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Congress Finalises RS Candidates from Telangana



Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

The Congress high command has finalised its Rajya Sabha candidates from Telangana, naming Vem Narender Reddy and Abhishek Manu Singhvi for the upcoming biennial elections. Both leaders are scheduled to file their nominations on Thursday. The announcement puts an end to speculation over several aspirants whose names were under consideration. Among those reportedly in the race were former MLA Vamsichand Reddy, former MP V. Hanumantha Rao, Planning Commission Vice-Chairman Chinna Reddy, Vinay Kumar and Jetty Kusuma Kumar. However, the party leadership ultimately chose Vem Narender Reddy, who currently serves as an advisor to Chief Minister Re-

vanth Reddy. Vem Narender Reddy, a native of Mahabubabad district, is regarded as a close confidant of the Chief Minister. He began his political career with the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and was elected as an MLA from Mahabubabad in the 2004 Assembly elections. In 2012, he contested the by-election from the Hanumakonda Assembly constituency but was unsuccessful. Later, in 2015, he contested as an MLC candidate under the MLAs' quota but faced defeat. Subsequently, he joined the Congress party along with Revanth Reddy and has since played an active role in strengthening the party in the State. His elevation to the Rajya Sabha is being viewed as recognition of his loyalty and organisational contributions. The inclusion of Abhishek

Manu Singhvi, a senior advocate and national spokesperson of the Congress, reflects the party's strategy of balancing regional leadership with experienced voices at the national level. Singhvi has previously served as a Rajya Sabha member and is known for his legal expertise and parliamentary experience. With the Congress currently in power in Telangana, the party is well-positioned to secure the Rajya Sabha seats. The nominations are expected to proceed smoothly, given the party's numerical strength in the State Assembly. The finalisation of candidates signals the Congress leadership's intent to consolidate its presence both in Telangana and at the national level, while also rewarding key leaders who have contributed to the party's recent electoral success in the State.



Revanth, Amit Shah Review Maoist Surrenders

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi to discuss recent Maoist surrenders and the overall security situation in the state.

The meeting comes in the wake of several key members of the banned CPI (Maoist) laying down arms before Telangana police. The Chief Minister briefed the Union Home Minister on the developments and the steps taken by the State government to encourage insurgents to return to the mainstream through rehabilitation and welfare measures.

Senior police officials from Telangana were also part of the discussions. The talks focused on strengthening coordination between the State and the Centre to address left-wing extremism and ensure that the recent surrenders translate into long-term peace and stability in affected regions.

According to sources, the leaders reviewed the current ground situation, including intelligence inputs and the status of underground Maoist cadres. The Centre is understood to have appreciated the Telangana government's efforts in facilitating surrenders and reducing extremist influence in certain pockets.

The issue of rehabilitation packages for surrendered Maoists also figured in the discussions. The State government has been encouraging extremists to give up vio-

lence and join the democratic process by offering financial assistance, skill development support, and reintegration measures. Officials believe that sustained outreach and confidence-building measures are crucial in persuading more cadres to surrender.

The Chief Minister reportedly reiterated his appeal to remaining Maoist members to lay down arms and participate in democratic governance. He emphasized that development and welfare initiatives would continue in vulnerable areas to address socio-economic issues that often fuel extremism.

The meeting also examined the broader national strategy to curb left-wing extremism and ensure that inter-state coordination remains strong, particularly in border districts. Both leaders agreed on the need for continued vigilance even as surrender numbers increase, to prevent any regrouping of extremist elements.

The discussions are seen as part of a larger effort by both governments to declare certain regions free of Maoist influence in the near future. With improved intelligence sharing, security operations, and rehabilitation policies, officials believe the movement has weakened significantly compared to previous years.

The meeting underscores the joint commitment of the State and Central governments to eliminate extremism while ensuring that those who renounce violence are given an opportunity to rebuild their lives within the framework of the Constitution.

Markets Crash on Iran War Fears; Sensex Plunges 1,100+ Points



Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Indian equity markets witnessed a severe downturn on Wednesday, March 4, as global geopolitical tensions triggered widespread sell-offs, leading to a sharp fall in benchmark indices and wiping out significant investor wealth.

The 30-share BSE Sensex crashed by over 1,100 points during the session, closing around the 79,000 level after extending losses for the fourth straight session. The broader NSE Nifty 50 also declined substantially, ending well below key technical levels as risk aversion gripped the markets. The steep fall erased close to 10 lakh crore in total market capitalisation, reflecting a heavy erosion of investor wealth.

Experts said the sell-off was driven by escalating tensions in West Asia. With the ongoing conflict involving major regional powers showing no signs of abating, global markets turned highly volatile, prompting investors to reduce exposure to risk assets. The escalating situation pushed crude oil prices higher, adding to inflation worries and weighing on sentiment across financial markets.

Market analysts noted that crude benchmarks climbed amid fears of supply disruptions, putting additional pressure on oil-importing economies like India. Higher energy prices tend to dampen corporate earnings expectations and fuel concerns about rising inflation, which in turn affects equity valuations.

The fall was broad-based, with mid-cap and small-cap indices also

suffering sharp declines as traders exited positions in sectors perceived to be most vulnerable to global uncertainties. The volatility gauge jumped significantly, indicating heightened nervousness and uncertainty among market participants regarding the direction of future trends.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were reportedly net sellers during the session, adding to the downward momentum. Large outflows by overseas funds often amplify market declines, particularly in emerging markets, as capital reallocate toward perceived safer assets amid global stress.

Domestic sectors such as banking, infrastructure, and consumer shares came under strong selling pressure, while defensive stocks offered limited support. Brokerages advised investors to exercise caution but cautioned that such sharp corrections can sometimes present long-term opportunities for well-capitalised investors willing to weather volatility.

Despite the sharp drop, some market participants believe the correction reflects short-term anxiety rather than a structural shift, noting that macroeconomic fundamentals remain intact. However, traders said that until global tensions ease and macro indicators stabilise, markets are likely to remain sensitive to international developments.

Wednesday's fall underscores how interconnected global geopolitics and domestic financial markets have become, with developments overseas having an instantaneous impact on Indian investor sentiment and capital flows.

CM Revanth to Inaugurate Huzurnagar Housing Project

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

A flagship housing initiative for the poor, led by Telangana Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on March 14 at Huzurnagar.

The ambitious housing colony, developed at Ramaswamy Gutta near Huzurnagar, spans 110 acres and is designed to provide 2,160 single-room houses to economically weaker families. The project, built with modern infrastructure and essential amenities, is expected to serve as a model colony for similar initiatives across the state.

Inspecting the site on Tuesday, Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to complete all pending works within a week, even if it requires overtime efforts. He said the Chief Minister has



been formally invited to inaugurate the colony and address the beneficiaries at a public meeting being arranged on the premises.

The project was originally launched by Uttam Kumar Reddy during his tenure as Housing Minister in undivided Andhra

Pradesh. According to the Minister, construction was at an advanced stage when the BRS government assumed power in 2014. However, he alleged that the project was subsequently neglected and left incomplete for nearly a decade.

"After the Congress government returned to power in 2023, we revived the project and ensured that it was brought back on track," Uttam Kumar Reddy said. He added that the initiative represents the culmination of a long-pending commitment to provide dignified housing to the underprivileged.

The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs 125 crore, excluding land acquisition costs. The land, valued at over Rs 1 crore per acre, was acquired from the Endowments Department by paying the full market value, with all statutory and legal compliances fulfilled, the Minister clarified.

The housing units are primarily intended for the poorest of the poor, rural labourers, rice mill workers within Huzurnagar municipality, and residents from nearby rural areas. Emphasizing fairness, the Minister stressed that the beneficiary selection process must be completely transparent.

He entrusted the responsibility of finalizing beneficiaries to a committee of officials headed by the local Revenue Divisional Officer. In the first phase, 1,000 beneficiaries will be selected after thorough verification to ensure that only eligible families receive the benefit.

Preparations for the inauguration are in full swing. The colony and its surroundings are being spruced up, and arrangements are being made for a public gathering where the Chief Minister will formally dedicate the housing colony to the people.

Uttam Orders Tight Safety Measures for Singur Dam

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Wednesday said the safety of the Singur Dam is of the highest priority for the State government and announced a series of immediate and long-term measures to strengthen the reservoir.

Speaking after a high-level review meeting with irrigation engineers at the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Secretariat, the Minister said he would personally visit the dam to assess the situation. The meeting was attended by Ministers Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Seethakka and Vivek Venkataswamy.

Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that Singur, which supplies drinking water to Hyderabad and irrigation water to sur-

rounding areas, is a lifeline project and there would be no compromise on its protection and restoration. He revealed that alerts were received from the National Dam Safety Authority and State officials regarding certain structural vulnerabilities.

Earlier inspections reportedly identified cracks in the embankment, slope erosion, revetment damage and issues in the plunge pool, raising concerns about downstream flood risks. The reservoir, with a gross storage capacity of 29.91 TMC, supplies about 6-7 TMC of water annually to Hyderabad.

The Minister directed officials to undertake immediate technical interventions, including sonar testing and underwater surveys below the bund to detect hidden structural damage. He instructed that a detailed report be submitted with-

in two to three days. Until complete strengthening works are carried out, high-risk operations should be avoided, he said.

Reviewing canal modernization works, Uttam noted that 9 km of the 13 km Singur canal lining has been completed. He ordered officials to expedite the remaining 4 km and ensure completion at the earliest. Contractors have been directed to finish major strengthening works within a single season to avoid disruption to irrigation schedules.

On long-term measures, the Minister said reservoir water levels were previously regulated in phases to facilitate repair works safely. He reiterated that safeguarding Singur was essential to protect public lives, livelihoods and Hyderabad's water security.

The Minister also announced that the State government



would release Rs 5,000 crore for land acquisition related to ongoing irrigation projects and directed officials to complete the process by June 2. Issues concerning gates and regulators at the Palem Vagu project will be addressed after a field-level inspection, he added.

Telangana BC Panel Seeks Inclusion of 40 Castes in Central OBC List

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Backward Classes Commission has urged the State government to take up with the Centre the inclusion of 40 caste communities in the Central Other Backward Classes (OBC) list before the upcoming national Census exercise.

Commission Chairman G. Niranjan wrote to Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, highlighting the need to ensure that all Backward Class communities recognised by the State are also reflected in the Central OBC list ahead of the Census process.

According to the Commission, Telangana currently recognises 130 castes under the Backward Classes category at the State level. However, only 90 of these communities are included in the Central OBC list. The remaining 40 castes are yet to receive recognition from the Centre, creating a discrepancy between State and Central classifications.

The Commission expressed concern that if the 40 castes are not added to the Central list before census enumeration begins, it could result in underrepresentation of Backward Classes in official population data. Since census figures play a critical role in shaping welfare policies, reservations and allocation



of development funds, any undercount could adversely impact the concerned communities.

Officials noted that the upcoming Census is expected to include detailed caste data collection. In this context, the Commission stressed that aligning the State and Central OBC lists before the enumeration process would ensure accurate data capture and fair

representation for all eligible communities.

The Commission also pointed out that the issue has been raised with the Central government on earlier occasions and called for expeditious action to avoid complications during the census exercise. It emphasized that discrepancies in classification could lead to confusion at the field level

and potentially exclude eligible communities from the benefits tied to OBC status at the national level.

The Commission maintained that timely inclusion of the 40 castes would strengthen social justice measures and uphold the rights of Backward Class communities in Telangana. It urged the State government to pursue the mat-

ter vigorously with the Centre so that necessary notifications are issued before the census schedule is finalized.

With preparations for the Census gaining momentum, the Commission's appeal highlights the importance of uniform classification to ensure equitable representation and policy planning based on accurate demographic data.

Ponnam Prabhakar Counters Bandi Sanjay

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Wednesday strongly responded to remarks made by Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar regarding Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, stating that aspiring to see Rahul Gandhi as Prime Minister is the legitimate right of the Congress party.

Speaking to the media, Ponnam Prabhakar said that in a democratic country it is not for any individual leader to decide who should become Prime Minister. "In a democracy, it is the people who are the ultimate decision-makers. Leadership is determined by public mandate, not by the opinions of political rivals," he said.

The minister emphasized that political positions are not permanent and depend entirely on the trust and support of the people. He remarked that those holding office today must remember that power is temporary and subject to the will of voters.

Ponnam Prabhakar also criticized the BJP-led cen-



tral government, alleging that over the past several years people across the country have faced numerous difficulties. He accused the government of favoring corporate interests and neglecting the welfare of ordinary citizens. According to him, the rising cost of essential commodities has placed

a heavy burden on common people, while adequate steps to control inflation and support vulnerable sections have been lacking.

He further alleged that several public sector institutions are being privatized and that the administrative system has weakened under the current regime. The

minister also accused the BJP of using divisive politics by creating tensions among communities and portraying minorities and marginalized groups as targets for political gain.

The Telangana minister claimed that central investigative agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate

(ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) are being used as political tools to pressure opposition leaders and destabilize governments run by rival parties. Such actions, he said, pose a serious threat to democratic values and federal principles.

Referring to Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra, which covered a long distance from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, Ponnam Prabhakar said the initiative was aimed at promoting unity and harmony across the country. He argued that criticizing a leader who undertook such a campaign for national integration reflects political intolerance.

The minister also questioned Bandi Sanjay's role as a two-time Member of Parliament and now a Union Minister, alleging that Telangana has not received adequate special funds from the Centre. He advised the BJP leader to focus on constructive development and responsible politics rather than making provocative statements.

KTR Condemns Iran School Attack, Calls It 'Human-Made Tragedy'

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

K. T. Rama Rao on Wednesday expressed deep anguish over the deadly attack on a school in Iran that claimed the lives of dozens of young students, calling the incident a "human-made tragedy."

In a message shared on his official social media account, KTR reacted to reports of a missile strike on a girls' school in Minab, southern Iran, where at least 165 schoolgirls were killed and many others injured as a result of the ongoing conflict in the region. The images he posted showed the heartbreaking scene of funerals and rubble, underscoring the enormous human cost of the violence.

