further pointed out that a case related to the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh is still pending before the Supreme Court. He urged that efforts should be made to ensure that the state government responds appropriately in the case and presents its position before the court.

He appealed to MP Krishnadevarayalu to show special interest in pursuing the matter and ensuring that the concerns related to the bifurcation process are addressed. According to him, raising the issue in Parliament at this stage is significant and could help bring renewed attention to the constitutional questions surrounding the division of the state.

Undavalli concluded that the time is appropriate for a broader discussion on the issue and that Parliament would be the right platform to revisit and examine the constitutional aspects of Andhra Pradesh's bifurcation. He said such a discussion could help bring out the facts and provide clarity on the developments that led to the creation of separate states.

'Aadrithi 2026' National Fest Begins at MVGR College

Vizianagaram, March 11 | TPN Bureau

A national-level technical, cultural and sports festival titled "Aadrithi 2026" will begin on Thursday at MVGR College of Engineering in Vizianagaram, which is run under the MANSAS educational institutions. The two-day event aims to provide a platform for students from various colleges across the country to showcase their talent, creativity and technical skills.

According to the organisers, more than 4,500 students from different colleges are expected to participate in the festival. Over 30 competitions will be conducted as part of the event, covering a wide range of technical, cultural and sports activities.

The technical segment of the festival includes competitions such as Hackathon, Code Exploration, Robo Race and Drone Challenge. These events are designed to encourage innovation, programming skills and technological creativity among students. Participants will have the opportunity to present their ideas and solutions to real-world challenges through these



competitions.

In addition to technical events, the festival will also feature several sports competitions including volleyball, basketball and throwball. Cultural events such as dance, singing, short film competitions and a fashion show will also be organised, giving students a chance to express their artistic talents and creativity.

The organisers announced that attractive cash prizes will be awarded to the winners of various competitions. The

Hackathon competition alone carries a cash prize of up to ₹1.5 lakh, while the total prize pool for all the events combined is around ₹6 lakh.

One of the unique highlights of the festival is the introduction of a digital token system developed by students of MVGR College using blockchain technology. Participants who register for the Aadrithi competitions will receive these digital tokens, which can later be redeemed for exciting merchandise and rewards during the

event.

The organisers stated that this innovative digital token system is being introduced for the first time at a college festival in the country. By using blockchain-based digital coins for event participation and reward redemption, the students of MVGR College aim to demonstrate their technological capabilities and create a new trend in organising campus festivals.

The festival will begin on March 12 and conclude on March 13. The inaugural ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday. Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University-Gurajada Vizianagaram Vice-Chancellor Prof. V.V. Subbarao will attend the event as the chief guest, while MANSAS correspondent and Professor Emeritus K.V.L. Raju will be present as the guest of honour.

The organisers believe that Aadrithi 2026 will not only provide entertainment and competition but also encourage innovation, collaboration and learning among students from different educational institutions.

Is the Gulf Reconsidering Its Reliance on the US? Uncertain Security Guarantees Amid Escalating Regional War

The Middle East has been thrust into one of the most dangerous geopolitical crises in recent memory. What began with pre-emptive strikes by the United States and Israel on Iran on February 28, 2026 — including the killing of Iran's Supreme Leader and more than 40 senior military commanders — has escalated into a broader conflict that shows no sign of abating. The response from Iran has been fierce, with the Islamic Republic striking back not only at Israel but also at American military bases scattered across the region and critical energy infrastructure such as oil fields, oil depots, gas facilities, and major shipping arteries.

The sheer scale and intensity of Iran's counter-offensive have surprised many, but perhaps the most consequential impact has been the ripple effect on regional security perceptions — most notably within the Gulf states, long pillars of America's Middle East strategy. For decades, the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Oman — have depended on Washington's military umbrella as the cornerstone of their security calculus. However, the current conflict has exposed deep flaws in that assumption, prompting public debate, elite criticism, and calls for alternate approaches to national defence and regional stability.

The Gulf's Strategic Dilemma

For much of the last half century, the United States positioned itself as the guarantor of Gulf security. This began in earnest after the British withdrawal from the Persian Gulf in the late 1960s, leaving a vacuum that Washington filled under doctrines encouraging allies to shoulder more of their own defence, backed by robust American military support. After the 1979 Iranian Revolution, when one of the region's central pillars of stability was lost, US commitments — including the Carter Doc-



trine, which pledged to defend the Gulf's security against external threats — became a defining feature of regional geopolitics.

During subsequent decades, the US established permanent military bases, made defence pact proposals, and championed alliance constructs designed to integrate Gulf defence with American military power — effectively embedding Washington into the fabric of the region's security architecture.

Yet, despite this deep engagement, those arrangements have largely failed to prevent or contain the latest round of violence. Iran's missiles and drones have penetrated Gulf airspace, striking economic and strategic targets, while the closure of major channels like the Strait of Hormuz — through which significant portions of global energy shipments pass — has alarmed markets worldwide. As a result, voices across the

Gulf are questioning long-standing assumptions about US commitment to their security.

Growing Frustration Within Gulf Societies

In recent days, criticism of US policy has grown louder among business leaders, opinion makers, and ordinary citizens in Gulf states. For example, prominent figures in the United Arab Emirates — long seen as among the closest regional partners of the United States — have publicly rebuked American policy, questioning why Washington would engage in a war that has brought instability to their doorstep without sufficient consultation or regard for Gulf interests.

This sentiment reflects deeper anxieties about the economic fallout of the conflict. The UAE's markets have been roiled, tourism has suffered, and logistical disruptions in trade have shaken

investor confidence. While Gulf governments have so far tried to maintain calm, the reverberations in the private sector paint a picture of a society that is increasingly sceptical of the perceived security benefits of its alignment with Washington.

Moreover, comments from some Gulf elites have underscored a broader trend toward questioning conventional narratives of dependency on American protection. Rejecting claims that the Gulf cannot defend itself without the US, critics point out that local defence spending and procurement — including billions spent on advanced weapons systems — represents a substantial investment that should not be conflated with dependency.

America's Strategic Constraints and Gulf Expectations

Part of the frustration stems from a mismatch be-

tween Gulf expectations and American strategic priorities. Many Gulf countries hoped that their deepening economic ties with the US and large defence purchases would yield solid political commitments during times of crisis. Instead, Washington's approach has been perceived as cautious, constrained by domestic politics and a broader reluctance to become excessively entangled in Middle Eastern conflicts. This has, in turn, fueled a sense of abandonment among some Gulf leaders and citizens.

This dynamic was starkly illustrated when Gulf officials complained that they were not adequately warned about US Israeli operations that triggered Iran's sweeping retaliation. Those officials argued that the lack of communication and perceived prioritisation of Israeli and American forces over Gulf defence assets

contributed to vulnerabilities that should have been mitigated within existing alliance structures.

Furthermore, the effectiveness of Gulf air defences — particularly in the UAE — has been uneven, raising questions about the reliability of Western military technology and the robustness of existing security frameworks. While integrated defence systems have intercepted many incoming threats, the fact that Gulf infrastructure remains exposed during ongoing attacks underlines a strategic fragility that Gulf states can no longer ignore.

A Search for Alternatives Given these developments, regional actors are now considering alternative security options that go beyond old models of Western dependence. Some analysts argue that the Gulf must reassess its strategic architecture, exploring more organic re-

gional mechanisms that include not only GCC members but also historically adversarial neighbours like Iran and Iraq. Such a framework, although difficult to achieve, could offer a more inclusive and balanced method of dealing with conventional and asymmetric threats.

At the same time, Gulf leaders are also likely to strengthen bilateral and multilateral defence cooperation with other global powers, including China and Russia, which have increasingly asserted diplomatic roles in the region. These engagements could serve as hedges against overwhelming reliance on any single external partner.

For now, the immediate priority for Gulf states remains avoiding an uncontrollable escalation that could engulf the entire region. Many are attempting to maintain diplomatic channels with all major powers, emphasise de-escalation and preserve trade and energy flows — while quietly preparing for a future in which US security guarantees are seen as one factor among many, rather than an unassailable bedrock.

Conclusion

The unfolding conflict in the Middle East has not only redrawn battle lines but has also forced a profound strategic reckoning among the Gulf states. The long-standing belief that American military might could be relied upon to safeguard Gulf sovereignty against any external threat has been shaken. As Gulf societies and policymakers reassess their options, the region may be on the cusp of redefining its security relationships — not just with the United States but with the broader international community. Whether this leads to a more autonomous regional order or a diversified set of strategic partnerships remains to be seen. But one thing is clear: the old assumptions about US Gulf ties are being questioned as never before.