KTR condemned the attack and emphasised that regardless of the reasons behind the military operations, the loss of innocent lives—especially children—represents a tragedy created by humanity itself. He warned that such wars



would leave deep scars on future generations and urged the international community to reflect on the suffering caused by armed conflict.

Describing the visuals from the school's aftermath as haunting and devastating, KTR wrote that such im-

ages serve as a painful reminder of the unnecessary human cost of war. He appealed for peace and underscored that the world must move beyond violence if it is to protect its children and future.

The strike on the school, linked to the wider Iran-Is-

rael-US conflict in the Middle East, has drawn widespread international criticism and grief. Global reactions have poured in, with political leaders and civil society groups condemning the attack and expressing condolences to the families of the victims. In

several countries, public demonstrations and official statements have highlighted the outrage felt over civilian casualties, particularly among children.

In his post, KTR also called on people to consider the long-term consequences of conflict, pointing out that wars not only claim lives today but also deprive future generations of safety, stability and hope.

His remarks reflect growing concern among Indian leaders about the humanitarian impact of the conflict in West Asia, which has seen escalating violence and mounting casualties. KTR's message added to similar expressions of sorrow from leaders across India, underlining the need for de-escalation and protection of civilians caught in the crossfire.

As the world watches the situation unfold, KTR's statements highlighted the importance of empathy and the imperative to strive for peace amid rising geopolitical tensions.

International Silver Medalist Mrutyunjaya Sunkar Meets Minister Srihari



Hyderabad, March 4, 2026 | TPN Bureau

International sports person Mrutyunjaya Sunkar on Wednesday paid a courtesy visit to Telangana Minister Vakati Srihari at the Minister Quarters in Hyderabad, following his recent success at the Open World Masters Games-2026.

Mrutyunjaya Sunkar secured a silver medal in the Competitive Cricket category at the prestigious international event held in Abu Dhabi. During the meeting, he briefed the minister about his participation in the tournament and shared details about his performance that led to the podium finish. He expressed gratitude for the encouragement and support extended by well-wishers from Telangana.

The athlete also informed the minister that he had successfully cleared the Level-1 Archery Coach examination conducted under the supervision of the Archery Association of India. He further stated that he has been selected to appear for the upcoming Level-2 Coaching examination, which would further strengthen his credentials as a certified coach. Sunkar noted that his aim is not only to excel as a player but also to contribute to the development of archery and other sports disciplines by training young aspirants.

Congratulating him on his

achievements, Minister Srihari praised Mrutyunjaya Sunkar for bringing international recognition to Telangana. He stated that the state government is committed to encouraging sportspersons and providing necessary infrastructure and financial support to help them compete at national and global levels. "Athletes like Mrutyunjaya Sunkar are an inspiration to the youth. Their dedication and discipline reflect the sporting potential of Telangana," the minister said.

Srihari emphasized that the government is implementing comprehensive policies to identify talent from rural and urban areas alike. By strengthening grassroots-level training programmes and enhancing sports facilities, the state aims to produce more athletes capable of excelling internationally.

Expressing his appreciation, Mrutyunjaya Sunkar said the minister's encouragement has boosted his confidence and motivated him to strive for greater milestones in the future. He reaffirmed his commitment to promoting sports culture in Telangana and mentoring aspiring athletes to achieve success on global platforms.

The meeting concluded with mutual appreciation and a shared vision to further elevate Telangana's presence in international sports arenas.

MP Chamala Seeks Permanent Ayacut Stabilization from Minister Uttam



Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy on Wednesday met Telangana Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy and submitted a detailed representation seeking stabilization of ayacut under the D10 canal of the Ranganaayaka Sagar Reservoir to benefit farmers in Jangaon constituency.

The MP urged the minister to take steps to stabilize the ayacut falling under the D3 canal of Tapaspally Reservoir in Komuravelli mandal by bringing it permanently under the D10 canal network of Ranganaayaka Sagar in Siddipet district. He explained that nearly 7,000 acres of agricultural land spread across villages such as Kamalapur, Arjunpatla, Aakunur, Jalapalli, Lingapur and Dulmitta in Cheriyal and Dulmitta mandals would benefit from the move.

Chamala highlighted that farmers in these villages have been facing recurring uncertainty due to irregular water supply. Agriculture in the region largely depends on tank irrigation and seasonal inflows, making crops vulnerable, especially during summer months. He emphasized that formal stabilization under the D10 canal would ensure assured irrigation, enhance cropping intensity and improve farmers' incomes.

Recalling past efforts, the MP

noted that he had earlier submitted a representation to the minister regarding water needs in the area. Responding swiftly at the time, the minister had facilitated the issuance of a temporary Government Order (GO), enabling water supply to local tanks and fields. That intervention had provided immediate relief to farmers.

With the summer season fast approaching, Chamala requested the minister to ensure timely release of water to the reservoirs and fields to safeguard crops and support the upcoming agricultural cycle. He also strongly appealed for issuance of a permanent GO instead of continuing with temporary arrangements, arguing that a long-term policy decision would provide stability and confidence to farmers.

He further pointed out that assured canal water would help recharge groundwater levels in the region, reducing dependence on borewells and lowering cultivation costs.

According to the MP, Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy responded positively to the request and assured that the proposal would be examined sympathetically. Chamala expressed optimism that the government would act swiftly in the interest of farmers and strengthen irrigation infrastructure across the constituency.

MP Chamala Hits Back at Bandi Sanjay Over Rahul Gandhi Remarks



Gandhi Bhavan, Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar over his reported remarks that Rahul Gandhi becoming Prime Minister would be like an “eclipse” for the country. Speaking to the media at Gandhi Bhavan, Chamala termed the comments as irresponsible and politically motivated.

The MP questioned the BJP’s criticism of Rahul Gandhi and alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself had risen as a “parachute leader” to become Chief Minister of Gujarat in the past. He also took aim at Union Home Minister Amit Shah, alleging that the BJP leadership had weakened constitutional institutions and was running them as “pocket organizations.”

Chamala further stated that the BJP secured only limited electoral success and continues in power at the Centre largely due to the support of allies such as Nitish Kumar and N. Chandrababu Naidu. “You received just pass marks in the elections. Your government survives because of coalition partners,” he remarked.

Recalling political developments in 2009, the MP said that several senior leaders, including former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, had expressed the desire to see Ra-

hul Gandhi take up the Prime Minister’s post. However, he noted that Rahul did not assume the office despite the opportunity, unlike others who became Chief Ministers without direct electoral mandates.

Chamala emphasized that after British rule, it was the Congress party that introduced significant reforms and established a strong constitutional framework in India. He said the Constitution empowered common citizens to rise to leadership positions and pointed out that even Bandi Sanjay holds public office because of the same constitutional system shaped during Congress rule.

The MP also questioned Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, asking why alleged irregularities during the previous BRS government were not addressed earlier and why concerns over the state’s financial condition were not raised.

Citing development politics, Chamala said that when the Sabarmati riverfront project was developed in Gujarat, Congress had supported the initiative despite being in the opposition locally. “If we now propose development of the Musi river, why is there resistance?” he asked.

Reaffirming Congress’s commitment to democratic values and inclusive governance, Chamala urged political rivals to avoid divisive statements and focus instead on constructive development.

Telangana to Prepare Health Profiles for 46 Lakh SHG Women

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has announced a major public health initiative aimed at improving healthcare access and outcomes for women in self-help groups (SHGs) across the State. Under the new programme, detailed health profiles will be prepared for an estimated 46 lakh SHG women, enabling better planning of preventive care, early disease detection and targeted health interventions.

Officials said the decision was taken to strengthen health monitoring and expand the reach of essential services among women who are often the primary caregivers in households. The comprehensive profiling exercise will collect key health parameters, medical histories, lifestyle information and other relevant data to build a better understanding of women’s health needs at the community level.

According to government sources, the process will be carried out in coordination with the Department of Health and Family Welfare, along with support from local authorities and SHG federations. Frontline health workers and volunteers will play a key role in gathering information and facilitating



follow-up care where necessary.

A senior health official explained that the health profile will serve as a foundation for personalised care plans and help identify high-risk individuals who may need specialised attention. The data will also be used to design preventive health campaigns and strengthen screening activities for conditions such as anaemia, diabetes, hypertension and reproductive health issues.

The initiative underscores the government’s focus on preventative

healthcare and early intervention, shifting the emphasis from reactive treatment to proactive wellbeing. By engaging SHG women as partners in the process, officials hope to promote health awareness at the grassroots level and empower women to make informed choices about their health.

Health authorities have also indicated that the profiling exercise will be followed by targeted health camps and follow-up programmes to ensure that identified health risks are managed effec-

tively. Special emphasis will be placed on nutrition, maternal health, non-communicable diseases and access to regular check-ups.

The government plans to use digital tools and a centralised database to compile and analyse the health profiles, ensuring data accuracy and enabling real-time monitoring of trends across regions. This approach is expected to improve resource allocation and enhance coordination among healthcare providers.

State leaders said the initiative reflects a broader commitment to inclusive development and social welfare, aligning with efforts to strengthen public health systems, reduce health disparities and build a healthier population.

As the profiling work begins, stakeholders across government and civil society are expected to collaborate to ensure the programme’s smooth implementation and maximum impact for women and their families across Telangana.

Telangana Ready for Digital Census Starting May 11



Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has announced that preparations are in full swing for the upcoming digital Census, which will begin with house-listing operations from May 11 this year. Officials said the State is geared up to smoothly conduct the first-ever fully digital enumeration exercise in the country.

The Census process will

be carried out in two major phases. The first phase — house listing and housing census — will be conducted from May 11 to June 9, during which detailed information about households and their facilities will be collected digitally using mobile-based applications. The second phase — population enumeration — is scheduled to take place between February 9 and February 28, 2027.

State officials, led by the Chief Secretary, have held extensive preparatory meetings, training programmes and simulation exercises to ensure seamless implementation of the digital Census. Special emphasis is being placed on comprehensive training of enumerators, ensuring technological readiness and addressing logistical challenges well before the launch date.

The digital Census is ex-

pected to provide accurate, real-time data and improve the efficiency of data collection as compared to traditional paper-based methods. With the use of mobile applications and digital tools, officials say the process will enable faster processing of information, enhanced accuracy and better verification of collected data.

The implementation strategy includes intensive training sessions for field staff and data collectors, conducted at district and mandal levels. These sessions aim to familiarise enumerators with the digital devices and applications, troubleshoot common issues and ensure that data is captured uniformly across all regions of the State.

Officials highlighted that the upcoming Census will, for the first time, include caste data as part of the enumeration exercise, making it one of the most comprehensive demographic surveys in India’s history. The inclusion of

detailed caste information has raised expectations among various communities and stakeholders, as it will play a role in future policy planning, welfare measures and reservation frameworks.

The State Census team is also conducting awareness campaigns to educate the public about the importance of the Census and encourage full cooperation with enumerators when they visit households. These outreach initiatives are aimed at ensuring that no household is left out of the exercise.

Telangana authorities said they are coordinating closely with the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India to align the State’s preparations with national protocols and timelines. With readiness activities progressing steadily, the government expressed confidence that Telangana will successfully complete the digital Census operations, setting a benchmark for other states.

Harish Rao Slams Govt Over Transfers



Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Former Minister and BRS Legislature Party Deputy Leader T. Harish Rao on Tuesday launched a sharp attack on the Telangana government, alleging administrative instability due to frequent transfers of senior officials and raising serious concerns over alleged irregularities in mining activities.

Addressing the media in an informal interaction, Harish Rao said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has failed to ensure stable governance, claiming that repeated reshuffling of IAS and IPS officers has disrupted administration. He alleged that around 140 IAS officers and 20 district collectors have been transferred since the new government assumed office, with some districts witnessing multiple changes in leadership within a short span.

According to him, key departments such as Energy, Singareni, GHMC, Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration, IT, Mining, School Education, and Health have seen frequent changes in top officials. In the Energy Department alone, five officers were changed in two years, which he said has severely impacted performance. “If officials are not allowed to serve at least two years in one post, how can governance deliver results?” he questioned.

Harish Rao further alleged that several retired officials have been given service extensions, including

a dozen IAS and IPS officers and hundreds of engineers. He said the Congress had criticized such extensions in the past but is now following the same practice.

The BRS leader also raised concerns about transparency, alleging that nearly 80 percent of government orders (GOs) are not being uploaded online despite High Court directions. He accused the government of weakening institutional systems and undermining the Assembly by not appointing a Deputy Speaker and failing to constitute House committees.

On another front, Harish Rao made serious allegations regarding illegal mining activities in Neopolis. He claimed that individuals linked to the Chief Minister’s relatives were involved in unauthorized fixed crushing plants and mining operations beyond permitted limits. He alleged that required permissions were not obtained and lease conditions were violated. He also accused Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy’s firm of carrying out mining operations in Rajendranagar without proper clearances.

Stating that a BRS fact-finding team would visit the site soon, Harish Rao said the party would expose the alleged irregularities with evidence. He maintained that as a responsible opposition, the BRS is mounting pressure on the government to ensure accountability and transparency in governance.

CM Seeks Additional IPS Posts for Telangana

New Delhi, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah to allocate additional IPS officers to the State in view of emerging law and order challenges and rapid urban expansion.

During a meeting held in New Delhi, the Chief Minister explained that after the formation of Telangana, the first cadre review was conducted in 2016. The subsequent review, originally due in 2021, was significantly delayed and finally undertaken in 2025. However, only seven additional IPS posts were sanctioned to the State during the latest review, which he said was insufficient considering present requirements.

Revanth Reddy highlighted that Telangana, particularly Hyderabad and its surrounding regions, is facing modern policing challenges including cybercrime, drug trafficking, white-collar offences and organised

crime. He stressed that the rapid growth of Hyderabad city and the reorganisation of the Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Malkajgiri police commissionerates necessitate a larger pool of senior police officers.

The Chief Minister informed the Union Home Minister that Telangana currently has 83 IPS officers and requested that the sanctioned strength be increased to 103. He also appealed for the third cadre review to be conducted as scheduled in 2026 without delay to ensure adequate administrative preparedness.

Later, the discussion turned to the issue of Maoist surrenders and rehabilitation. Revanth Reddy briefed Amit Shah on the significant developments in Telangana’s anti-Maoist operations over the past two years. He said 591 Maoists have laid down arms and joined the mainstream in recent times, reflecting the effectiveness of the State’s policing and rehabilitation policies.



The Chief Minister also mentioned that several senior Maoist leaders have voluntarily opted to return to normal life. He explained that the State government is providing compensation and rehabilitation benefits to surrendered cadres as per established guidelines, aiming to ensure their smooth reintegration into

society.

Revanth Reddy further sought greater financial assistance from the Centre for development works in backward and previously Maoist-affected regions. He emphasised that sustained development, improved infrastructure and employment opportunities are crucial to preventing extremism and ensuring

long-term peace.

Senior officials including the Chief Minister’s Principal Secretary and top police officers were present at the meeting. The discussions are seen as part of Telangana’s efforts to strengthen internal security and modernise its policing framework in line with evolving challenges.

MP Eatala Rajender Inspects Bachupally Fire Mishap



Quthbullapur, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Eatala Rajender, Member of Parliament from Malkajgiri, on Tuesday visited the site of the recent fire accident on Pragathi Nagar-Bachupally Road and assured support to the affected families.

The MP inspected the gutted furniture shops and enquired with officials about the cause of the fire. He also interacted with the affected traders, many of whom have reportedly been running their businesses in the area for nearly two decades after migrating from Palnadu, Narasaraopet and Guntur regions in search of livelihood.

Addressing the media, Rajender described the incident as heart-breaking. "Due to a snapped electric line, a massive fire broke out and 20 years of hard-earned savings were reduced to ashes before their eyes. The victims have been left with nothing but the clothes they were wearing," he said.

He emphasized that several families dependent on the furniture trade were suddenly rendered homeless and jobless. Urging the government to respond from a humanitarian perspective, the MP demanded immediate relief and rehabilitation measures for the victims.

Rajender stated that he had spoken to the District Collector and

sought prompt assistance for the affected traders. He assured that efforts would be made to ensure financial support so that the victims could restart their businesses at the earliest.

The MP also raised broader concerns about public safety in Hyderabad. He alleged that in many parts of the city, electric wires are hanging dangerously low, sometimes within arm's reach from buildings. "Such negligence is leading to avoidable accidents, claiming the lives of both children and adults," he remarked.

He criticized the slow progress of underground cabling works, saying that the system remains largely confined to announcements. Rajender further pointed out the lack of adequate safety measures around transformers and called upon electricity department officials to immediately conduct a city-wide safety audit and implement corrective steps.

Local MLA Vivekananda, former corporator Vijayalakshmi Subbarao, Rachcha Chakradhar and Padma Prasad accompanied the MP during the inspection. The leaders reiterated their commitment to supporting the affected families and ensuring accountability in the wake of the tragic incident.

Foundation Brings Holi Cheer to Slum Children



Quthbullapur, March 4 | TPN Bureau

In a heartwarming initiative, members of the "Meme Saitham Meekosam Foundation" celebrated Holi with children living in hutments under the Suraram limits, spreading festive cheer among families who rarely get to experience such occasions.

The celebration was organized in the Puri Gudiselu area, where children from economically weaker sections participated enthusiastically. The event was marked by vibrant colours, distribution of sweets and joyful interactions, transforming the locality into a lively festive space. For many of the children, it was a rare opportunity to celebrate Holi in a spirited and inclusive atmosphere.

Speaking on the occasion, Foundation founder Dr. Katteboina Shivakumar Yadav said that festivals should not be limited to personal or family celebrations. "Our goal is to bring festive joy to homes where celebrations are otherwise absent. Sharing festivals with children living in slums and hutments gives us immense happiness and satisfaction," he said.

He emphasized that the Foundation has been consistently celebrating major festivals among underprivileged communities as part of its social responsibility

initiatives. According to him, such programmes not only bring smiles to children's faces but also instill a sense of belonging and care within marginalized communities.

The children played with colours under the supervision of volunteers, ensuring safety and a friendly environment. Sweets and refreshments were distributed, and the Foundation members spent time interacting with families, listening to their concerns and encouraging the children to focus on education and personal growth.

Residents expressed gratitude to the Foundation for remembering them during festive occasions. Many parents said that their children felt valued and included, which boosted their morale and confidence.

Foundation General Secretary Alige Nursing, along with members Todeti Rupa, Mekala Jyothi, Ganesh and Satyam, actively participated in organizing the event. The team reiterated their commitment to continuing such outreach programmes in the future.

The initiative once again highlighted how small acts of kindness can create a big impact, bringing celebration and hope into the lives of those who need it most.

BKR Trust Distributes Exam Kits to Class 10 Students

Quthbullapur, March 4 | TPN Bureau

In a supportive initiative aimed at encouraging academic excellence, the BKR Trust distributed examination materials to Class 10 students studying in government schools under the Dundigal Circle on Tuesday. The programme covered schools in Dundigal, Gagilapur, Mallampet, Bowrampet and Bahadurpally.

The exam kits, consisting of writing pads and pens, were distributed by BKR Trust President and Congress leader Bongunoori Kishore Reddy. Addressing the students, he extended his best wishes to those appearing for the upcoming SSC public examinations this year. He expressed confidence that the students would perform well and bring laurels to their schools and families.

Kishore Reddy also announced that the Trust would reward students who secure first, second and third ranks in the public examinations. He assured that meritorious students would receive prizes and financial incentives as a token of encouragement for



their hard work and dedication.

Highlighting the Trust's commitment to education, he stated that BKR Trust has always been ready to extend support to students from middle-class and economically weaker families. "Education is the strongest foundation for a bright future. We want to ensure that no student feels disadvantaged due to lack of basic resources," he said. He

emphasized that such initiatives are intended to boost the morale of students and help them focus on their studies without stress.

Following the distribution programme, Kishore Reddy interacted with the students in an open session. He enquired about their academic progress, listened to their concerns and assured them that necessary assistance would be provided

wherever possible. Teachers appreciated the gesture and noted that such encouragement plays a crucial role in motivating students ahead of important examinations.

Several Congress party leaders and local representatives were present at the event, including Naveen Reddy, former Sarpanch Kavali Ganesh, Mallesha Yadav, AR Sadhu Yadav, Bembidi Mahender Reddy,

Vijay Goud, Venu Kumar and Srinivas Mudiraj. School staff members also participated and expressed gratitude to the Trust for its thoughtful contribution.

The initiative was widely welcomed by parents and teachers alike, who said that community support can significantly enhance the confidence and performance of students preparing for crucial board examinations.

Suraram Police Conduct Cyber Safety Drive

Quthbullapur, March 4 | TPN Bureau

In a bid to raise awareness against rising online frauds, Suraram Police organized a cyber safety awareness programme at Saibaba Nagar Crossroads under the limits of Suraram Police Station on Tuesday.

The programme was conducted under the directions of the Cyberabad Police Commissioner and led by Suraram Circle Inspector Sudheer Krishna. The initiative aimed to educate the public about the growing threat of cybercrimes and the precautions needed to prevent falling victim to online scams.

Speaking on the occasion, CI Sudheer Krishna stated that online fraud cases have increased significantly in recent times. He explained that cybercriminals are using various methods such as fake phone calls, fraudulent links, OTP



scams and impersonation to cheat unsuspecting individuals. Fraudsters often pose as bank officials or customer care representatives and trick people into sharing confidential information, he warned.

The CI advised citizens not to click on suspicious or

unknown links received through SMS, email or social media platforms. He also stressed that OTPs, bank account details, ATM PINs and other personal information should never be shared with strangers under any circumstances. "Banks and government

agencies never ask for OTPs or sensitive details over phone calls," he clarified.

He further urged people to remain vigilant and verify the authenticity of calls and messages before responding. In case of any financial fraud or suspicious

online activity, victims were advised to immediately dial the national cybercrime helpline number 1930 and report the matter to the nearest police station without delay. Prompt reporting, he noted, significantly improves the chances of recovering lost money.

The awareness drive witnessed participation from local residents, shopkeepers and youth from the surrounding areas. Police personnel distributed informational pamphlets and interacted with the public to clarify doubts regarding digital payments and online transactions.

SI Krishna, Cyber Warrior Srilatha and other staff members actively took part in the programme. The Suraram Police reiterated that public awareness and timely reporting are key to preventing cybercrimes and safeguarding hard-earned money from fraudsters.

HYDRA Commissioner Inspects Fire Accident Site



Quthbullapur, March 4 | TPN Bureau

HYDRA Commissioner Ranganath on Wednesday inspected the site of a major fire accident that occurred late Tuesday night near Pragathi Nagar Kaman under the limits of Bachupally Police Station.

The fire broke out in a row of roadside furniture shops, causing extensive damage and reducing several temporary structures to ashes. Upon reaching the spot, Commissioner Ranganath examined the gutted shops and reviewed the situation with concerned officials from various departments. He assessed the extent of the damage and sought preliminary reports on the cause of the blaze.

Speaking to officials and locals, the Commissioner stated that the affected establishments were temporary roadside shops set up with-

out proper permissions on either side of the road. Due to their unauthorized nature, he clarified that such shops are unlikely to have insurance coverage, making compensation claims difficult.

Ranganath advised shop owners and managements to carefully consider safety standards before setting up commercial establishments along roadsides. He stressed the importance of adhering strictly to fire safety norms prescribed by the Fire Department. "Basic fire prevention equipment must be installed in all commercial establishments to avoid such tragic incidents," he said.

The Commissioner further directed officials to ensure that fire safety guidelines are implemented rigorously in the area to prevent recurrence of similar mishaps. He warned that

strict action would be taken against unauthorized constructions and businesses operating without necessary clearances.

Acknowledging the heavy losses suffered by the shop owners, Ranganath stated that the matter would be brought to the notice of the government. He assured that efforts would be made to explore possible assistance for the affected traders within the framework of existing rules.

Officials from multiple departments accompanied the Commissioner during the inspection. Local residents expressed concern over the incident and called for enhanced monitoring of roadside commercial activities to ensure public safety.

Authorities are continuing their investigation into the exact cause of the fire.

BRSV Leaders Celebrate Balka Suman's Release at OU



Osmania University, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Celebrations erupted at the Arts College premises of Osmania University on Tuesday after former Chennur MLA Balka Suman was released from jail. Leaders and activists of the student wing affiliated to the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRSV) gathered on campus to express their happiness over his release.

The programme was led by BRSV State Secretary Kompalli Naresh, under whose supervision party workers burst firecrackers and raised slogans in support of Balka Suman. The campus witnessed a festive atmosphere as supporters waved pink flags and distributed sweets to mark the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, BRSV leaders alleged that Balka Suman had been targeted with politically motivated cases to prevent him from assuming the chairperson post in the Kathanapalli municipality. They stated that out of 21 wards in the municipality, the BRS and its supporters had secured a majority in 14 wards through democratic means. Despite this, they claimed, efforts were made to deny the party its rightful leadership position.

The speakers accused the Congress party of misusing

power and filing false cases against Balka Suman. They alleged that he was jailed as part of a political conspiracy. "Even though the ruling party tried to harass him and subject him to pressure, justice has ultimately prevailed," the leaders said, adding that his release has boosted the morale of party cadres across the state.

The BRSV leaders expressed confidence that under the leadership of K. Chandrashekar Rao, the party would regain strength in Telangana. They asserted that the "pink flag" would once again fly high in the state and that the people would teach a fitting lesson to those indulging in what they described as undemocratic practices.

Several student leaders and party activists, including Katam Shiva, Nagender Rao, Ramakrishna and Ganesh, participated in the celebrations. They reiterated their commitment to strengthening the party at the grassroots level and on university campuses.

The celebrations concluded peacefully, with university authorities monitoring the situation to ensure order on campus. Supporters described the day as a moment of relief and renewed hope for the party's future political prospects.

Hyderabad Fake Ghee Racket Busted, 460 kg Seized

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

The Hyderabad police on Wednesday busted a major fake ghee racket and seized around 460 kilograms of adulterated ghee being stored and sold in the city, in a significant action against food fraud.

Acting on a tip-off, a special team from the Commissioner's Task Force conducted a raid at a warehouse in the city's industrial area. During the operation, officials found huge quantities of ghee that was being deceptively repackaged and sold to unsuspecting consumers as pure dairy ghee. The seized stock weighing approximately 460 kg was recovered from large containers, cartons and loose storage drums.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the ghee in question was synthetic and adulterated, mixed with cheaper edible oils and other substances to mimic the colour and texture of real ghee. Such fake products pose a serious health risk to consumers and undermine public trust in food safety standards. The racket appears to have supplied adulterated ghee to local retailers and street vendors across several parts of the city.

Police arrested two sus-



pects at the premises and registered a case under relevant sections of the Food Safety and Standards Act and the Indian Penal Code for producing, storing and selling adulterated food items. Interrogation of the accused is underway, and authorities are working to identify other members of the network and trace the distribution chain.

Speaking to reporters, a senior police officer said that food adulteration has

become a growing concern, particularly for essential daily items like ghee that are widely consumed in households. "We are committed to cracking down on traders and networks that endanger public health by selling spurious food products," the officer said. He added that strict legal action would be taken against anyone found guilty in the case.

The seized adulterated ghee is being analysed by

food safety officials to determine its composition and the extent of adulteration. Samples will also be used as evidence for prosecution. Police warned local shopkeepers and wholesalers to ensure the authenticity and quality of products and to avoid sourcing goods from unofficial or unverified suppliers.

Consumers were advised to buy ghee only from reputable brands and certified retailers, and to check

packaging, labels and quality indicators before purchase. Authorities reiterated that food safety is a top priority and promised continued vigilance to safeguard public health.

The bust follows several similar actions in recent months where food safety enforcement teams have taken stringent steps against spurious milk, edible oil and dairy product rackets operating in and around major cities.

Ramchander Rao Accuses Congress of Losing Sense of Nationalism

Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Senior BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar and former minister Ramchander Rao on Tuesday strongly criticised the Congress party, accusing it of losing its sense of nationalism and failing to uphold the nation's pride and security.