How the Iran Israel War Could Reshape Global Alignments: China's Strategic Shift Toward Russia

The war between Israel and Iran has rapidly evolved from a regional confrontation into a conflict with potentially massive global economic and geopolitical implications. Initially triggered by strikes on Iranian territory that killed key leaders and crippled portions of its infrastructure, the war has unleashed a series of strategic shocks. One of the most striking outcomes has been the effect on global energy markets, particularly the disruption of oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz — a narrow maritime corridor through which roughly one-fifth of the world's crude oil normally passes. This disruption has triggered a dramatic surge in oil prices and posed fundamental questions about energy security, great power politics, and the future of international alignments.

At the center of this geopolitical earthquake is China, a country that buys an unusually large share of its oil from Iran under Western sanctions. For years, Chinese imports of Iranian crude were discounted and sometimes relabeled to avoid scrutiny, representing a pragmatic arrangement that benefitted both sides. But the outbreak of full scale conflict has changed the arithmetic for Beijing. The closure — even if temporary — of the Strait of Hormuz has created the biggest oil price shock in years, rattling markets and destabilising economies worldwide.

Unlike other major economies, China has a relatively comfortable buffer against sudden supply disruptions. Beijing has been stockpiling oil for years, accumulating

strategic reserves far larger than they were a decade ago. These reserves, coupled with a rapidly transitioning energy mix that includes an expanding share of renewables, mean that China's immediate exposure to Middle East oil shocks is more limited than that of many other major importers. Moreover, the portion of China's overall energy consumption directly tied to oil that flows through Hormuz is smaller than widely perceived. Still, China cannot completely insulate itself from the effects of the current crisis.

China's economic ties to the Middle East are deep and multifaceted. Beyond crude oil, Chinese companies have invested heavily in regional infrastructure, energy projects, and port facilities across the Gulf and beyond. These investments have grown into a substantial financial portfolio that is now under threat from the war's escalation. The disruption to shipping traffic, the evacuation of Chinese personnel, and the suspension of some commercial operations demonstrate just how exposed Beijing is to instability in this vital region.

Yet while the immediate effects on China's energy security are important, a far more consequential development may be how the war influences Beijing's strategic posture and its relations with other major powers — especially Russia.

Before the conflict erupted, China was already an energy heavyweight with diversified sources. Russia, long a key supplier of oil and gas, accounts for a significant portion of



China's import mix. In fact, Russian crude supplies are among the largest single sources of energy for Beijing. In this context, the Middle East war has created a scenario where Russia's relative importance to China's energy security is likely to increase further.

Moreover, China's deepening relationship with Russia is not limited to energy. The two countries have been steadily drawing closer over the past decade, aligning more frequently in diplomatic forums, security cooperation, and economic ties. The war in the Middle East — and the resulting instability in global markets — appears to accelerate this trend. With energy markets in turmoil and Beijing seeking stability, Moscow's role as a re-

liable supplier of oil and gas assumes even greater significance.

If China expands its energy purchases from Russia, it could accelerate pending pipeline projects, reinforce cross border energy infrastructure, and solidify Russia as Beijing's most important energy partner. An immediate example would be the expansion of gas pipeline links that pass through Mongolia and into northern China, which would complement existing supply routes from Siberia. These developments would have strategic implications far beyond energy, strengthening an axis between Beijing and Moscow that could help redraft global power balances in the years ahead.

Yet it is important to recognize that China's dependence on Russia carries strategic risks. Moscow may gain leverage over Beijing by virtue of energy exports, potentially pushing for higher prices or advantageous terms. As the war intensifies, China might find itself more deeply economically intertwined with Russia, which could constrain its diplomatic freedom in other regions.

Despite these concerns, China's current approach to the war appears cautious. It has condemned the violence and called for restraint, even as it seeks to protect its own national interests. Chinese diplomats have engaged with a range of Middle Eastern actors — including Iran, Oman, Israel,

and Gulf states — in an attempt to calm tensions. Beijing's overarching goal appears to be to preserve as much stability as possible in a region upon which it depends for energy imports and economic opportunity.

For Iran, its economic dependence on China is even more pronounced. A large majority of Tehran's exports are destined for China, giving Beijing leverage and influence. But this relationship is not without its complications. Iran, while tied to China for energy revenue, also has a complex web of regional relationships and aspirations. Its strategy of using proxy groups and regional allies against Israel and other rivals complicates Beijing's attempts to remain neutral or act as a stabilizing force.

The war's broader geopolitical reverberations are already being felt. Major economies around the world have seen their stock markets fluctuate in response to oil price spikes. Nations heavily reliant on Middle Eastern oil are scrambling for alternative supplies, negotiating with producers in West Africa, Latin America, and Russia to diversify their sources. Insurance premiums for shipping in the region have skyrocketed, and logistical bottlenecks are straining global supply chains. The closure of key maritime routes has forced entire industries to reconsider risk exposure and operational strategy.

At the policy level, countries that once believed they could rely on a predictable global energy order are now confront-

ing uncertainty. Emergency talks among energy producers and consumers have been convened to coordinate reserve releases, mitigate price surges, and calm markets. But no amount of diplomatic coordination can fully offset the fundamental reality: a major source of global energy has become a theatre of war.

For China, the experience of this crisis may reinforce the wisdom of its long standing strategy to diversify energy sources and build self reliance. Its efforts to expand renewable energy capacity, build strategic reserves, and secure long term supply contracts with diverse partners could pay dividends if future instability persists. Yet paradoxically, the very turmoil that underscores the importance of diversification could push China closer into Russia's orbit, amplifying an alignment that many Western policymakers have long feared.

Ultimately, the war between Iran and Israel has become more than a regional conflict. It has transformed into a global strategic event with ramifications for energy security, great power competition, and the structure of international relations. For Beijing, the crisis tests its economic strategy, diplomatic agility, and existing partnerships. Whether China emerges from this war with a more independent global role, or more tightly bound to Moscow's geopolitical trajectory, remains to be seen. But one thing is certain: the war's shockwaves will shape strategic choices far beyond the battlefield for years to come.

“Won’t Desert Citizens During Trouble”: PM Modi Assures Support For Indians Stranded In Gulf

Narendra Modi has assured that the Indian government will do everything possible to help citizens stranded in Gulf countries amid rising tensions in West Asia.

Speaking at an event in Kerala, the Prime Minister said India has a strong record of protecting its citizens abroad and will continue to ensure their safety during crises. He stressed that the government will not abandon Indians caught in difficult situations in conflict-affected regions.

Modi said it is natural for families in India to worry about relatives working in the Gulf and other parts of West Asia, especially as tensions escalate due to the ongoing conflict involving Iran and Israel. However, he emphasized that the government is closely monitoring the situation and taking steps to assist Indian nationals.

Highlighting past rescue efforts, Modi said India has con-



sistently stepped in to help its citizens when they faced danger abroad. He pointed to earlier evacuation operations where Indians were safely brought back from war zones and conflict-hit regions. The Prime Minister added that the government uses all available resources to ensure the safe return of its citizens whenever

they are in trouble.

The assurance comes as thousands of Indians face uncertainty in parts of the Gulf following the escalation of conflict in the region. According to official estimates, nearly one crore (10 million) Indians live across the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, including the United Arab Emirates,

Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Kuwait.

Meanwhile, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar informed Parliament that tens of thousands of Indians have already returned to the country amid the crisis. Indian embassies in the region have been actively assisting citizens, including helping some people leave Iran through neighbouring countries.

The Indian government has also been engaging diplomatically with several nations in the region. Modi has held discussions with leaders from multiple Middle Eastern countries, urging efforts to reduce tensions and ensure the safety of foreign nationals.

Officials say India continues to monitor the evolving situation closely while coordinating with embassies and regional governments to ensure the welfare and safety of the large Indian community living in the Gulf region.

Commercial LPG Supply Halted, Gas Shortage Disrupts Businesses In Madhya Pradesh



An acute shortage of commercial LPG cylinders has disrupted restaurants, hotels and catering services across Madhya Pradesh, triggering concern among businesses that depend heavily on cooking gas.

Over the past few days, the supply of commercial LPG cylinders has reportedly been halted in several parts of the state, creating serious difficulties for the hospitality sector. Restaurants, eateries and caterers rely on these cylinders for daily kitchen operations, and the sudden disruption has forced many to scramble for alternatives.