Addressing a media gathering in Hyderabad, Ramchander Rao charged the ruling party at both the State and national levels with pursuing policies that he said weaken national interests. He asserted that Congress leaders have shown inconsistent positions on matters of national importance and have failed to inspire confidence among the public on key security issues.

Rao said that nationalism should not be a matter of political convenience, but rather a firm commitment that all political parties should uphold. He emphasised that the BJP-led Central government has consistently taken steps to strengthen national security, border protection and defence preparedness, particularly in the face of



growing geopolitical tensions. By contrast, he alleged that the Congress has recently shown ambivalence on critical diplomatic matters, creating confusion among citizens about its stand on issues affecting national integrity.

The BJP leader further criticised the handling of internal security and civil administration in States where Congress is in power,

suggesting that rising crime rates and social unrest reflect a lack of cohesive governance. He said that voters across the country are increasingly recognising the importance of stable, decisive leadership that puts national interests above political posturing.

Rao specifically mentioned recent international developments and expressed concern that the

Congress party's comments on foreign policy issues lack clarity. He argued that such statements risk sending mixed signals to adversaries and allies alike, undermining India's strategic position internationally. "In times when the nation needs unity and clarity, we cannot have political parties diluting the spirit of nationalism for short-term gains," he said.

On the domestic front, Rao claimed that economic challenges such as inflation and job creation have been inadequately addressed in regions governed by the Congress, leading to frustration among youth and working families. He said that the BJP's emphasis on economic reforms, support for defence manufacturing and investment in infrastructure are more in line with the aspirations of a patriotic and development-oriented populace.

The BJP leader also called on citizens to remain vigilant and engaged in democratic processes. He urged political parties across the spectrum to prioritise national interest and contribute to policies that strengthen India's global standing.

Rao's remarks come amid heightened political debates on national security and governance, with key state and Central elections on the horizon. His comments signal continued contestation between the BJP and Congress as they seek to shape public discourse leading into future electoral battles.

Balka Suman, Three Others Walk Out of Adilabad Jail

Adilabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

Former BRS MLA Balka Suman and three other party leaders were released from Adilabad district jail on Wednesday after a sessions court granted them bail in connection with a case linked to recent municipal election tensions.

Suman had been arrested last month following an alleged attack on the convoy of Telangana Labour Minister Gaddam Vivek Venkatswamy during the Kyathampalli municipal chairman and vice-chairman elections in Mancherial district. Police had booked him and several others on charges including unlawful assembly, obstruction of public servants and damage to property. He was remanded to judicial custody and lodged in Adilabad jail along with three associates.

The case stemmed from clashes that broke out between BRS and Congress supporters amid heightened political tensions during the local body polls. The incident quickly escalated



into a major political controversy, with leaders from both parties trading accusations over provocation and misuse of power.

After hearing arguments from both sides, the sessions court granted bail to Suman and the three co-accused earlier this week, subject to certain condi-

tions. Following completion of formalities, they were released on Wednesday morning.

A large number of BRS cadres gathered outside the jail premises to welcome their leader. Supporters raised slogans and showered flower petals as Suman stepped out, de-

scribing his release as a "victory of justice." The atmosphere turned celebratory, with party workers expressing solidarity and confidence in their leadership.

Speaking briefly to the media, Suman alleged that the case against him was politically motivated. He

accused the ruling Congress government of targeting opposition leaders through false complaints and arrests. He maintained that he had not engaged in any unlawful activity and asserted that the truth would prevail in court.

The Congress, however, has defended the police action, stating that law enforcement agencies acted based on complaints and evidence related to the convoy attack. Party leaders insisted that no one is above the law and that appropriate legal procedures were followed.

The episode has added another layer of intensity to the already charged political climate in Telangana. With local and future electoral battles on the horizon, both the BRS and Congress appear set for continued confrontation.

Suman's release is expected to boost morale among BRS ranks in Mancherial and surrounding districts, as the party seeks to reorganize and strengthen its grassroots presence.

Mulugu Irrigation Projects to Be Fast-Tracked: Ministers



Mulugu, March 4 | TPN Bureau

State ministers have announced that irrigation projects in Mulugu district will be completed on priority, directing officials to speed up land acquisition and pending works to ensure timely benefits to farmers.

During a review meeting with district officials and irrigation department authorities, the ministers instructed that estimates and proposals related to land acquisition be prepared within 15 days. They said the matter would be placed before the Chief Minister to facilitate immediate payment of compensation and commencement of works.

The ministers assured that once all procedures are completed and necessary permissions granted, the government is ready to release compensation without delay. "We will offer an acceptable and beneficial package to farmers who lose their lands and stand by them in every possible way," they said. They also stated that they would personally visit affected villages to oversee the land acquisition process and interact with farmers directly.

Criticizing the previous government for what they described as a rigid approach toward land acquisition and compensation issues, the ministers said the present administration is committed to safeguarding farmers' interests. "Ours is a farmer-friendly government. We will ensure that

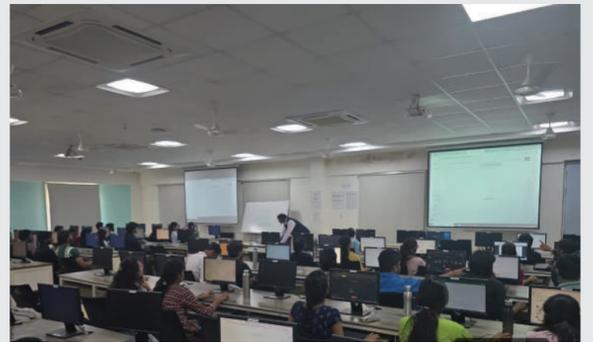
farmers receive a fair and satisfactory package before acquiring their lands," they asserted.

The ministers further stated that the government is prepared to allocate additional funds for the Ramappa-Laknavaram interlinking project to enhance irrigation facilities in the region. They directed the district administration and irrigation officials to work in close coordination to ensure that cultivation water reaches farmers across Mulugu district without delay.

On the Devadula project, the ministers said a special meeting would be convened again within 15 days to review land acquisition requirements and expedite progress. Regarding the Sammakka-Saralamma project, they noted that objections have been raised by the Chhattisgarh government, particularly concerning submergence areas. The ministers assured that compensation would be paid to affected families in Chhattisgarh as per norms to address inter-state concerns.

Expressing displeasure over delays in pending works, the ministers warned contractors against further negligence and instructed them to complete the projects at the earliest. They said the government would resolve any operational hurdles but stressed that timelines must be adhered to strictly to avoid inconvenience to farmers awaiting irrigation benefits.

CBIT Hosts Program on AI in Management



Hyderabad, March 4 | TPN Bureau

The Department of MCA at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT) organised a two-day academic programme titled "Management in the Age of AI: From Decisions to Intelligent Systems" for MCA students, focusing on the growing role of Artificial Intelligence in business and management.

The programme is being conducted as part of the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) 8.0 activity under the Artificial Intelligence initiative promoted by All India Council for Technical Education and the Ministry of Education. The initiative aims to expose students to emerging technologies and encourage innovation-driven learning.

The primary objective of the programme is to familiarise students with the transformative impact of AI in modern business environments. It seeks to help them understand how AI-powered tools and intelligent systems are influencing decision-making processes across industries. Sessions are focusing on applications of AI in marketing analytics, financial forecasting, strategic planning and intelligent business systems.

The inaugural session was graced by Prof. C. V. Narasimulu, Principal of CBIT, who lauded the department for organising a relevant and contemporary programme. He observed that Artificial Intelligence is rapidly transforming industries and reshaping professional roles. Emphasising

the need for interdisciplinary learning, he encouraged students to blend technology, analytics and management knowledge to remain competitive in the evolving job market.

The resource person for the programme is Mr. Uma Desu, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer and GenAI pioneer. In his sessions, he is providing practical insights into AI-driven business strategy, marketing and customer targeting, financial forecasting and risk analysis using AI tools, and prompt engineering for managers. He is also discussing real-world industry applications of generative AI across sectors.

The programme is being conducted under the guidance of Dr. Umakanta Choudhury, Professor and Advisor (Innovation & Incubation). Through interactive lectures, live demonstrations and case-based discussions, students are gaining hands-on exposure to AI applications in both management and technology domains.

Faculty members and students of the MCA department are actively participating in the sessions. The initiative reflects CBIT's commitment to promoting innovation, fostering interdisciplinary learning and preparing students for careers in a rapidly evolving digital and AI-driven world.

The two-day programme will conclude with discussions on future trends in AI and its long-term implications for management practices and organisational decision-making.

When Algorithms Go to War: AI's Silent Role in the Iran Conflict

The nature of warfare is undergoing a profound transformation. No longer confined to soldiers, weapons, and battlefield tactics, modern conflicts are increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence. The recent U.S.–Israel strikes on Iran highlight this shift, revealing how AI systems have quietly become central players in military decision-making.

What makes this development striking is that the same kind of AI used by civilians for writing, research, and everyday problem-solving is now being applied to warfare. These systems are no longer just tools for convenience—they are being used to analyze intelligence, identify targets, and simulate combat scenarios.

From Civilian Innovation to Military Integration

Artificial intelligence models were originally designed to assist with language, communication, and data analysis. However, their ability to process massive amounts of information quickly has made them valuable in military environments.

In conflict situations, vast streams of data must be interpreted—satellite imagery, intercepted communications, reconnaissance reports, and logistical information. Traditionally, this required teams of analysts working under time pressure. AI has changed that dynamic by condensing and interpreting such data in seconds.

This shift allows military planners to act faster and with greater confidence, but it also raises concerns about how much reliance is placed on machine-generated insights.

How AI Shapes Modern Warfare

AI systems are now capable of performing several critical functions in military operations:

- They analyze intelligence data to create a clearer picture of the battlefield.
- They identify and prioritize potential targets based on patterns and probabilities.
- They simulate possible outcomes of military actions, helping planners anticipate consequences.



These capabilities significantly reduce the time between gathering information and taking action. What once took hours or days can now happen in minutes.

The Acceleration of Conflict

One of the most significant changes brought by AI is speed. Military operations have always depended on timely decisions, but AI compresses decision-making into extremely short timeframes.

This acceleration can provide a strategic advantage, allowing forces to act before an opponent can respond. However, it also introduces risks. Faster decisions may mean less time for human deliberation, increasing the likelihood of mistakes.

When decisions are made at machine speed, the margin for error becomes smaller, yet the consequences remain enormous.

The Question of Human Control

Military officials often emphasize that humans remain in control of all final decisions. However, the growing influence of AI complicates this claim.

When an AI system processes more data than any human could manage and presents recommendations, those recommendations can carry significant weight. Humans may begin to rely heavily on these outputs, even if they do not fully understand how the system arrived at its conclusions.

This creates a subtle shift in responsibility. Instead of actively making decisions, humans may end up approving decisions that have already been shaped by AI.

Ethical Concerns and Moral Responsibility

The use of AI in warfare raises serious ethical questions. If an AI-assisted deci-

sion leads to unintended harm, who is responsible?

Unlike traditional weapons, AI systems operate through complex algorithms that are not always transparent. This makes it difficult to trace how a specific conclusion was reached.

There is also the issue of intent. AI does not possess judgment, empathy, or moral reasoning. It operates based on data and patterns, which may not fully capture the complexities of human life and conflict.

Relying on such systems in life-and-death situations raises concerns about whether ethical considerations are being adequately addressed.

A New Kind of Arms Race

The integration of AI into military strategy is not limited to one conflict or one country. As more nations recognize its potential, a new kind of arms race is emerging—one focused on technological superiority rather

than traditional weaponry.

Countries are investing heavily in AI-driven defense systems, seeking to gain an edge in speed, accuracy, and efficiency. This competition could lead to rapid advancements, but it may also increase global instability.

If multiple nations adopt AI-powered warfare, the pace of conflicts could escalate, making them harder to control and potentially more frequent.

The Risk of Overdependence

While AI offers clear advantages, overreliance on it can be dangerous. Systems are only as good as the data they are trained on, and flawed or incomplete data can lead to incorrect conclusions.

There is also the risk of bias. If an AI system is trained on skewed data, its outputs may reflect those biases, potentially leading to

unjust or harmful decisions.

In high-stakes environments like warfare, even small errors can have devastating consequences. This makes it essential to maintain a balance between technological assistance and human judgment.

The Changing Nature of Decision-Making

The introduction of AI into military operations is reshaping how decisions are made. Instead of long discussions and layered approvals, decisions can now be informed by real-time analysis and predictive modeling.

This shift has the potential to improve efficiency and precision. However, it also changes the role of human decision-makers. They must now interpret and evaluate AI-generated insights, rather than relying solely on their own expertise.

This requires new skills, new training, and a deeper

understanding of how these systems work.

Accountability in an AI-Driven World

One of the most pressing challenges is establishing accountability. In traditional warfare, responsibility is clearly defined within the chain of command. With AI, that clarity begins to fade.

If an AI system contributes to a flawed decision, responsibility may be shared across multiple parties—the developers who built the system, the operators who used it, and the commanders who approved its recommendations.

Without clear guidelines, it becomes difficult to assign responsibility or prevent similar mistakes in the future.

A Turning Point in Warfare

The use of artificial intelligence in the Iran conflict represents a significant turning point. It signals the beginning of a new era in which technology plays a central role in shaping military outcomes.

This transformation is not inherently good or bad. AI has the potential to make operations more precise and reduce unintended harm. At the same time, it introduces new risks that must be carefully managed.

The key challenge lies in how these systems are used. Technology alone does not determine the outcome—human choices do.

Conclusion

The growing role of AI in warfare reflects a broader shift in how conflicts are conducted. As technology becomes more advanced, the line between human and machine decision-making continues to blur.

This evolution demands careful consideration. Speed and efficiency must be balanced with accountability and ethical responsibility. Without proper oversight, the very tools designed to assist humans could end up diminishing their role in critical decisions.

The future of warfare is being shaped now, not just on battlefields, but in the design and deployment of intelligent systems. How they are used will determine whether they serve as instruments of precision or sources of greater uncertainty and risk.