Industry representatives say the supply chain of commercial cylinders has been severely affected, with production, distribution and dispatch facing disruptions. As a result, businesses that depend on LPG have been struggling to maintain operations.

The shortage has already begun to affect social events and large gatherings. Caterers have re-

portedly started declining new bookings due to uncertainty about gas availability, while some weddings and events are being postponed.

The crisis has particularly impacted restaurants, hotels and small food businesses, many of which use multiple cylinders every day to keep their kitchens running. Without a steady supply, several establishments fear they may have to temporarily close or limit their services.

Authorities and industry groups have also warned about panic buying and hoarding of LPG cylinders. To prevent misuse and ensure fair distribution, stricter rules have reportedly been introduced for domestic LPG bookings. Customers are now required to book cylinders through registered mobile numbers, and a minimum gap has been placed between successive bookings.

These measures are intended to stabilise supply

and prevent excessive demand during the crisis. However, the restrictions have also added to public anxiety as people rush to secure cylinders.

The situation has led to long queues at some fuel stations and gas agencies, with consumers concerned about possible shortages of essential fuels. Officials say the disruptions are linked to wider issues affecting the fuel supply chain.

Despite the growing concern, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has urged people not to panic. He has assured residents that the government is monitoring the situation and working to manage the supply challenges.

Authorities say steps are being taken to ensure essential sectors continue to receive fuel while efforts are underway to stabilise distribution across the state. Meanwhile, businesses in the hospitality sector remain hopeful that supplies will resume soon to avoid further disruption to their operations.

108 Maoists Surrender With Cash, Gold Ahead Of Centre’s Deadline To End Naxalism

In a major development in the fight against Left-Wing Extremism, 108 Maoists surrendered before security forces in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh, delivering a significant setback to the insurgent network operating in central India.

The surrendered cadres were members of the Communist Party of India (Maoist), particularly its Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee, one of the most active Maoist formations in the country. Officials said the group had been involved in various insurgent activities across districts such as Bijapur, Dantewada, Sukma, Bastar, Narayanpur and Kanker.

According to security agencies, the 108 Maoists carried a combined bounty of nearly ₹3.95 crore on their heads. Among those who surrendered were several senior cadres, including divisional committee members who had rewards of around ₹8 lakh each. The mass surrender is



considered one of the largest in recent years and reflects increasing pressure on Maoist groups operating in the dense forest areas of Bastar.

Following the surrender, security forces also recovered a massive cache of weapons and valuables based on information provided by the cadres. Authorities seized more than ₹3.6 crore in cash and about one kilogram of gold from

Maoist hideouts, along with a large stockpile of firearms and ammunition. Officials described it as one of the biggest financial recoveries linked to Maoist networks during anti-insurgency operations.

The surrendered Maoists came from multiple districts, including 37 from Bijapur, 30 from Dantewada, 18 from Sukma, 16 from Bastar, four from Narayanpur and three from

Kanker. The surrender took place at Jagdalpur, the headquarters of Bastar division.

Security officials said sustained anti-Maoist operations, improved road connectivity in remote regions, and rehabilitation policies encouraging insurgents to rejoin mainstream society have played a key role in weakening the Maoist movement in the region.

The development also comes as the central government intensifies efforts to eliminate Maoist insurgency across the country. Amit Shah has set a target of March 31, 2026, for the complete eradication of Naxalism in India.

Authorities believe the large-scale surrender indicates that the Maoist network is gradually losing its strength in Bastar, long considered one of the strongest bases of the insurgent movement. Officials say continued security operations and rehabilitation programmes could further accelerate the decline of Maoist influence in the region.

“You Wink, Blow Kisses”: Amit Shah Hits Back At Rahul Gandhi Over Speaker Row In Parliament



A heated exchange unfolded in Parliament after Amit Shah strongly criticised Rahul Gandhi over remarks related to the conduct of the Om Birla.

During the debate, Shah accused Rahul Gandhi of showing disrespect toward the Speaker and the institution of Parliament. Responding to Gandhi’s criticism of the Speaker, the Home Minister said that questioning the integrity of the Speaker was equivalent to questioning the country’s democratic system.

In a sharp retort, Shah mocked Gandhi’s behaviour in the House, saying that instead of maintaining seriousness during parliamentary proceedings, he was seen “winking and blowing kisses.” The remark triggered strong reactions from members of both the ruling party and the opposition.

The controversy arose after opposition leaders moved a no-confidence motion against Speaker Om Birla, alleging bias in the functioning of the House. The move marked a rare and controversial step in parliamentary politics, as the Speaker’s office is traditionally considered neutral and above party politics.

Shah called the motion “unfortunate” and said it undermines the traditions of Parliament. According to him, the Speaker represents the au-

thority and dignity of the House, and targeting the position weakens democratic institutions.

He also accused the opposition of politicising parliamentary procedures and attempting to create unnecessary confrontation within the House. Shah argued that instead of constructive debate, the opposition was choosing tactics that could damage the credibility of Parliament.

The exchange highlighted the ongoing tensions between the ruling government and the opposition during the current session of Parliament. Political disagreements have intensified in recent weeks, with both sides frequently clashing over procedural matters and policy issues.

Rahul Gandhi and other opposition leaders have repeatedly criticised the functioning of the House and accused the government of limiting debate. Meanwhile, members of the ruling coalition maintain that the opposition is deliberately disrupting proceedings and undermining parliamentary traditions.

The heated remarks from Shah further escalated the political debate inside the Lok Sabha, reflecting the deep divide between the government and opposition parties during the ongoing parliamentary session.

Protocol Row In Kerala: CM Pinarayi Vijayan To Boycott PM Modi’s Kochi Event



A political controversy has erupted in Kerala after Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan decided to boycott an official event in Kochi that will be attended by Narendra Modi.

The event is scheduled to mark the inauguration and foundation-laying of several major infrastructure projects, including stretches of the National Highway 66. However, the Kerala government has chosen not to participate, citing a breach of official protocol.

According to the Chief Minister’s Office, Vijayan and cabinet ministers M. B. Rajesh and K. Krishnankutty will stay away from the ceremony. The decision follows a dispute over the invitation list for the event.

The controversy began after Kerala Public Works Minister P. A. Mohammed Riyas was reportedly not included among the official invitees. The state government considers this omission significant because the Public Works Department is directly involved in the highway projects being inaugurated.

Officials in the Kerala government argue that excluding the minister responsible for the department overseeing the projects amounts to a violation of established protocol.

They believe the decision undermines the role of the state government in implementing and coordinating infrastructure development.

At the same time, the invitation list reportedly includes senior leaders from the ruling party at the Centre, including Rajeev Chandrasekhar, who has been invited alongside Union ministers. This has further intensified the dispute between the state government and the Centre.

The boycott reflects growing tensions between the Left Democratic Front government in Kerala and the central government. Political observers say the dispute is part of a broader “credit war” between the two sides over development projects in the state.

Despite the state government’s absence, the event will go ahead with the Prime Minister inaugurating and launching multiple projects aimed at improving road connectivity and infrastructure in Kerala.

The episode has added another chapter to the ongoing political friction between the state administration and the Centre, highlighting how protocol and political rivalry can intersect during high-profile government events.

Harish Rana Case: When Supreme Court Recognised Passive Euthanasia In India



In a landmark decision, the Supreme Court of India allowed passive euthanasia for Harish Rana, marking a significant moment in the country’s legal and ethical debate on the right to die with dignity.

Rana, a 31-year-old man, had been in a permanent vegetative state since 2013 after suffering severe brain injuries in a fall from a building. For more than a decade, he remained bedridden with no signs of recovery, relying on artificial feeding and constant medical care. His parents eventually approached the Supreme Court seeking permission to withdraw life-sustaining treatment, arguing that their son had no chance of recovery and should be allowed to die with dignity.

After reviewing medical reports and hearing arguments from the family and the government, the court permitted the withdrawal of life support. The decision effectively allowed passive euthanasia — the pro-

cess of withholding or withdrawing medical treatment that keeps a patient alive when recovery is deemed impossible.

During the judgment, Justice J. B. Pardiwala referred to the famous line from William Shakespeare’s Hamlet, “To be or not to be,” highlighting the profound moral and philosophical questions surrounding end-of-life decisions. The case raised complex issues about human dignity, medical ethics and the responsibilities of families and doctors in situations where a patient cannot make decisions independently.