Middle East in Flames: Why India Could Be the World's Quiet Peacemaker

The escalating conflict in the Middle East has turned the region into a dangerous flashpoint with global consequences. What began as targeted strikes has now expanded into a wider confrontation involving multiple countries, threatening energy routes, economic stability, and civilian lives. In this volatile environment, one question gains urgency: who can step in to calm the crisis? The answer, increasingly, points toward India.

The Middle East today is witnessing one of its most dangerous phases in recent history. Attacks and counterattacks between Iran, Israel, and the United States have widened the conflict beyond traditional battle zones. Drone strikes, missile attacks, and threats to key infrastructure have made the situation unpredictable and fast-moving. Crucially, the conflict is no longer contained within borders. It has spread across the Gulf, affecting countries like the UAE and Saudi Arabia, and even targeting diplomatic missions. The disruption of shipping routes, especially around the Strait of Hormuz, has added a new layer of global concern, as this corridor handles a significant portion of the world's oil supply.

While the conflict is geographically distant from many nations, its consequences are deeply interconnected with the global economy. Oil prices, trade routes, and supply chains

are all vulnerable to disruptions in the region. For India, the stakes are particularly high. A large portion of its energy imports comes from the Middle East, and any instability directly impacts fuel prices, inflation, and economic growth. Rising oil prices can strain public finances, weaken the currency, and complicate economic policy decisions. Beyond economics, there is also a human dimension. Millions of Indians live and work in Gulf countries, making their safety a top priority for New Delhi. The government has already activated emergency mechanisms and diplomatic outreach to ensure their protection.

India occupies a rare and strategically valuable position in global diplomacy. Unlike many Western powers, it maintains working relationships with all major actors in the Middle East. It has strong ties with Israel in areas such as defense and technology. At the same time, it shares historical, cultural, and economic connections with Iran. Additionally, India enjoys close partnerships with Gulf nations like the UAE and Saudi Arabia. This balanced approach allows India to engage with all sides without being seen as overtly partisan. In a conflict where trust is scarce, this neutrality becomes a powerful asset.

India's foreign policy has long emphasized strategic autonomy—the ability to make



independent decisions without aligning completely with any one bloc. This approach has enabled it to navigate complex geopolitical situations while maintaining credibility. In the current crisis, India has consistently called for dialogue, de-escalation, and diplomacy. Its leadership has engaged with multiple stakeholders, reinforcing the need for peaceful resolution rather than pro-

longed confrontation. This consistent messaging strengthens India's image as a responsible global actor committed to stability rather than conflict.

The intensity of the current conflict makes mediation both urgent and difficult. Traditional mediators often face trust deficits or are seen as aligned with one side. This limits their effectiveness. India, however, does not carry the same bag-

gage. Its relationships across the region, combined with its growing global stature, position it as a credible intermediary. Moreover, India has no direct military involvement in the conflict, which further enhances its acceptability. It is seen as a stakeholder in peace rather than a participant in war.

Despite its advantages, India's path to becoming a medi-

ator is not without obstacles. The scale and complexity of the conflict make any diplomatic intervention challenging. There are also geopolitical pressures. Major powers like the United States, Russia, and China have their own interests in the region. Any mediation effort would need to navigate these competing agendas. Additionally, maintaining neutrality while protecting national interests requires careful balancing. India must ensure that its actions do not strain relationships with key partners.

One of the strongest reasons for India to step into a mediating role is economic self-interest. Stability in the Middle East is essential for ensuring uninterrupted energy supplies and stable trade routes. Any prolonged conflict could lead to sustained high oil prices, supply disruptions, and broader economic uncertainty. These effects would not only impact India but also ripple across the global economy. By advocating for peace, India is not just acting as a diplomatic player but also safeguarding its own economic future.

India's potential role goes beyond immediate crisis management. It represents an opportunity to redefine its position on the global stage. By facilitating dialogue and reducing tensions, India could demonstrate leadership in international diplomacy. This

would enhance its credibility and influence in global affairs. At a time when traditional power structures are being questioned, a successful mediation effort could signal the rise of new diplomatic actors capable of shaping outcomes.

For India to effectively play the role of mediator, it must leverage both its diplomatic networks and its reputation for balance. Quiet negotiations, back-channel communications, and multilateral engagement could all play a role. Equally important is the ability to remain patient. Conflicts of this scale are rarely resolved quickly, and meaningful progress often requires sustained effort. India's approach must combine pragmatism with principle—prioritizing peace while protecting its own interests.

The Middle East conflict represents a moment of profound uncertainty for the world. As tensions escalate and consequences spread, the need for credible mediation becomes increasingly urgent. India, with its unique relationships, strategic autonomy, and commitment to diplomacy, stands out as a potential bridge between opposing sides. While challenges remain, the opportunity is significant. In a world searching for stability, India has the chance to emerge not just as a regional power, but as a global peacemaker.

BJP's Nitin Nabin Set for Rajya Sabha Entry: Strategy Behind First Candidate List

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has unveiled its first list of candidates for the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections, with Nitin Nabin emerging as a prominent name. His nomination reflects a calculated political strategy by the party, balancing organisational leadership, electoral performance, and regional representation.

Nitin Nabin, a seasoned leader from Bihar, currently holds a significant position within the BJP's national structure. Over the years, he has built a reputation as a dependable party organiser and an effective administrator. His elevation to the Rajya Sabha signals the party's intent to reward loyalty and consistent performance, while also strengthening its leadership bench in Parliament.

Having served multiple terms as a legislator in Bihar, Nabin has held key ministerial portfolios, including road construction, urban development, and law. His governance experience and grassroots connect have contributed to his steady rise within the party ranks. More recently, his role in organisational affairs at the national level further enhanced his visibility and influence, making him a natural choice for a parliamentary role.

The BJP's candidate selection for the Rajya Sabha is rarely arbitrary. It often reflects a mix of political messaging and long-term planning. In Nabin's case, the decision underscores the party's emphasis on promoting leaders who have demonstrated both administrative capability and organisational commitment. It also indicates a preference for individuals who can effectively articulate the party's policies in the Upper House.



Another important aspect of this move is the regional calculation. Bihar remains a politically crucial state for the BJP, and elevating a leader like Nabin helps consolidate the party's position there. By sending a strong representative from the state to the Rajya Sabha, the BJP aims to maintain its influence and ensure that regional concerns are addressed at the national level.

The timing of the announcement is also significant. With elections approaching in several states and the national political landscape becoming increasingly competitive, the BJP appears focused on strengthening its parliamentary presence. Leaders like Nabin, who combine experience with organisational acumen, are seen as assets in navigating complex legislative and political challenges.

Furthermore, the selection

reflects the party's broader strategy of recognising performers who have contributed to its growth beyond electoral victories. Nabin's work in expanding the party's organisational network and managing key responsibilities has not gone unnoticed. His nomination can be seen as part of a larger pattern where the BJP rewards leaders who deliver results both on the ground and within the party structure.

The Rajya Sabha, often described as the Council of States, plays a crucial role in shaping legislation and national policy. By inducting leaders with administrative experience and political insight, the BJP aims to ensure effective participation in debates and decision-making processes. Nabin's entry is expected to add depth to the party's presence in the Upper

House.

At a broader level, the BJP's first candidate list highlights its focus on continuity and stability. Instead of opting for dramatic changes, the party has chosen to rely on trusted leaders who understand its ideology and organisational dynamics. This approach is likely to help maintain cohesion within the party while also projecting a sense of reliability to voters.

Nitin Nabin's nomination, therefore, is more than just an individual advancement. It represents a strategic decision that aligns with the BJP's long-term goals of strengthening its leadership, reinforcing regional representation, and ensuring effective governance. As the Rajya Sabha elections approach, his entry will be closely watched as an indicator of the party's evolving political priorities.

DMK, Congress Close to Sealing Seat-Sharing Pact for Tamil Nadu Polls

The alliance between the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the Indian National Congress appears set to enter a crucial phase, with both parties moving towards finalising a seat-sharing agreement for the upcoming Tamil Nadu elections. Negotiations have gathered pace, and a formula allocating around 28 to 29 seats to the Congress is reportedly under serious consideration.

The discussions have been closely monitored by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, who has played a key role in guiding the party's strategy. His involvement signals the importance the Congress attaches to the alliance, particularly in a state where it has historically relied on partnerships to remain electorally relevant.

The DMK, led by Chief Minister M. K. Stalin, is keen on maintaining stability within the ruling coalition while also ensuring that its own electoral dominance is not diluted. The party is expected to retain the lion's share of seats, reflecting its strong position in the state's political landscape.

Seat-sharing negotiations between the two allies have not been without friction. The Congress has been pushing for a larger share, citing its improved performance in previous elections and its role in



strengthening the alliance's overall vote base. However, the DMK has been cautious, balancing demands from multiple alliance partners while trying to avoid internal dissent.

Despite these differences, both sides appear committed to preserving the alliance, which has been a cornerstone of Tamil Nadu politics under the broader Secular Progressive Alliance framework. The coalition has historically brought together several parties with a shared ideological stance, enabling them to present a united front against opposition forces.

Political observers note that the proposed 28-29 seat formula represents a middle ground.

It allows the Congress to expand its presence compared to previous allocations while ensuring that the DMK retains overall control of the electoral strategy. This compromise is seen as essential for avoiding last-minute disputes that could weaken the alliance's prospects.

The urgency in finalising the agreement is also driven by the approaching election timeline. Both parties are keen to move quickly from negotiations to campaign mode, focusing on candidate selection, constituency-level planning, and voter outreach. Delays in seat-sharing decisions can often lead to confusion at the grassroots level, something the

alliance is eager to avoid.

For the Congress, the stakes are particularly high. A better seat share offers the party an opportunity to regain political ground in Tamil Nadu, where it has played a secondary role for decades. At the same time, it must ensure that it contests in constituencies where it has a realistic chance of winning, rather than merely increasing the number of seats it fights.

On the other hand, the DMK is focused on consolidating its position as the dominant force in the state. By carefully managing alliance dynamics, it aims to prevent any fragmentation of votes while keeping its partners satisfied enough to campaign effectively.

The evolving agreement also reflects broader political calculations ahead of the elections. With opposition alliances taking shape and competition intensifying, both the DMK and Congress understand the importance of presenting a cohesive and well-coordinated front.

As talks near their conclusion, all indications suggest that a formal announcement could be made soon. Once finalised, the seat-sharing deal is expected to set the tone for the alliance's campaign and play a crucial role in shaping the electoral contest in Tamil Nadu.

India Sets Up Control Room As Middle East Conflict Intensifies

India has established a special control room to assist its citizens amid the escalating conflict involving the United States, Israel, and Iran in West Asia.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the control room operates daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (IST). It provides assistance through toll-free and landline numbers and shares emergency contact details for Indian embassies in countries such as Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, and the UAE.

The move comes as tensions in the region have sharply intensified following US-Israel strikes on Iran, which triggered retaliatory missile and drone attacks by Tehran across multiple Gulf nations. Several



countries, including Kuwait, Bahrain, and the UAE, have reported interceptions of incoming projectiles, along with disruptions to civilian life and

temporary airspace closures. The situation has raised serious concerns for the safety of Indian nationals living in the region. The government re-

viewed the developments during a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security, chaired by Narendra Modi.

Expressing concern over the escalating crisis, the Prime Minister emphasized India's commitment to peace and diplomacy, stating that disputes should be resolved through dialogue. He also assured that India would continue working closely with countries in the region to ensure the safety and security of its citizens.

The ongoing conflict marks one of the most serious confrontations in the region in recent decades, with fears of further escalation impacting global stability and the large Indian expatriate community in West Asia.

Middle East Tensions Disrupt Flights as Bengaluru Sees Wave of Cancellations

The escalating conflict in the Middle East, particularly involving Iran, Israel, and the United States, has begun to significantly impact global aviation, with India also feeling the ripple effects. Several international flights operating from Bengaluru have been cancelled as airspace restrictions tighten and safety concerns grow across the region.

At Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru, multiple flights to key destinations in West Asia, including Saudi Arabia and Oman, were cancelled due to the worsening security situation. Airlines have been forced to either suspend or reroute services as parts of the Middle Eastern airspace become increasingly unsafe for civilian aviation.

The cancellations come amid a broader escalation in hostilities following military strikes and counterattacks in the region. The situation intensified after coordinated actions involving Iran and its adversaries, raising fears of a prolonged conflict that could disrupt not only travel but also global trade and energy supplies. As tensions rise, several countries in the region have either closed their airspace entirely or imposed strict restrictions, forcing airlines to reassess flight paths.

For passengers, the disruption has led to confusion and inconvenience, with many left stranded or scrambling to find alternative routes. Airlines are offering refunds, rescheduling options, or rerouting passengers through safer corridors, but the uncertainty surrounding the conflict continues to pose challenges for both carriers and travelers.

Aviation experts note that the Middle East serves as a critical hub for international air travel, connecting



Asia, Europe, and Africa. Any disruption in this region has a cascading effect on global flight networks. Rerouting flights often leads to longer travel times, increased fuel consumption, and higher operational costs for airlines. These additional expenses could eventually translate into higher ticket prices for passengers.

The impact is particularly significant for Indian carriers and passengers, given the large volume of travel between India and the Gulf region. Millions of Indian expatriates live and work in countries such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman, making these routes some of the busiest for Indian airlines.

Airlines are closely monitoring the evolving situation and coordinating with international aviation authorities to ensure passenger safety. Decisions regarding flight cancellations or rerouting are being made on a day-to-day basis, depending on the security environment and advisories issued by governments and aviation regulators.

The crisis has also highlighted the vulnerability of global aviation to geopolitical tensions. Even localized conflicts can have far-reaching consequences, disrupting not just regional travel but also long-haul international routes that pass through affected airspaces.

Meanwhile, governments, including India, are taking precautionary measures to safeguard their citizens. Authorities are advising travelers to stay updated on flight schedules and to remain in contact with airlines for the latest information. Emergency response mechanisms are also being strengthened to assist those affected by sudden cancellations or disruptions.

As the situation continues to evolve, the aviation industry remains on high alert. The duration and intensity of the conflict will play a crucial role in determining how long these disruptions persist. For now, passengers and airlines alike must navigate an uncertain landscape shaped by rapidly changing geopolitical developments.

Bombay High Court Rules WhatsApp Chats Alone Not Enough to Prove Cruelty in Divorce Case



In a significant ruling on matrimonial disputes, the Bombay High Court has held that divorce cannot be granted solely on the basis of allegations of cruelty derived from WhatsApp conversations, stressing the need for substantial and convincing evidence.

The case involved a couple entangled in a legal battle where one spouse sought divorce on the grounds of mental cruelty, citing WhatsApp chats as primary proof. The petitioner argued that the messages reflected behavior that caused emotional distress and justified the dissolution of the marriage.

However, the court took a cautious view of relying exclusively on digital communication as evidence. It observed that while WhatsApp messages may provide context or support claims, they cannot, by themselves, establish cruelty unless backed by clear, corroborative material. The judges emphasized that isolated excerpts from conversations can often be misleading and may not reflect the full nature of a relationship.

The court underscored that cruelty, as a legal ground for divorce under Indian law, must meet a certain threshold. It should be serious, sustained, and of such a nature that continu-

ing the marital relationship becomes untenable. Casual exchanges, emotional outbursts, or disagreements reflected in chats do not automatically qualify as cruelty.

Importantly, the bench noted that modern communication methods, including instant messaging platforms, have become an integral part of daily life. However, their informal and often impulsive nature makes them unreliable as standalone evidence in sensitive legal matters like divorce. Messages may be written in moments of anger, frustration, or misunderstanding, and therefore require careful interpretation.

The ruling also highlighted the importance of context. A few messages taken in isolation cannot capture the broader dynamics of a marriage. Courts must examine the entire relationship, including conduct, circumstances, and other supporting evidence, before arriving at a conclusion.

Legal experts believe the judgment reinforces the principle that matrimonial disputes must be assessed holistically. It discourages the tendency to selectively present digital conversations to build a case while ignoring the larger picture.

The court further pointed out that granting divorce is

a serious legal step with long-term consequences for both parties. Therefore, decisions must be based on comprehensive evaluation rather than fragmented or potentially misleading material.

This judgment aligns with a broader judicial trend of scrutinizing claims of cruelty with greater rigor. Courts have repeatedly stressed that not every disagreement or unpleasant interaction between spouses amounts to cruelty. Instead, there must be a consistent pattern of behavior that causes significant harm or suffering.

The decision also raises important questions about the role of digital evidence in legal proceedings. While such evidence is increasingly common, courts are cautious about over-reliance on it without proper authentication and context.

In conclusion, the Bombay High Court's ruling serves as a reminder that while technology has transformed communication, legal standards for proving serious allegations like cruelty remain stringent. WhatsApp chats may support a case, but they cannot replace the need for credible, comprehensive evidence in determining whether a marriage has irretrievably broken down.

Friendly Fire in the Gulf: Kuwaiti Strike Downs US Jets Amid Iran War Chaos

A dramatic and troubling incident unfolded in the skies over Kuwait during the intensifying Iran conflict, when multiple American fighter jets were mistakenly shot down—not by enemy forces, but by a regional ally. The episode highlights the fog of war gripping West Asia, where overlapping military operations, missile barrages, and aerial threats have created a dangerously volatile environment.

The incident occurred amid ongoing hostilities linked to the widening confrontation involving Iran, the United States, and its regional partners. As military operations escalated, the skies above Kuwait became crowded with aircraft, drones, and incoming missiles, creating conditions ripe for miscalculation.

At the centre of the episode were three advanced American F-15E Strike Eagle fighter jets. These aircraft were part of ongoing military operations connected to strikes on Iran and defensive responses to Iranian retaliation. While operating over or near Kuwaiti airspace, the jets were mistakenly identified as hostile targets by Kuwait's air defence systems.

In what has been described as a "friendly fire" incident, Kuwaiti defences engaged and shot down all three aircraft.

Despite the severity of the incident, there was a significant relief: all six crew members aboard the aircraft managed to eject safely before the jets crashed. They were later recovered, with reports indicating that they survived without serious injuries.

The shutdown reportedly took place during a period of intense combat activity. Iranian forces had launched a wave of attacks involving drones, ballistic missiles, and possibly aircraft targeting US and allied positions across the region. This barrage forced regional defence systems into a high-alert mode, increasing the likelihood of misidentification.

Initial confusion surrounded the cause of the crash. Early claims suggested that enemy forces had downed the jets. However, subsequent clarifications



confirmed that the incident was the result of an error by Kuwaiti air defences, not hostile action.

The chaotic nature of the battlefield contributed heavily to the mistake. With multiple threats appearing simultaneously on radar—ranging from incoming missiles to fast-moving aircraft—distinguishing friend from foe became extremely difficult. In such high-pressure situations, even advanced identification systems can fail or be misinterpreted.

Reports suggest that Kuwait's air defence network, possibly including surface-to-air missile systems or fighter aircraft, engaged the US jets after misidentifying them as hostile. Some accounts indicate that Kuwaiti fighter jets may have played a role in the shutdown, though investigations are ongoing.

This incident underscores a persistent challenge in modern warfare: coordination among allied forces operating in shared airspace. Even with sophisticated communication systems and identification protocols, the speed and complexity of combat can overwhelm safeguards designed to prevent such errors.

The loss of three high-value

fighter jets represents a notable material setback, though the absence of casualties has prevented the situation from becoming a larger tragedy. Still, the incident raises serious questions about operational coordination, rules of engagement, and the reliability of identification systems in contested environments.

Both sides have initiated investigations into the incident. These inquiries are expected to examine how the misidentification occurred, whether technical systems failed, and if procedural lapses contributed to the mistake.

The broader context is equally significant. The incident comes amid a rapidly escalating regional conflict that has seen direct strikes, retaliatory attacks, and growing involvement from multiple countries. The expanding battlefield has increased the complexity of military operations and heightened the risk of unintended consequences.

As the conflict intensifies, the risks of further accidental engagements increase. Airspace congestion, electronic warfare, and the sheer volume of threats can overwhelm even well-trained forces. The Kuwait inci-

dent may serve as a warning of how quickly allied coordination can break down under pressure.

Strategically, such incidents can strain alliances, even if they are ultimately understood as accidents. Maintaining trust between military partners requires transparency, accountability, and rapid corrective measures.

The incident also highlights the importance of improving identification systems and ensuring seamless communication between allied units. In modern warfare, where seconds can determine outcomes, even minor delays or errors in identification can have serious consequences.

In conclusion, the mistaken shutdown of US fighter jets over Kuwait is a stark reminder of the dangers inherent in high-intensity, multi-actor conflicts. While no lives were lost, the incident reveals how fragile operational coordination can be in the midst of chaos. As the Iran conflict continues to evolve, preventing such errors will be critical—not only to avoid material losses but to ensure that alliances remain intact in the face of mounting regional instability.

US Navy Steps In As Gulf Tensions Threaten Global Oil Lifeline



Rising conflict in the Middle East has pushed global energy markets into turmoil, prompting the United States to consider direct military involvement in safeguarding one of the world's most critical oil routes. As tensions escalate following military strikes on Iran, the Strait of Hormuz—through which nearly a fifth of global oil supply passes—has emerged as the focal point of economic and strategic concern.

In response, US President Donald Trump has announced that the US Navy may begin escorting oil tankers through the Strait if necessary. The move is aimed at ensuring the uninterrupted flow of energy supplies and stabilizing volatile oil markets rattled by fears of prolonged disruption.

The Strait of Hormuz, a narrow but vital maritime corridor between Iran and Oman, has seen shipping severely affected in recent days. Escalating hostilities have made commercial vessels vulnerable, while war-risk insurance premiums have surged sharply. Many shipping companies have already begun avoiding the route altogether, further tightening global oil supply chains.

To counter these disruptions, the US administration has adopted a two-pronged strategy—military protection and financial reassurance. Alongside the potential deployment of naval

escorts, Washington has directed the US International Development Finance Corporation to provide political risk insurance and financial guarantees to shipping companies operating in the Gulf. This step is intended to reduce the financial risks associated with navigating conflict-prone waters and encourage vessels to resume transit.

The decision marks one of the most assertive US interventions in global energy security in recent years. It reflects growing urgency within the administration to contain rising oil prices, which have surged since the outbreak of hostilities. The conflict, triggered by joint US and Israeli strikes on Iran, has disrupted oil production and transportation infrastructure across the region, intensifying fears of a prolonged supply shock.

Energy markets have reacted swiftly. Crude oil prices have climbed significantly, while concerns over supply shortages have spread across global economies. The disruption has not only affected oil shipments but has also contributed to broader financial instability, with stock markets experiencing volatility amid uncertainty over the conflict's trajectory.

The Strait's strategic importance cannot be overstated. It serves as a crucial artery for energy exports from major Gulf producers, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates,

and Qatar. Any sustained blockade or threat to shipping in this region has immediate and far-reaching consequences for global energy prices and economic stability.

Iran's posture has added to the uncertainty. Reports indicate that Iranian forces have threatened to target vessels in the region, raising the risk of further escalation. The presence of sea mines, drone attacks, and potential naval confrontations has heightened fears among shipping operators and insurers alike.

Historically, the US has undertaken similar missions to protect oil shipments in times of crisis. During the late 1980s, it launched a large-scale naval operation to escort tankers through the Gulf amid the Iran-Iraq War. That precedent underscores both the feasibility and the risks of such an action, as military involvement in commercial shipping lanes can sometimes lead to unintended confrontations.

Today's situation, however, is more complex. The current conflict involves multiple actors, advanced weaponry, and a highly interconnected global economy that is more sensitive than ever to energy price shocks. Even short-term disruptions can ripple across industries, affecting everything from transportation costs to inflation and consumer prices worldwide.

Despite the announcement of

potential naval escorts, challenges remain. Experts point out that providing continuous protection to commercial vessels across such a busy and strategically sensitive waterway would require significant military resources and coordination with allies. There are also concerns about whether such a move could escalate tensions further, especially if US naval forces come into direct contact with Iranian units.

Additionally, the effectiveness of the insurance measures will depend on how shipping companies assess the risks. While financial guarantees may offset some concerns, the threat of physical attacks could still deter operators from entering the region until stability is restored.

The broader geopolitical implications are equally significant. The US move signals a willingness to take decisive action to secure global energy flows, but it also highlights the fragility of the current situation. As long as the conflict continues, markets are likely to remain volatile, and the risk of further disruptions will persist.

For now, the focus remains on maintaining the "free flow of energy," a phrase repeatedly emphasized by the US administration. Whether through military escorts, financial backing, or diplomatic efforts, the goal is to prevent a full-scale energy crisis that could have severe consequences for economies around the world.

However, much will depend on how the situation evolves in the coming days. If tensions de-escalate, the need for such extraordinary measures may diminish. But if the conflict intensifies, the Strait of Hormuz could become a flashpoint not just for regional confrontation, but for a global economic shock.

In this high-stakes environment, the US decision to step in underscores a stark reality: in an interconnected world, regional conflicts can quickly transform into global crises, with energy security at the center of it all.

Iran's Leadership Shift: Mojtaba Khamenei Emerges Amid War and Uncertainty



Iran is witnessing a dramatic and uncertain transition of power following reports that Mojtaba Khamenei has been chosen as the country's new Supreme Leader. The development comes in the wake of the reported death of his father, Ali Khamenei, during a major escalation involving the United States and Israel. While official confirmation from Tehran remains limited, the reports have already sparked intense global debate about Iran's political future and the implications for regional stability.

The selection of Mojtaba Khamenei is said to have been made by Iran's powerful Assembly of Experts, the body constitutionally responsible for appointing the Supreme Leader. His emergence marks a potentially historic moment for the Islamic Republic, as it could signal the first instance of a quasi-hereditary transfer of power within a system that has long rejected monarchy in principle. Though Iran's leadership structure is theoretically based on clerical merit and religious authority, critics have often warned of increasing centralization of power within a small elite circle.

Mojtaba Khamenei, long considered an influential but shadowy figure, has operated largely behind the scenes for years. Known for his close ties to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), he is believed to have wielded considerable influence over political and security matters even before this reported elevation. His low public profile, however, has made him a relatively opaque figure both domestically and internationally.

The circumstances surrounding the transition are extraordinary. Reports indicate that Ali Khamenei was killed in a joint US-Israel strike, a development that—if fully verified—would mark one of the most consequential moments in Middle Eastern geopolitics in decades. The incident is said to have also resulted in the deaths of members of his family, further deepening the shock within Iran's leadership and society.

Following his death, Iran initially moved to establish an interim leadership council, in line with constitutional provisions

designed to ensure continuity of governance. This council reportedly included senior figures from the judiciary, executive, and religious establishments, tasked with overseeing the transition until a permanent Supreme Leader was selected. However, the process appears to have been accelerated, likely due to the urgent need for centralized authority during a time of military confrontation and internal uncertainty.

Mojtaba Khamenei's rise is not without controversy. Many observers argue that his appointment could intensify concerns about legitimacy within Iran's political system. Unlike his father, who had a long history of public religious and political leadership before assuming power, Mojtaba lacks a comparable public record. This raises questions about his religious credentials and whether they meet the traditional expectations for the role of Supreme Leader.

At the same time, his supporters point to his deep connections within Iran's power structure as a source of strength. His relationship with the IRGC, in particular, may help consolidate authority during a period of heightened external threat. In a system where security considerations often outweigh other factors, such backing could prove decisive in maintaining internal stability.

The broader geopolitical context cannot be ignored. Iran is currently navigating one of its most volatile periods in recent history, with tensions involving the United States and Israel escalating into open confrontation. The leadership transition therefore carries implications not just for Iran, but for the entire region. A new Supreme Leader will play a critical role in shaping Iran's military posture, diplomatic strategy, and response to external pressures.

There are also significant domestic challenges. Iran's economy has been under strain for years due to sanctions, inflation, and structural inefficiencies. A leadership transition of this magnitude could either provide an opportunity for policy recalibration or exacerbate existing uncertainties. Much will depend on how Mojtaba Khamenei positions himself in relation to both reformist and

hardline factions within the country.