The ruling also reaffirmed the legal framework that had earlier recognised passive euthanasia in India under strict safeguards. According to existing guidelines, such decisions must involve careful medical evaluation and approval by multiple medical boards and courts to ensure that the process is not misused. Rana’s case drew nation-

al attention because of the emotional and ethical dilemmas faced by his family. His parents had cared for him for more than 13 years, exhausting their financial resources while watching their son remain in an irreversible condition. Medical experts confirmed that his brain damage was permanent and that recovery was virtually impossible.

Legal experts say the judgment reinforces the idea that the right to life under the Constitution also includes the right to die with dignity in exceptional circumstances. At the same time, the court emphasised that passive euthanasia must be carried out only through a carefully monitored legal process.

The verdict has renewed discussions across the country about medical ethics, end-of-life care and the need for clearer legislation on euthanasia, while highlighting the difficult choices families face when dealing with long-term irreversible illness.

Where Is Iran's New Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei? Questions Grow Over His Absence

Iran's newly appointed Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei has not appeared in public since taking over the country's top leadership position, raising questions about his whereabouts and condition during a period of war and political uncertainty.

Several days after he was named Iran's new supreme leader, the 56-year-old cleric has neither delivered a public speech nor issued a written statement. His office has remained silent, and Iranian state media have mostly relied on archival footage while reporting on his appointment and leadership.

The lack of public appearances has sparked speculation about whether Mojtaba Khamenei may have been injured during recent military strikes carried out by the United States and Israel. Some reports from Iranian state television referred to him as a "Jaambaz of Ramadan," a phrase that typically refers to someone who has been wounded in conflict, adding to speculation about his condition.

However, Iranian officials have attempted to dismiss these rumors. According to government figures, Mojtaba Khamenei is safe and has not been harmed despite the intense military situation surrounding the leadership transition.

Security concerns are believed to be a major reason for his absence. The leadership change occurred after the death of his father, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in a major strike during the ongoing conflict. With tensions run-



ning high and fears of further attacks on senior Iranian leaders, authorities may be keeping the new supreme leader in a secure and undisclosed location.

Meanwhile, efforts have been made within Iran to demonstrate support for the new leader. Supporters have gathered in parts of Tehran to pledge allegiance, and murals and public displays have appeared in the capital portraying Mojtaba Khamenei receiving the Iranian flag from his late father. These gestures are seen as attempts to show continuity and stability

following the dramatic leadership transition.

Mojtaba Khamenei had long maintained a relatively low public profile during his father's decades-long leadership. He rarely appeared publicly and seldom spoke in official settings. Despite this, he was widely believed to hold significant influence behind the scenes through strong connections within Iran's political establishment, clerical circles and powerful security institutions.

His rise to the position of Supreme Leader has drawn atten-

tion both within Iran and internationally, particularly because critics view the transition as resembling a hereditary transfer of power.

As tensions in the region remain high, the continued absence of Mojtaba Khamenei from public view has added to the uncertainty surrounding Iran's leadership during a critical moment. Observers expect that his first public appearance or official statement will be closely watched for signals about the country's political direction and stability.

Iran Mocks Donald Trump With Poster Showing Nobel Medal Over Dead Children

Iran has mocked US President Donald Trump by releasing a provocative poster that depicts him holding a Nobel Peace Prize medal while standing over the bodies of dead children. The image surfaced amid the ongoing conflict between Iran, the United States and Israel, and appears to be part of Tehran's propaganda response to recent military strikes.

The poster was published in Iranian media after a strike reportedly hit a girls' primary school in the southern Iranian city of Minab, causing heavy casualties. Iranian officials said the attack killed a large number of people, many of them children, making it one of the deadliest incidents since the start of the conflict.

In the image, Trump is shown smiling while holding a Nobel Peace Prize medal and standing near the bodies of children covered with white sheets. The poster is widely seen as a sharp criticism of the United States and its allies, accusing them of causing civilian deaths while



claiming to support peace and stability in the region.

The visual message is believed to be a direct response to the US-Israeli military campaign targeting Iran's leadership and military infrastructure. The strikes have significantly escalated tensions in the Middle East, triggering retaliatory attacks and wide-

spread international concern.

Iranian media and officials have used strong language to condemn the attacks, portraying them as evidence of Western hypocrisy. By linking the image of Trump with the Nobel Peace Prize, the poster appears to mock the idea that Western leaders promote peace while carrying out military opera-

tions that result in civilian casualties.

The image quickly spread across social media and Iranian publications, drawing strong reactions. Supporters of the Iranian government have used it to highlight civilian losses during the conflict, while critics say it is part of a broader propaganda effort aimed at shaping public opinion during wartime.

The conflict between Iran and the US-Israel alliance has intensified in recent weeks, with missile strikes, counterattacks and rising geopolitical tensions across the Middle East. The situation has raised fears of a wider regional war and increased volatility in global oil markets.

As the confrontation continues, both sides have intensified their messaging campaigns alongside military actions. The poster targeting Trump reflects the growing propaganda battle accompanying the escalating conflict, with each side attempting to influence international perception and public sentiment.

Iran War: Possible Scenarios And What They Could Mean For India



The ongoing conflict involving Iran, the United States and Israel has raised global concerns, with analysts outlining several possible scenarios for how the crisis could evolve. Each of these scenarios could have significant consequences for India, particularly in areas such as energy security, trade, diplomacy and regional stability.

One possible outcome is a prolonged regional conflict. If fighting continues for an extended period without a clear resolution, it could lead to sustained disruption in oil supplies and

shipping routes in the Middle East. A major concern is the Strait of Hormuz, a vital shipping lane through which about 20 percent of the world's oil supply passes. Any disruption in this route could cause a sharp increase in global oil prices, directly affecting India, which imports the majority of its crude oil requirements.

Higher oil prices could lead to rising fuel costs, increased inflation and pressure on India's economic growth. Analysts say even moderate increases in crude prices can affect India's fiscal

balance and current account deficit, making energy security a major concern during geopolitical crises.

Another scenario is a wider regional escalation, where more countries in West Asia become directly involved in the conflict. If the war spreads across the Gulf region, it could disrupt shipping, trade and the movement of people. Millions of Indians live and work in the Middle East, and any large-scale escalation could require evacuation operations similar to those India has carried out during past

conflicts.

A third possibility is controlled escalation followed by diplomacy. In this scenario, both sides might continue limited military actions but avoid a full-scale regional war while diplomatic negotiations gradually reduce tensions. This would be the least disruptive scenario for India, allowing global energy markets and trade routes to stabilize.

The conflict could also have strategic implications for India's foreign policy. India maintains close relations with both Western countries and several Middle Eastern nations. As tensions rise, New Delhi may face diplomatic challenges in balancing its relationships while protecting its economic and strategic interests.

Another important concern is the impact on trade and shipping. Many Indian exports pass through the Gulf region, and instability there could increase insurance costs, shipping delays and logistical risks for Indian businesses.

Overall, the evolving conflict presents multiple risks for India, particularly in energy supply, economic stability and the safety of Indian citizens in the region. While the exact course of the war remains uncertain, policymakers in New Delhi are closely monitoring developments to prepare for potential economic, diplomatic and humanitarian challenges.

Did The US Escort An Oil Tanker Through Iran's Strait of Hormuz? White House Clarifies



Confusion recently emerged over reports claiming that the United States Navy had escorted an oil tanker through the strategic Strait of Hormuz during rising tensions involving Iran. The White House has now clarified that no such escort operation has taken place.

The issue began after US Energy Secretary Chris Wright posted on social media stating that the US Navy had escorted an oil tanker through the Strait of Hormuz to ensure the smooth flow of global oil supplies. The statement quickly drew international attention because the waterway has become increasingly sensitive amid geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

However, the post was later deleted, which sparked speculation and raised questions about whether the claim was accurate. In response to the growing confusion, the White House stepped in to clarify the situation. Officials confirmed that the US Navy has not escorted any tanker or vessel through the Strait

of Hormuz so far.

According to the clarification, the earlier statement was incorrect and did not reflect an actual military operation. Officials explained that although escort missions remain a possibility under certain circumstances, no such action has been carried out at this time.

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most critical maritime routes for energy transportation. A significant portion of global oil shipments passes through this narrow passage connecting the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea. Because of its strategic importance, any disruption or military activity in the area can quickly influence global energy markets.

The region has recently experienced heightened tensions due to the broader geopolitical situation involving Iran and Western nations. Concerns about potential threats to commercial shipping, including the possibility of attacks or sea mines, have increased

uncertainty for vessels operating in the region. As a result, some shipping companies have become more cautious while navigating the waterway.

Although the United States has previously discussed the possibility of providing naval escorts to protect commercial vessels in high-risk areas, officials have indicated that such operations would only be considered if necessary. Military authorities continue to monitor the situation closely and evaluate potential risks to global shipping.

The White House's clarification has helped address the confusion caused by the earlier statement. For now, US officials have confirmed that no oil tanker has been escorted by the US Navy through the Strait of Hormuz.

Despite the clarification, the situation in the region remains closely watched because any escalation around the Strait of Hormuz could have major implications for global oil supply and international trade.

Iran Deploys Elite 'Black-Clad' Unit to Protect New Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei



Iran has reportedly deployed a highly trained elite security unit, often described as a "black-clad kill squad," to safeguard its new Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei amid escalating regional tensions and security concerns.

The move comes during a period of conflict and uncertainty, prompting Iranian authorities to strengthen protection around the country's top leadership.

The special force assigned to this role is known as NOPO (Nirouyeh Vajeh Pasdaran Velayat), an elite counterterrorism and riot-control unit formed in 1991 under Iran's Special Units Command. It is considered one of the most skilled and disciplined forces in the country, trained to respond to high-risk security situations and protect key government figures.

The increased security measures come after Mojtaba Khamenei assumed leadership following the death of his father, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in a military strike carried out during the ongoing conflict in the region.

The leadership transition has taken place during a particularly volatile period, leading Iranian authorities to tighten security around the new leader.

Since taking office, Mojtaba Khamenei has remained largely out of public view and has not yet delivered a major public address or statement to the nation. His limited public presence has led to speculation about his location and safety. However, Iranian officials have denied reports suggesting he was injured during the attack that killed his father and other family members, stating that he is safe.

The NOPO unit, recognized for its black uniforms and specialized tactical training, is known for conducting counterterrorism operations and providing protection to senior state officials. The force has also been deployed during major internal security situations and has played a role in controlling protests and unrest in the country.

Security analysts say the deployment of this

elite force highlights the seriousness of the threats facing Iran's leadership during wartime. With tensions continuing in the region, protecting key decision-makers has become a priority for Iranian authorities.

Mojtaba Khamenei had largely remained a low-profile figure during his father's decades-long leadership. Despite rarely appearing in public, he was believed to have significant influence within political and security circles in Iran. His rise to the position of Supreme Leader has drawn attention both within the country and internationally, with some critics describing it as resembling a hereditary transfer of power.

As the conflict in the region continues and geopolitical tensions remain high, Iranian authorities appear determined to maintain tight security around the new leader. The deployment of the elite NOPO force reflects concerns about potential threats and the need to ensure stability during a sensitive leadership transition.

Indian Stock Markets Slide as Sensex Falls 1,342 Points and Nifty Hits 11-Month Low



Indian stock markets witnessed a sharp decline as benchmark indices ended the trading session significantly lower amid widespread selling across sectors. Weak global cues, continued foreign investor outflows, and cautious investor sentiment pushed the market to one of its weakest closes in recent months.

At the end of the trading day, the BSE Sensex dropped 1,342 points, closing at 76,863, while the Nifty 50 fell nearly 395 points to settle below 23,900. The fall pushed the Nifty to its lowest level in about eleven months, reflecting the negative mood prevailing in the market.

Heavy selling in banking and financial stocks played a major role in dragging the in-

dicies down. Many large-cap companies in the banking and financial sector came under pressure as investors booked profits following previous gains. The weakness in these heavyweight stocks significantly impacted the broader market performance.

The decline was not limited to a single sector, as most sectoral indices ended in the red. Segments such as auto, FMCG, PSU banks, consumer durables, private banks, capital goods, information technology, and real estate witnessed notable losses during the session, with several of them falling between 1 and 3 percent. This broad-based decline highlighted the cautious sentiment among investors.

Despite the overall negative

trend, a few defensive sectors showed some resilience. Oil and gas companies and pharmaceutical stocks managed to register modest gains, offering slight support to the market. These sectors are often considered safer during periods of uncertainty, which helped them outperform the broader market.

The weakness was also visible in the broader market indices. The mid-cap index recorded a decline of around 1.2 percent, while the small-cap index slipped slightly, indicating that selling pressure extended beyond large-cap stocks and affected a wide range of companies.

Several global factors contributed to the decline in domestic equities. Rising geopo-

litical tensions and fluctuations in crude oil prices have created uncertainty in global markets, leading investors to adopt a risk-averse approach. Concerns over inflation and economic stability have also prompted investors to reduce their exposure to equities.

In addition, continued selling by foreign institutional investors added to the pressure on the markets. A weaker rupee further contributed to the cautious outlook among investors.

Market analysts believe that volatility may persist in the near term due to global uncertainties and ongoing foreign investor activity. They advise investors to remain cautious and focus on fundamentally strong companies while navigating the current market conditions.

India Can Fill Global Trade Gap Created by Trump Tariffs, Says B Capital's Howard Morgan



India has the potential to benefit from global trade disruptions caused by tariff policies introduced by former US President Donald Trump, according to Howard Morgan, co-founder and partner at venture capital firm B Capital. He believes India is well positioned to take advantage of shifting global supply chains and investment flows as companies look for alternatives in a changing trade environment.

Morgan pointed out that protectionist policies and tariffs imposed by the United States on several countries have created uncertainty in global trade. As businesses search for stable and reliable markets, India could emerge as a key destination for investment and manufacturing. He suggested that the country has an opportunity to fill the "global vacuum" created by these trade disruptions.

According to Morgan, India's rapidly evolving economic ecosystem makes it attractive for global capital. The country has seen strong growth in its startup environment, increasing

venture capital activity and greater participation in public markets. These developments indicate rising investor confidence and stronger financial infrastructure supporting innovation and entrepreneurship.

He also highlighted the increasing role of technology and innovation in India's economic expansion. With a large pool of skilled talent, growing digital adoption and supportive government policies, India is becoming an important hub for startups and technology-driven businesses. This environment is encouraging both domestic and international investors to explore opportunities in the country.

Morgan further noted that global investors are actively seeking markets that offer long-term growth potential and stability. In this context, India's large consumer base, improving regulatory framework and expanding capital markets make it a compelling investment destination. As geopolitical and trade tensions reshape global commerce, countries that can offer reliability

and scale are likely to attract significant capital inflows.

Another factor supporting India's prospects is the growing participation of retail investors and stronger engagement in the public equity markets. The rise of domestic investors has increased liquidity and strengthened the country's financial ecosystem, making markets more resilient during periods of global volatility.

Morgan believes that if India continues to improve its business environment and strengthen its infrastructure, it could capture a larger share of global investment and manufacturing activity. This shift could accelerate economic growth and reinforce the country's role in the global economy.

Overall, he emphasized that global trade tensions may create challenges for many economies, but they also present opportunities. With the right policy support and continued economic reforms, India could emerge as one of the biggest beneficiaries of the evolving global trade landscape.

SEBI Relaxes Certification Rules for Research Analyst Sales and Client-Facing Staff

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has eased certification requirements for sales and client-facing staff associated with research analysts, aiming to reduce compliance burdens while maintaining necessary regulatory standards in the securities market.

Under the revised rules, employees who interact with clients or perform sales-related duties but are not directly involved in preparing research reports will no longer need to complete the same certification process required for research analysts. Instead, these staff members can qualify through a simplified certification module designed specifically for non-research roles.

The change applies to individuals classified as Persons Associated with Research Services (PARS). This group includes relationship managers, sales personnel, and other employees who communicate with clients regarding research services but do not participate in creating research reports or conducting investment analysis.

SEBI decided to relax the certification norms because these



professionals perform support and communication roles rather than technical research functions. By differentiating between research analysts and client-facing staff, the regulator aims to make the compliance framework more practical and aligned with actual job responsibilities.

The regulator stated that the move is intended to strike a balance between reducing regulatory complexity and ensuring that appropriate professional standards continue to guide research-related services. Simpli-

fying the certification process for non-core staff is expected to help research firms operate more efficiently without compromising transparency and accountability.

The updated provisions came into effect immediately after the announcement. SEBI has also directed the Research Analyst Administration and Supervisory Body (RAASB) to revise its bylaws and inform registered research analysts about the new certification structure and how it will be implemented.