Historically, the position of Supreme Leader has been central to Iran's political system, combining religious authority with ultimate control over the military and key state institutions. Ali Khamenei held the role for more than three decades, shaping Iran's domestic and foreign policies in profound ways. His tenure was marked by a consistent emphasis on resistance to Western influence and a commitment to maintaining Iran's regional influence.

The prospect of his son succeeding him introduces a new dynamic. While continuity in ideological direction is likely, the style and priorities of leadership may evolve. Mojtaba Khamenei's relatively limited public exposure means that much about his approach remains unknown. This uncertainty is contributing to both speculation and worry among analysts and policymakers.

International reactions have been cautious but attentive. Governments and observers around the world are closely monitoring developments in Tehran, aware that any shift in Iran's leadership could have far-reaching consequences. From nuclear negotiations to regional alliances, the decisions made in the coming weeks and months will be critical.

In the absence of official confirmation, it is important to treat current reports with caution. Iran's political system is complex, and leadership decisions often involve multiple layers of consultation and negotiation. Nevertheless, the possibility that Mojtaba Khamenei has assumed the role of Supreme Leader represents a significant moment in the country's history.

Ultimately, Iran stands at a crossroads. The combination of external conflict, internal challenges, and a major leadership transition creates a highly uncertain environment. Whether Mojtaba Khamenei can consolidate power, maintain stability, and navigate the country through this turbulent period remains to be seen. What is clear, however, is that the outcome will have lasting implications not only for Iran but for the broader Middle East and the global order.

Markets Tumble as US–Iran Tensions Trigger Sharp Sell-Off



Indian equity markets witnessed a significant downturn amid rising geopolitical tensions between the United States and Iran, leading to a broad-based sell-off across sectors. Benchmark indices, including the BSE Sensex and Nifty 50, ended the session deep in the red as investor sentiment weakened.

The Sensex plunged by over 1,100 points, while the Nifty slipped below the crucial 24,500 mark, reflecting heightened uncertainty in global markets. The decline was largely attributed to escalating tensions in the Middle East, which triggered fears of supply disruptions and a spike in crude oil prices. Since India is a major oil importer, any rise in oil prices tends to fuel inflation concerns and put pressure on the economy.

The sell-off was widespread, with most sectoral indices closing lower. Financial stocks bore the brunt of the decline, dragging the benchmarks down. Heavyweights in banking and financial services saw notable losses as investors turned cautious. IT stocks also remained under pressure, while auto and FMCG sectors recorded declines amid weak sentiment.

Market participants were particularly worried about the ripple effects of geopolitical instability on global

growth and trade. Rising crude oil prices added to concerns over input costs for companies and potential pressure on corporate earnings. Investors also remained wary of foreign fund outflows, as global uncertainties tend to push capital towards safer assets.

Broader markets mirrored the weakness seen in benchmark indices. Mid-cap and small-cap stocks also ended lower, indicating that the selling pressure was not limited to large-cap stocks alone. Analysts noted that the sharp fall came after a period of relative stability, suggesting that the current correction was triggered by external factors rather than domestic fundamentals.

Despite the steep decline, some experts believe the fall could be temporary if geopolitical tensions ease. However, in the near term, markets are expected to remain volatile, with global cues playing a decisive role. Investors are advised to stay cautious and focus on fundamentally strong stocks while avoiding panic-driven decisions.

Overall, the session highlighted how sensitive Indian markets remain to global developments, particularly geopolitical risks and fluctuations in crude oil prices.

Airspace Curbs and Rising Fuel Costs Threaten Indian Airlines' Profits



Indian aviation is facing a fresh wave of turbulence as geopolitical tensions in the Middle East disrupt flight operations and push up costs. Airlines such as IndiGo and SpiceJet are among the hardest hit, grappling with airspace closures, mounting cancellations, and surging jet fuel prices—factors that are expected to significantly dent profitability in the near term.

The ongoing tensions have forced several countries in the Middle East to restrict or shut their airspace, compelling airlines to reroute flights. These diversions increase flying time, fuel consumption, and operational complexity. For Indian carriers, which rely heavily on international routes passing through this region, the impact has been immediate and substantial. Flights to parts of Europe and West Asia have either been cancelled or delayed, leading to revenue losses and passenger inconvenience.

The scale of disruption is considerable. Analysts

estimate that a notable portion of airline capacity is being affected. Around 20 percent of IndiGo's operations, roughly 32 percent of SpiceJet's, and an even larger share for some full-service carriers are exposed to these route disruptions. This has forced airlines to rethink schedules, cut frequencies, and absorb higher operational costs, all at a time when margins are already under pressure.

A key concern is the sharp rise in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) costs. As flights take longer routes to avoid restricted airspace, fuel consumption increases significantly. ATF already accounts for a major share of an airline's operating expenses, and any sustained rise can quickly erode profitability. The situation is further aggravated by currency weakness, which makes imported fuel more expensive for Indian carriers.

Airlines are also dealing with the cascading effects of cancellations. When flights are grounded or rescheduled, carriers must provide refunds, accom-

modations, or alternative arrangements for passengers. This not only increases costs but also affects brand reputation and customer loyalty. In a competitive market, repeated disruptions can push travelers toward more reliable options, intensifying pressure on already strained airlines.

Another dimension of the crisis is operational uncertainty. Airlines must continuously monitor geopolitical developments and adjust routes accordingly. This dynamic environment makes long-term planning difficult and complicates crew scheduling, aircraft utilization, and maintenance cycles. The unpredictability adds a layer of risk that airlines must factor into their strategies.

Despite these challenges, there are some mitigating factors. Industry experts note that fleet availability is gradually improving after a period marked by engine failures and supply chain disruptions. A higher number of operational aircraft can help airlines manage dis-

ruptions more effectively by providing flexibility in deployment. However, this alone may not be sufficient to offset the broader impact of geopolitical instability.

Financially, the outlook remains cautious. The combined effect of higher fuel costs, disrupted routes, and lower passenger volumes on certain sectors is expected to weigh on earnings in the coming quarters. Some estimates suggest that the aviation sector could face significant profit erosion if the situation persists. Airlines with weaker balance sheets are particularly vulnerable, as they have less capacity to absorb shocks.

The situation also underscores the structural challenges within India's aviation industry. High fuel taxes, intense competition, and thin margins have historically made the sector volatile. External shocks like geopolitical tensions amplify these vulnerabilities, exposing the fragile economics of airline operations.

Looking ahead, much

will depend on how quickly geopolitical tensions ease and airspace restrictions are lifted. A prolonged crisis could force airlines to implement fare hikes to offset rising costs. However, this comes with its own risks, as higher ticket prices may dampen demand, especially in price-sensitive markets like India.

For now, airlines are focused on navigating the immediate crisis—optimizing routes, managing costs, and maintaining service reliability as much as possible. The coming months will be crucial in determining whether the industry can weather this storm or faces a deeper financial strain.

In essence, the convergence of geopolitical disruptions and cost pressures has created a perfect storm for Indian aviation. While the industry has shown resilience in the past, the current challenges highlight the need for greater adaptability and stronger financial buffers to withstand global uncertainties.

Rupee Hits Record Low, Analysts Warn of Further Slide Towards ₹93



The Indian rupee has fallen to a record low against the US dollar, triggering concerns among market participants and analysts about continued depreciation in the near term. The sharp decline reflects a mix of global pressures and domestic vulnerabilities, with experts cautioning that the currency may weaken further to touch the ₹93 mark if current trends persist.

The rupee's fall is largely being driven by strengthening of the US dollar amid global uncertainty and rising geopolitical tensions, particularly in the Middle East. Investors are increasingly moving towards safe-haven assets, boosting the dollar while putting pressure on emerging market currencies like the rupee. Additionally, higher crude oil prices are worsening India's import bill, further straining the currency.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) have also contributed to the downward pressure by pulling money out of Indian equities and debt markets. This capital outflow reduces dollar inflows into the country, weakening the rupee. Analysts note that sustained FII selling, combined with global risk aversion, is amplifying volatility in currency markets.

On the domestic front, India's trade

deficit remains a key concern. As a major importer of crude oil, the country is highly sensitive to rising energy prices. When oil prices increase, demand for dollars rises, putting additional pressure on the rupee. At the same time, limited export growth has not been sufficient to offset these pressures.

Experts believe the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to intervene periodically to curb excessive volatility, but may not aggressively defend any specific level. Instead, the central bank is expected to focus on smoothing sharp fluctuations rather than preventing gradual depreciation.

Looking ahead, analysts warn that if global conditions remain unfavorable—particularly if US interest rates stay high and geopolitical tensions escalate—the rupee could continue to weaken. Many forecasts suggest that breaching the ₹93 per dollar level is a real possibility in the coming months.

However, some stability could emerge if crude oil prices ease, capital inflows return, or global risk sentiment improves. Until then, the rupee is expected to remain under pressure, with market participants closely monitoring global cues and central bank actions.

Metal Stocks Sink as Geopolitical Fears Rattle Markets

Heightened geopolitical tensions between the United States and Iran triggered a sharp sell-off in Indian equity markets, with metal stocks emerging as some of the worst-hit counters. Investors turned cautious amid fears of a broader global disruption, leading to significant losses across the sector and dragging benchmark indices lower.

The sell-off was particularly severe in the metals space, where companies such as Tata Steel and JSW Steel witnessed steep declines. These stocks figured prominently among the top losers on the Nifty 50, reflecting widespread investor anxiety about the global economic outlook.

The Nifty Metal index tumbled over 4 percent during the session, mirroring the broader pessimism in global commodity markets. Analysts attributed this decline to concerns that escalating conflict in the Middle East could dampen global growth, disrupt supply chains, and reduce demand for industrial metals. Since metal companies are highly sensitive to global economic cycles, they are often the first to react to such uncertainties.

Investor sentiment weakened further due to fears of rising input costs. A potential spike in crude oil prices—often associated with geopolitical instability in the Middle East—could increase production and transportation costs for metal companies. This would, in turn, put pressure on profit margins, especially for firms already grappling with fluctuating global demand.



In addition, a stronger US dollar—another common consequence of global uncertainty—tends to weigh on commodity prices and emerging market equities. Metal stocks, which are closely tied to international pricing benchmarks, often face selling pressure when the dollar strengthens, as it makes commodities more expensive for buyers using other currencies.

Broader market weakness compounded the fall in metal stocks. Benchmark indices declined as investors adopted a risk-off approach, shifting funds away from equities to safer assets. The sell-off was not limited to metals, but the sector bore the brunt due to its cyclical nature and high sensitivity to global developments.

Market participants also pointed to concerns about demand from key economies such as China, a major consumer of metals. Any slowdown in Chinese industrial activity, combined with geopolitical disruptions, could further weaken the outlook for steel and other metal producers. This added another layer of caution among investors, prompting them to reduce exposure to the sector.

The decline in metal stocks comes at a time when the sector had been showing signs of recovery in previous months. Expectations of improved infrastructure spending and steady domestic demand had supported prices, but the sudden escalation in geopolitical tensions has overshadowed these positives.

Experts believe that volatility may persist in the near term as markets closely track developments in the Middle East. Any further escalation could lead to sharper swings in commodity prices, currency movements, and global equities. For metal companies, the outlook will largely depend on how these external factors evolve in the coming weeks.

Despite the near-term challenges, some analysts remain cautiously optimistic about the long-term prospects of the metal sector. Structural drivers such as infrastructure development, urbanisation, and government spending continue to support demand in India. However, in the short term, global uncertainties are likely to dominate

market sentiment.

Investors are therefore advised to remain cautious and focus on fundamentally strong companies with resilient balance sheets. While the current correction may present selective buying opportunities, the broader environment remains fragile, and any investment decisions should take into account the heightened risk levels.

In conclusion, the sharp decline in metal stocks underscores the vulnerability of cyclical sectors to global geopolitical events. As tensions between the US and Iran continue to unfold, markets are likely to remain volatile, with metal stocks staying under pressure until greater clarity emerges on the global economic and political front.

“Tried To Trap Me”: Tenant Exposes Hidden Clause in Bengaluru Rent Agreement



A tenant in Bengaluru has gone viral after accusing their landlord of quietly altering the rent agreement without prior notice, bringing attention to transparency issues in the city's rental market.

The situation emerged when the tenant, who had been living in the same apartment since 2022, renewed their lease in 2026. Before signing the updated agreement, they reportedly confirmed with the landlord whether any terms had changed. The landlord allegedly assured them that everything remained the same. However, upon closely reviewing the document, the tenant noticed a significant modification that had not been communicated.

The key change involved the notice period required before vacating the property. While the earlier agreement specified a one-month notice, the new version extended it to two months. The tenant described this as an attempt to “trap” them, as the change could limit flexibility and create inconvenience if they needed to move out quickly.

The tenant later shared their experience on social media, explaining that they only discovered the alteration by carefully comparing the new agreement with the previous one. They urged others to read rental documents

thoroughly instead of relying solely on verbal assurances from landlords.

Despite maintaining a good relationship with the landlord—paying rent on time and adhering to rules—the tenant felt disappointed by what they viewed as a lack of transparency. After identifying the discrepancy, they decided to vacate the property and informed the landlord of their concerns.

The story quickly gained traction online, with many users sharing similar experiences. Several people reported encountering unexpected changes in agreements, such as longer notice periods, increased security deposits, or additional clauses introduced without proper explanation.

The incident highlights broader challenges faced by tenants in competitive housing markets. In cities with high demand, renters often feel they have limited bargaining power and must remain cautious when signing agreements.

Overall, the episode serves as a reminder for tenants to carefully review lease documents, compare them with previous versions, and clarify every detail before signing. It also underscores the importance of honesty and clear communication between landlords and tenants to prevent disputes and build trust.

Giant Python Spotted Swimming Through Flooded Streets in Bali



A shocking video from Bali has gone viral, showing a massive python gliding through floodwaters after days of heavy rainfall submerged large parts of the island.

The unusual sight emerged after nearly three days of continuous rain turned roads into streams and residential areas into waterlogged zones. As floodwaters rose, locals and tourists began spotting large snakes moving through the streets, with some reportedly measuring up to five metres in length.