This decision is part of SEBI's broader effort to streamline regulations for research analysts and investment advisory services. In recent years, the regulator has introduced several reforms to simplify compliance requirements, expand eligibility criteria, and improve ease of doing business in India's financial services sector.

Market participants believe the relaxed norms will allow research firms to manage their workforce more effectively. Sales teams and relationship managers will be able to focus on client communication and service without undergoing certification processes intended for technical research professionals.

At the same time, the revised framework ensures that individuals directly responsible for producing research reports and investment analysis will still need to meet strict certification standards.

Overall, the reform is expected to support the growth of research services in India's capital markets by making compliance more practical while continuing to protect investor interests through proper regulatory oversight.

Merchant Bankers Begin Pitches for NSE IPO; Legal Advisor May Be Finalised Soon

India's largest stock exchange, the National Stock Exchange (NSE), has started the process of selecting merchant bankers for its much-anticipated initial public offering (IPO). Several investment banks have begun presenting their proposals to secure a role in managing the public issue, which could become one of the biggest IPOs in India's capital markets.

According to market sources, leading financial institutions are competing for the mandate to manage the offering. The exchange is currently reviewing the proposals and presentations made by these merchant bankers as it prepares to move forward with the listing process. The NSE's IPO has been awaited for several years, and the process has now begun to gain momentum.

At the same time, the NSE is also in the process of appointing a legal advisor for the IPO. The legal advisor is expected to be finalised within the week. Once appointed, the advisor will as-



sist the exchange in preparing the required offer documents and ensuring that the IPO follows all regulatory and legal requirements.

The IPO plan received a major boost earlier after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) granted a No Objection Certificate (NOC) allowing the exchange to proceed with its listing plans. Following this approval, the NSE board approved the IPO proposal through an offer-for-sale

(OFS) route.

Under the proposed structure, the public issue is expected to consist entirely of an offer for sale by existing shareholders. This means the shares being sold will come from current investors rather than the exchange issuing new shares. As a result, the funds raised through the IPO will go to the selling shareholders rather than the NSE itself.

The equity shares planned for the offering have a face value of

₹1 each and are expected to be listed on one or more stock exchanges once the IPO is completed.

Market estimates suggest that around 4.5 percent of NSE's equity could be offered through the public issue. Based on the current trading price of the exchange's shares in the unlisted market, which is around ₹2,000 per share, the IPO could be valued at approximately ₹23,000 crore. If these estimates hold, it could become one of the largest listings in India.

The NSE has not yet provided detailed information about the exact timeline of the IPO, indicating that the process is still in its early stages. However, the appointment of merchant bankers and legal advisors marks an important step toward launching the public offering.

If the listing moves ahead as planned, the NSE IPO could become a landmark event in India's financial markets, giving investors an opportunity to own shares in one of the country's most important market institutions.

Nuvama Bullish on Top IT Services Stocks, Sees Up to 84% Upside



Domestic brokerage Nuvama has expressed strong optimism about India's IT services sector, assigning a "buy" rating to all the top ten IT companies under its coverage. The brokerage believes that after a recent sharp correction, valuations in the sector have become attractive and could offer investors significant upside potential over the next 12-15 months.

According to Nuvama, select IT stocks could deliver gains of up to 84 percent, driven by improving demand prospects and favorable valuations. The brokerage believes that the recent decline in IT stocks has been excessive and largely influenced by concerns that generative artificial intelligence (Gen-AI) could disrupt the traditional IT services business model.

However, the brokerage argues that these fears may be overstated. While artificial intelligence may change how technology services are delivered, it is unlikely to threaten the long-term business model of Indian IT companies. Businesses will

still need technology partners to implement, customise and manage complex digital systems and platforms.

Nuvama also pointed out that the Indian IT industry has successfully adapted to several major technological transitions in the past. These include the Y2K transition, the growth of remote infrastructure management and the wave of digital transformation that reshaped global business operations. The brokerage believes that the adoption of AI will similarly create new opportunities for IT services firms rather than replace them.

Among the companies covered, Coforge offers the highest potential upside of around 84 percent, with a target price of ₹2,100. Mphasis could see gains of about 42 percent, while LTIMindtree may deliver an upside of roughly 41 percent.

Large-cap IT companies also show notable upside potential. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has a target price suggesting about 31 percent upside, while Infosys could gain

around 27 percent. Persistent Systems is expected to rise about 26 percent, while Tech Mahindra and Hexaware are projected to deliver gains of roughly 24 percent each.

Meanwhile, Wipro could see an upside of around 21 percent, while HCLTech has a relatively lower potential gain of about 14 percent, according to the brokerage's estimates.

Nuvama also highlighted that valuations across the IT sector have corrected significantly in recent months, bringing several stocks close to multi-year lows. This decline has created a potentially attractive entry point for long-term investors.

Overall, the brokerage believes that despite short-term concerns around AI and global technology spending, the long-term growth outlook for India's IT services sector remains strong. As global demand for digital transformation and AI-driven services continues to expand, Indian IT companies are expected to benefit from the next phase of technology-driven growth.

“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 Kasturinar. 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 Kasturinar-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.

Gautam Gambhir's Post-World Cup Remarks Spark Debate, Seen As Dig At Rohit Sharma And Virat Kohli



Comments made by India head coach Gautam Gambhir after India's triumph in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 have triggered debate among fans and former cricketers, with some interpreting his remarks as an indirect dig at former captains Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli.

Speaking after India's title win, Gambhir emphasized that the team's success was built on a "team-first" philosophy, stressing that players should focus on winning trophies rather than chasing individual milestones. His comments were aimed at highlighting the collective approach adopted by the squad during the tournament.

The remarks gained attention because Gambhir praised cer-

tain players for putting the team's needs ahead of personal achievements. He cited examples where players chose to rotate the strike or sacrifice personal milestones in order to keep the team's momentum going during matches.

However, the statement quickly sparked controversy. Some former cricketers and fans interpreted the comments as an indirect criticism of earlier eras of Indian cricket, particularly when individual batting milestones often dominated discussions around players like Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli.

An England cricket great reportedly reacted to Gambhir's statement by suggesting it sounded like a "dig" at Rohit and Kohli, which led to wide-

spread debate on social media and cricket forums. Many fans began comparing the current team's approach with the period when Rohit and Kohli were the central figures of India's batting lineup.

Despite the controversy, Gambhir did not mention either Rohit Sharma or Virat Kohli directly in his comments. Supporters of the coach argued that his remarks were meant only to highlight the importance of teamwork and the new style of cricket adopted by the current squad.

India's recent World Cup victory has been seen as the result of a more aggressive and fearless brand of cricket, with players encouraged to take risks and prioritize match-winning contri-

butions over personal statistics. Gambhir has been credited with promoting this approach since taking charge of the team.

Meanwhile, the debate reflects the ongoing discussion within Indian cricket about balancing individual brilliance with team success. Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli remain two of India's most successful modern cricketers, having played key roles in multiple ICC tournaments and shaping the team's dominance over the past decade.

While Gambhir's remarks have divided opinion, many observers believe the controversy highlights the intense scrutiny surrounding Indian cricket—where even post-victory comments can spark nationwide debate.

Good News For Fans As CSK CEO Gives Big Update On MS Dhoni Ahead Of IPL 2026

Fans of MS Dhoni have received encouraging news ahead of the upcoming Indian Premier League 2026 season, with a top official from Chennai Super Kings confirming that the legendary wicketkeeper-batter will feature in the tournament.

CSK CEO Kasi Viswanathan recently addressed speculation about Dhoni's future and confirmed that the veteran cricketer will indeed take part in the upcoming IPL season. His statement comes after months of uncertainty and constant discussion among fans about whether the former India captain would continue playing.

According to Viswanathan, Dhoni is expected to be available for the season, bringing relief to supporters who were unsure about his participation. However, while confirming his presence in the squad, the CEO indicated that the exact role Dhoni will play during the tournament will be decided by the team management closer to the competition.

The IPL's 19th edition is scheduled to begin soon, with franchises already starting their training camps to prepare for the highly anticipated tournament. As one of the most successful and iconic figures in the league's history, Dhoni's pres-



ence continues to be a major attraction for fans across the country.

Dhoni has been associated with Chennai Super Kings since the inception of the IPL in 2008 and has played a key role in building the franchise's legacy. Under his leadership, the team has won multiple IPL titles and has regularly reached the play-offs and finals, making it one of the most successful sides in the competition.

Even though he retired from

international cricket in 2020, Dhoni remains one of the biggest names in the IPL. His experience, leadership and calm approach in high-pressure situations continue to make him a valuable presence for the team both on and off the field.

In recent seasons, Dhoni has often batted lower down the order, focusing more on guiding the team and finishing games rather than playing long innings. His strategic inputs and ability to mentor younger play-

ers have also been seen as crucial for CSK's success.

With the new IPL season approaching, fans are once again eager to watch Dhoni in action. His confirmation for the upcoming campaign ensures that the excitement surrounding Chennai Super Kings and the league itself remains as strong as ever.

For CSK supporters, the update means one more opportunity to see their iconic captain take the field and continue his remarkable IPL journey.

ICC Reveals T20 World Cup 2026 Prize Money Distribution; India And New Zealand Earn Big Rewards

The International Cricket Council has announced the prize money distribution for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026, with the India national cricket team receiving the biggest reward after winning the tournament.

According to the prize structure, India earned around \$3 million (approximately ₹27 crore) for lifting the trophy. The large reward reflects the ICC's expanded prize pool for the 2026 edition, which saw the total amount rise to about \$13.5 million, making it one of the most lucrative T20 World Cups to date.

India secured the title after defeating the New Zealand national cricket team in the final. As runners-up, New Zealand received about \$1.6 million (roughly ₹13-15 crore) for finishing second in the global tournament.

The ICC also confirmed that the two teams that lost in the semi-finals were rewarded with significant prize money. Each semi-finalist received around \$790,000 (approximately ₹7 crore)



for reaching the final four of the competition.

Teams finishing between fifth and twelfth place were awarded around \$380,000 (about ₹3.5 crore) each. Meanwhile, teams placed between 13th and 20th in the standings received approximately \$250,000 (around ₹2.2 crore) as part of the tourna-

ment's payout structure.

The expanded prize pool highlights the rapid growth of the T20 format and the increasing commercial value of international cricket tournaments. Broadcasting deals, sponsorship agreements and rising global interest in short-format cricket have contributed to larger finan-

cial rewards for participating teams.

For India, the prize money adds to the celebrations following their impressive campaign throughout the tournament. The team produced consistent performances during the competition and capped it with a strong victory in the final to secure the championship.

Meanwhile, New Zealand once again demonstrated their ability to perform on the global stage by reaching another major international final. Although they missed out on the title, their runner-up finish ensured a substantial financial reward and further strengthened their reputation as one of the most competitive teams in international cricket.

With record prize money on offer, the 2026 T20 World Cup underlined both the sporting and financial importance of the tournament, rewarding teams not only for winning the trophy but also for their performances throughout the competition.

'Got A Call Early Morning': Gautam Gambhir Reveals How He Was Offered India Head Coach Role



Gautam Gambhir has revealed how he was unexpectedly approached to become the head coach of the India national cricket team, saying the offer came through an early-morning phone call that completely surprised him.

Gambhir, who took over the role after Rahul Dravid stepped down following the 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup, shared details of how the opportunity came his way. At the time, he was working with Kolkata Knight Riders during the season of the Indian Premier League.

The former India opener recalled that the call came from Jay Shah, who informed him about the possibility of taking charge of the national team. Gambhir said the conversation happened on the morning of an IPL match between Kolkata Knight Riders and Mumbai Indians in Mumbai.

According to Gambhir, Shah told him he had an offer that he could not refuse—the chance to become the head coach of the Indian cricket team. The sudden proposal came as a surprise to Gambhir, who admitted that he initially felt he might not be fully ready for such a huge responsibility.

Despite his hesitation, Gambhir described the opportunity as a major honour. He said becoming India's head coach meant getting another chance to contribute to the country's cricket journey and return to the dressing room in a different role. For him, the chance to

work with the national team again and help achieve success for India was something very special.

Before joining the national side, Gambhir had gained coaching and mentoring experience in franchise cricket. He served as mentor for teams such as the Kolkata Knight Riders and previously the Lucknow Super Giants in the Indian Premier League. His leadership and tactical guidance helped build his reputation as a strong strategist in the shorter formats of the game.

Gambhir also spoke about the challenges he faced during his tenure as head coach. India experienced some difficult phases, including defeats in home series against teams like New Zealand national cricket team and South Africa national cricket team. However, he said support from the cricket board helped him remain confident during those tough moments.

He recalled that during one particularly disappointing loss, Jay Shah called him to encourage him to stay strong and continue focusing on the bigger goals for the team.

Since taking charge, Gambhir has guided India through a mix of highs and lows, including major tournament success. His tenure has been marked by an aggressive approach to limited-overs cricket and a strong emphasis on team-first thinking as India continues to rebuild and evolve under his leadership.

Jay Shah's Gesture Toward New Zealand Players After T20 World Cup Final Earns Praise



Jay Shah has received widespread praise for a thoughtful gesture toward players of the New Zealand national cricket team after their defeat in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 final.

Following the high-intensity final, which saw the India national cricket team defeat New Zealand to lift the trophy, attention turned to a small but meaningful moment involving the ICC chairman. After the presentation ceremony, Shah was seen personally approaching members of the New Zealand squad and consoling them following their loss.

In a video that quickly circulated on social media, Shah was observed interacting with several New Zealand players, shaking hands and offering words of encouragement. The gesture came at a time when the players were clearly disappointed after falling short in the final of the global tournament.

Fans and cricket followers praised the act, describing it as a sign of respect and sportsmanship. Many highlighted that such gestures from senior cricket administrators can help reinforce the spirit of the game, especially after emotionally charged matches like a World Cup final.

The final itself was a historic occasion. India produced a dominant performance to defeat New Zealand by a large margin and successfully defend their T20 World Cup title. The victory also marked a significant milestone for Indian cricket, making them the first team to win the men's T20 World Cup three times.

Despite the defeat, New Zealand were widely applauded for their consistent performances throughout the tournament. The team had once again reached the final of a major international event, continuing their reputation as one of the most competitive sides in world cricket.

Observers noted that Shah's gesture reflected the values of respect and camaraderie that cricket aims to promote. While celebrations naturally focused on India's triumph, the brief moment of sportsmanship between the ICC chairman and the New Zealand players captured the attention of fans around the world.

The incident has since been widely shared online, with many praising the gesture as a reminder that even in the heat of global sporting rivalries, empathy and respect remain central to the spirit of the game.

Anil Ravipudi Plans Ambitious Project With 'Toxic' Producers

Anil Ravipudi is reportedly preparing for a new and ambitious project in collaboration with KVN Productions, the banner behind several large-scale films including Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups.

Known for delivering consistent box-office hits with commercial entertainers, Ravipudi is said to be exploring a different creative direction for this upcoming venture. Reports suggest that the filmmaker is considering making a large-scale animated film, which would be a completely new genre in his career so far.

Ravipudi has built a strong reputation in the Telugu film industry for making successful commercial movies within controlled budgets. His films are known for their blend of comedy, action and family-friendly entertainment, which has made him one of the most reliable directors for producers. Over the years, he has worked with several leading stars including Venkatesh Daggubati, Nandamuri Balakrishna, Chiranjeevi and Mahesh Babu.

The new project with KVN Productions is believed to be in the early stages of development. The filmmaker has reportedly begun preliminary work, including story development, character creation and technical planning required for an animated film. Since animation projects require extensive design and visual development, industry insiders believe the



film could take two years or more to complete if it moves forward as planned.

KVN Productions has been expanding its footprint in the Indian film industry by backing several big-budget projects across languages. The production house is also associated with the upcoming gangster drama Toxic, directed by Geetu Mohandas and starring Yash. The film is expected to be one of the biggest pan-Indian releases and is planned for a global theatrical release.

Meanwhile, there is still some uncertainty regarding the exact nature of Ravipudi's project with the banner. While some reports claim it will be an animated film, others suggest that it could eventu-

ally turn out to be a regular commercial movie. Industry circles say KVN Productions has already paid advances to several top actors and directors for future collaborations.

If the animation project materialises, it would mark a significant shift for Ravipudi, who has so far been known primarily for mainstream entertainers. Observers believe such a venture could become a major milestone in his career and open new creative possibilities for the director.

For now, fans and industry watchers are waiting for an official announcement that will clarify whether the project will indeed be an animated film or a conventional big-budget entertainer.

Anjana Devi Receives 'Bapu Bomma - Vishwa Mahila' Award At Hyderabad Event

Anjana Devi was honoured with the 'Bapu Bomma - Vishwa Mahila' Award, recognising her contribution and inspirational role in society.

The awards were presented by actress and social activist Divyavani as part of a special initiative to honour distinguished women from different fields. The event was organised on the occasion of International Women's Day.

The ceremony was held at a hotel in Hyderabad and attended by several prominent personalities from politics, entertainment and public service. The award given to Anjana Devi was the first honour announced under the 'Bapu Bomma - Vishwa Mahila Awards' for 2026.

Since Anjana Devi could not attend the event personally, the award was received on her behalf by her daughter, Madhavi. The recognition highlighted her role as a respected personality and mother of megastar Chiranjeevi, who has been one of the most influential figures in the Telugu film industry.

Apart from Anjana Devi, several other women from diverse backgrounds were honoured during the ceremony for their achievements and contributions



to society. Among the award recipients were Shyamala Devi, television anchor Swapna and a number of professionals from fields such as social work, medicine and public service.

The event was organised with the aim of recognising and celebrating women who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. Organisers said the awards are intended to inspire more women to pursue

leadership roles and make meaningful contributions to society.

Several dignitaries attended the programme, including Telangana minister Jupally Krishna Rao and Telangana Congress president Mahesh Kumar Goud, along with other prominent guests from various sectors.

Speaking at the event, Divyavani said the initiative was launched to honour women who serve as role models and to en-

courage greater recognition of their achievements. She also announced plans to expand the 'Bapu Bomma - Vishwa Mahila Awards' in the future and organise similar events across different parts of the country and abroad.

The ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of women and emphasised the importance of recognising their contributions to society.

Harish Shankar Apologises To Mahesh Babu And Fans Over Accidental Tweet Reply

Harish Shankar has issued a public apology to Mahesh Babu and his fans after a reply he posted on social media triggered controversy online.

The incident occurred when the director responded to a fan's post on X (formerly Twitter) during the promotions of his upcoming film Ustaad Bhagat Singh. The fan's post suggested that the film should surpass the box-office records of Mahesh Babu's movies. Harish Shankar replied with a brief message that appeared to support the comment, which quickly went viral on social media.

Many fans of Mahesh Babu interpreted the response as a dig at the superstar, leading to criticism and backlash online. Screenshots of the tweet circulated widely before the director deleted the post shortly afterward.

Soon after the controversy erupted, Harish Shankar shared



a detailed clarification explaining that the reply was posted unintentionally. He said he had only partially read the tweet and responded in a rush without understanding its full context. According to the director, he realised the mistake after his team alerted him, and he immediately

removed the post.

In his apology, Harish emphasised that he has deep respect for Mahesh Babu and never intended to hurt the actor or his fans. He also noted that he has always admired the superstar and believes that many records will be created under his name in the

future.

The director explained that the misunderstanding happened during a particularly hectic day while he was juggling several commitments, including film promotions, post-production work and meetings related to the release of Ustaad Bhagat Singh. Amid responding to multiple messages from fans and media, he mistakenly replied to the tweet without fully reading it.

Harish Shankar expressed regret if the incident caused any hurt and requested fans from all actor fanbases to continue supporting cinema positively.

The controversy gained attention partly because Ustaad Bhagat Singh, starring Pawan Kalyan, is nearing its theatrical release. After the clarification, many fans accepted the explanation, helping calm the situation surrounding the social media misunderstanding.

'Devara 2' Likely To Begin Regular Shooting In May



The much-anticipated sequel to Devara: Part 1 is moving ahead, with reports suggesting that the regular shooting of Devara: Part 2 will begin in May this year. The update has created excitement among fans who have been eagerly waiting for news about the continuation of the story.

The film stars N. T. Rama Rao Jr. in the lead role and is directed by Koratala Siva. The first part generated massive anticipation with its high-octane action sequences and strong emotional storyline, ending with hints that the narrative would continue in a second installment.

There had been speculation for several months that the sequel might face delays due to the lack of official updates. However, the makers have reportedly con-

firmed that the project is progressing as planned and will soon move into the production phase. According to industry sources, filming is expected to commence in May once the remaining pre-production work is completed.

The sequel is being planned on a much bigger scale than the first film. The script is believed to have been finalised, and preparations are currently underway for the shooting schedules. The team aims to deliver a grand cinematic experience while continuing and resolving the story arcs introduced in the first installment.

Apart from Jr NTR, the cast of the sequel is expected to include Janhvi Kapoor and Saif Ali Khan, who played important roles in the first film. Several supporting actors

from the earlier installment are also likely to return for the sequel.

The first film performed strongly at the box office despite receiving mixed reviews from critics. Its commercial success encouraged the makers to proceed with the second part, which is expected to further explore the story of Devara and his son Vara.

Meanwhile, Jr NTR currently has a busy schedule with multiple projects lined up. Once he completes his ongoing commitments, he is expected to join the sets of Devara 2 for the next phase of filming.

If production begins as planned in May, the makers are reportedly aiming for a 2027 theatrical release, making the sequel one of the most awaited Telugu films in the coming years.

Manchu Manoj Undergoes Major Transformation For 'David Reddy'



Manchu Manoj has surprised fans with a striking physical transformation for his upcoming film David Reddy. The actor recently shared photos and updates about his intense fitness journey, which quickly gained attention on social media.

In his post, Manoj revealed that he has been undergoing rigorous training over the past few weeks to prepare for the demanding role. Determined to fully commit to the character, he said he decided to stop making excuses and push himself to work harder both physically and mentally. His workout photos and transformation have been widely appreciated by fans and film circles.

The actor explained that preparing for action films requires strong physical conditioning. According to him, action sequences demand real effort from the performer because every punch and stunt must appear authentic on screen. He added that the camera never hides a lack of preparation, which is why he is focusing not only on appearance but also on building stamina and strength.

Manoj also mentioned that his goal is not just to achieve a new look but to develop endurance and discipline. He said the transformation journey began around three weeks ago, and even within this short period he already

feels like a completely different person.

The film David Reddy is expected to be one of the biggest projects in Manoj's career. Directed by Hanuma Reddy Yakkanti, the movie is being mounted as a large-scale pan-India period action drama.

Set between 1897 and 1920 during British colonial rule, the story revolves around a warrior who rises against oppression and fights for justice. The narrative is expected to showcase themes of resistance and courage during a turbulent historical period.

The film is produced by Nallagunula Venkat Reddy and Bharath Motukuri and is being planned for release in multiple languages. International actress Maria Ryaboshapka is playing a key role in the project.

Recently released promotional glimpses from the film have generated significant buzz online, reportedly crossing millions of views across digital platforms. Manoj's intense new look has further raised expectations among fans, who are eager to see him return in a powerful lead role.

With the actor putting in significant effort for the transformation, David Reddy is shaping up to be an important milestone in his career.

Shah Rukh Khan To Play Key Role In Rajinikanth-Nelson Dilipkumar's 'Jailer 2'



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan is reportedly set to appear in an important role in the upcoming film Jailer 2, starring Rajinikanth and directed by Nelson Dilipkumar.

The news has created huge excitement among fans, as it will mark the first time Shah Rukh Khan and Rajinikanth share screen space in a full-fledged film together. The project is the sequel to the blockbuster film Jailer, which became a massive commercial success.

Shah Rukh Khan is expected to appear in the film in a special extended cameo, playing the role of a police officer. His portion is reported to be shot over a short schedule of about a week.

The sequel has already generated strong buzz because of its star-studded lineup. Apart from Rajinikanth, several actors who appeared in the first film are expected to return, and the makers are reportedly planning multiple special appearances to expand the film's universe.

The original Jailer involved around Rajini-

kanth's character Muthuvel Pandian, a retired jailer who takes on criminals threatening his family. The film's mix of action, humour and stylish storytelling helped it become one of the biggest hits in Tamil cinema in recent years.

Following the success of the first film, the sequel was officially announced and production has already begun. The movie is being produced by Sun Pictures and is expected to feature high octane action sequences and a larger narrative scale.

The addition of Shah Rukh Khan has significantly increased anticipation for the film, as the collaboration brings together two of the biggest superstars in Indian cinema from different industries. Fans across the country are eager to see how the characters of Rajinikanth and Shah Rukh Khan interact on screen.

With filming progressing and more updates expected soon, Jailer 2 is shaping up to be one of the most awaited Indian films in the coming years.