Videos captured from balconies and nearby buildings show the python calmly swimming across submerged roads and villa courtyards, creating a mix of fear and fascination among viewers online. The clips quickly spread across social media, with many users expressing shock at seeing such a large reptile navigating urban floodwaters.

The presence of these snakes is not entirely unusual for the region. Bali is home to several species of large reptiles, including the reticulated python, which is native to Indonesia and known for its strong swimming ability. During extreme weather events like floods, wildlife is often displaced from natural habitats and forced into human-populated areas.

The flooding itself has caused widespread disruption across the island. Streets in several towns became impassable, vehicles were partially submerged, and residential properties experienced water ingress. Authorities issued warnings urging people to avoid flooded areas and remain cautious, as conditions can be unpredictable during intense rainfall.

Emergency teams were deployed to assist affected residents and secure vulnerable zones. In some heavily impacted areas, rescue operations were carried out using boats to move people to safer locations. Despite the alarming visuals, no snakebite incidents have been reported so far.

The viral video has once again highlighted how extreme weather can lead to unexpected encounters between humans and wildlife. Experts note that such incidents tend to increase during monsoon seasons, when heavy rains disturb ecosystems and push animals out of their usual environments.

Overall, while the sight of a giant python swimming through city streets may appear dramatic, it also serves as a reminder of nature's adaptability—and the growing impact of extreme weather events on both people and wildlife.

From American Dream to Indian Reality: NRI Shares 6 Reasons They're Grateful to Be Back Home



An NRI who returned to India after spending nearly a decade in the United States has sparked an online conversation by sharing six reasons why the move back home turned out to be deeply fulfilling. The individual revealed that despite initial adjustment challenges, relocating to India in 2024 was one of the best decisions they had made.

In a social media post, the returnee reflected on trading the so-called “American dream” for a life rooted in familiarity, family, and comfort. While life in the US offered pro-

fessional growth, the emotional and practical advantages of living in India ultimately outweighed those benefits.

One of the biggest reliefs, the NRI noted, was escaping the stress associated with the H-1B visa system. The uncertainty of visa renewals and the pressure of finding a job within limited timeframes had been a constant source of anxiety. Returning to India removed that burden entirely.

Another major advantage was access to afford-

able and fresh food. The individual appreciated the availability of homemade vegetarian meals and reasonably priced groceries, something they found difficult to maintain in the US.

Equally significant was the ease of hiring domestic help. Services such as cooks and housemaids are far more accessible and affordable in India, contributing to a better work-life balance.

The NRI also highlighted the quality of urban living, particularly in cities like Bengaluru and Hyderabad. Well-maintained gated communities

with modern amenities provided a comfortable and secure lifestyle comparable to global standards. Additionally, the presence of green spaces like Lalbagh Botanical Garden and Cubbon Park added to the appeal of city life.

However, the most meaningful aspect of the move was the opportunity to be close to family—especially ageing parents. Being physically present and spending time with loved ones brought a sense of emotional satisfaction that life abroad could not offer.

The post quickly gained traction online, with many users agreeing that proximity to family and cultural familiarity often outweigh the financial or professional advantages of living overseas. Some even shared similar experiences, reinforcing the idea that returning home can be both a practical and emotional win.

Ultimately, the story highlights a growing sentiment among some NRIs: success is not just about career growth abroad, but also about quality of life, relationships, and peace of mind back home.

Mumbai Police Turns Viral Baby Monkey Story Into Powerful 112 Awareness Campaign

Mumbai Police has taken a creative approach to public awareness by using the viral story of a baby monkey named Punch to promote India's emergency helpline number, 112.

Punch, a young Japanese macaque, recently captured global attention after heartwarming videos showed him clinging to a soft toy for comfort. Abandoned by his mother at birth, the monkey's emotional journey resonated widely with social media users, turning him into an internet sensation.

Leveraging this popularity, Mumbai Police shared a series of posts on Instagram that combined the monkey's story with an important public message. The campaign cleverly used the traditional “see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil” concept, featuring images of monkeys paired with messages like “Bura Mat Dekho,” “Bura Mat Suno,” and



“Bura Mat Kaho.” The final slide included Punch's image along with a strong message encouraging people not to engage in wrongdoing and to report crimes responsibly.

The campaign also introduced catchy phrases and hashtags such as “Just Punch in 112” and

“Wise Monkey Advise,” creatively linking the monkey's name to the helpline number. This wordplay made the message more engaging and easier to remember, especially for younger audiences active on social media.

The 112 helpline is a nationwide emergency num-

ber that connects citizens to police, fire, and ambulance services. It can be accessed through calls, SMS, email, panic buttons, and even a dedicated mobile application, making it a critical resource during emergencies.

Delhi Police also joined the trend, using Punch's

story in their own social media outreach. Their message emphasized that help is always available and encouraged people to dial 112 whenever needed.

The campaign received widespread appreciation online, with many users praising the police for using a viral and emotional story to spread an important civic message. Social media reactions suggested that such creative strategies are more effective in capturing public attention than traditional awareness campaigns.

Overall, the initiative highlights how law enforcement agencies are adapting to digital trends to communicate with the public. By blending emotion, storytelling, and social relevance, Mumbai Police successfully transformed a viral moment into a meaningful awareness drive, reminding citizens that help is just a call away.

Viral Challenge Backfires: China Boy Promises Skipping for Every Like, Gets 1.8 Million

A seven-year-old boy in China has gone viral after making a bold promise that quickly spiralled out of control. What began as a simple fitness challenge turned into an overwhelming task when the internet responded in massive numbers.

The young boy, nicknamed Tangdou, agreed to skip rope once for every “like” his video received online. The idea was introduced by his father as a fun way to encourage exercise and weight loss. Confident and unaware of the potential outcome, the boy happily accepted the challenge on camera.

However, the video soon gained massive attention on social media, far beyond what the family had expected. Within just a day, it crossed an astonishing 1.8 million likes, leaving both the boy and his father shocked.

The challenge, which initially seemed manage-



able, quickly became unrealistic. Skipping rope over a million times was clearly impossible for a child. Realising this, Tangdou admitted he could not complete the task and humorously asked his father to help

him finish it. The story resonated widely with viewers, who found the situation both amusing and relatable. The combination of innocence, ambition, and an unexpected twist contributed to the video's viral

success. The idea reportedly stemmed from the boy's school routine, where daily rope-skipping was assigned as part of physical activity. His father decided to build on this by creating a structured plan to

improve his fitness. To make it more engaging, he introduced a reward system, offering incentives for weight loss and mild penalties for weight gain.

Despite the humorous outcome, the father later clarified that the intention was never to push his son beyond his limits. Instead, he planned to monitor the activity carefully and ensure it remained safe and beneficial.

The incident highlights how quickly social media challenges can escalate once they capture public attention. What starts as a simple idea can grow unexpectedly when it reaches a large audience.

In the end, the viral moment served as both entertainment and a reminder about setting realistic goals—especially in the age of social media, where even the smallest challenges can take on a life of their own.

India vs England Semi-Final: No Room for Error in High-Stakes Wankhede Clash



The much-anticipated T20 World Cup 2026 semi-final between India and England at the iconic Wankhede Stadium is shaping up to be more than just another knockout game—it is a moment of reckoning. With both teams carrying history, pressure, and expectations, the contest promises intensity where even the smallest mistake could prove decisive.

India enter the semi-final as defending champions, but their campaign has not been flawless. While they have shown resilience—most notably in their crucial win over West Indies to secure a semi-final spot—there are lingering concerns. The top order has struggled with consistency, often failing to provide strong starts. This has put added pressure on the middle order, which, although capable, cannot always be relied upon to rescue the team in high-pressure knockout matches.

One of the biggest concerns has been fielding lapses. Dropped catches and missed opportunities have threatened to derail India's momentum at key

moments. In a knockout game against a team like England cricket team, such errors could prove fatal. The phrase “thirteen drops, one reckoning” reflects the underlying reality—India may not get away with repeated mistakes this time.

Despite these concerns, India's strengths remain formidable. Their middle order, packed with explosive hitters, has the ability to change games in a matter of overs. The bowling unit, led by experienced pacers and complemented by quality spin options, has been effective in containing opposition teams and picking up crucial wickets. If both departments click together, India can be a very difficult side to beat.

England, on the other hand, come into the contest with growing confidence. After a shaky start to the tournament, they have found rhythm at the right time. Their batting lineup is deep and aggressive, capable of taking on any bowling attack. Their all-round strength adds balance to the team, making them a well-rounded and danger-

ous opponent.

Importantly, England are not overawed by the occasion. Many of their players have experience of playing in Indian conditions through franchise cricket, which reduces the home advantage factor. Their mindset heading into the semi-final is clear—they see this as an opportunity rather than a challenge.

History adds another compelling layer to this clash. This is the third consecutive T20 World Cup where India and England meet in the semi-finals. Interestingly, in recent editions, the winner of this encounter has often gone on to lift the trophy, making this match feel like an unofficial final.

The venue itself could play a crucial role. Wankhede Stadium is known for its batting-friendly conditions, short boundaries, and high-scoring matches. While this suits aggressive batting sides like England, it also aligns well with India's strength in chasing targets. However, the pitch can also assist bowlers early on, making the powerplay phase extremely important.

For India, the key will be execution under pressure. They must address their fielding concerns, ensure a solid start with the bat, and maintain discipline with the ball. Any slip-up could shift momentum instantly in a format as unpredictable as T20 cricket.

England, meanwhile, will look to exploit India's vulnerabilities. Early wickets, aggressive intent, and sharp fielding could tilt the balance in their favour. Their ability to stay composed in big matches makes them a dangerous opponent.

Ultimately, this semi-final is not just about skill—it is about temperament. Knockout games often come down to handling pressure, and both teams have experienced both triumph and heartbreak in similar situations.

As the two sides prepare to face off, one thing is certain: there is no margin for error. In a contest where every run, catch, and decision counts, only the team that holds its nerve will move one step closer to the T20 World Cup title.

“You Fossils Complained”: Dinesh Karthik Takes Aim at England Legends After Pakistan Exit



Former India wicketkeeper-batter Dinesh Karthik stirred a lively debate during the ongoing ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 after taking a sharp and humorous dig at former England captains Nasser Hussain and Michael Atherton following Pakistan's early exit from the tournament.

Pakistan's campaign ended in disappointment as they failed to qualify for the semi-finals. Their journey in the Super 8 stage saw a rain-affected match against New Zealand, a defeat to England, and a win over Sri Lanka. However, it wasn't enough, as net run rate ultimately cost them a place in the knockout stage.

Karthik, who has been part of the commentary panel, used the opportunity to revisit a debate from the previous year. During the 2025 Champions Trophy, Hussain and Atherton had suggested that India benefited from playing all their matches at a single venue in Dubai, calling it an “advantage” that contributed to their title-winning run.

Drawing a parallel, Karthik pointed out that Pakistan enjoyed a similar situation in this tournament. Due to political tensions, Pakistan played all their matches in Colombo, stayed at the same hotel, and became well-acquainted with local conditions. Yet, despite these perceived advantages, they failed to progress.

In a witty remark, Karthik said that by the same logic used earlier, Pakistan should have performed much better. His “you fossils complained” comment, directed at the English duo, was delivered in a light-hearted tone but carried a pointed message about consistency in analysis.

The remark quickly gained attention for its blend of humor and critique. Karthik essentially challenged the narrative that familiarity with conditions alone determines success in major tournaments. Instead, he emphasized

that performance, skill, and execution under pressure are far more decisive factors.

The exchange also highlighted a broader conversation in cricket about perceived advantages in global tournaments. Scheduling, venues, and travel have often been debated topics, especially in competitions involving multiple host nations. However, Karthik's response underscored that such factors cannot overshadow the importance of on-field performance.

Interestingly, both Hussain and Atherton appeared to take the comment in good spirit, laughing it off during the discussion. This reflected the camaraderie often seen among former players, even when opinions clash.

Pakistan's exit, meanwhile, has sparked criticism back home, with questions being raised about team selection, consistency, and strategy. Despite having talented players and seemingly favorable conditions, the team could not deliver when it mattered most.

Karthik's remarks have added an extra layer of intrigue to the ongoing tournament, especially with India set to face England in a high-stakes semi-final. The timing of his comments has only intensified interest in the contest, given the involvement of the same English voices he addressed.

Beyond the humor, the incident serves as a reminder of how narratives in cricket can quickly shift. What may be considered an “advantage” in one context can lose relevance if results do not follow. Ultimately, tournaments are decided by performance on the field, not by external conditions alone.

As the T20 World Cup heads into its decisive phase, moments like these continue to add color to the competition—blending on-field action with off-field banter, and keeping fans engaged both in play and in conversation.

T20 World Cup Sets New Viewership Record, ICC Chair Jay Shah Says “Humbled” by Global Response



The ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 has achieved a historic milestone by recording the highest-ever global viewership in the tournament's history, underlining the growing popularity of cricket's shortest format across the world.

According to ICC Chair Jay Shah, the tournament has surpassed all previous editions in terms of audience reach, marking a significant moment for international cricket. Expressing his reaction, Shah said he was “humbled” by the overwhelming response from fans worldwide, acknowledging their role in making the event a global success.

The record-breaking numbers highlight the

expanding appeal of T20 cricket, which continues to attract viewers across diverse regions. The format's fast-paced nature, shorter duration, and entertainment value have made it particularly popular among younger audiences and new cricket-following markets.

The surge in viewership also reflects cricket's strengthening presence beyond its traditional strongholds. While countries like India remain key contributors to the sport's global audience, growing interest in regions such as the United States, the Middle East, and parts of Europe has significantly boosted overall numbers.

Broadcast and digital platforms have played a crucial role in driving en-

agement. With matches being widely accessible across television and streaming services, fans have been able to follow the tournament more easily than ever before. The integration of digital media, real-time highlights, and interactive content has further enhanced the viewing experience.

This achievement carries major commercial implications as well. Higher viewership translates into increased value for broadcasters, advertisers, and sponsors, reinforcing the T20 World Cup's position as one of the most lucrative events in international cricket. It also strengthens the ICC's ability to invest in the development and

global expansion of the game.

The success of the 2026 edition builds on the momentum created by previous tournaments, which have consistently seen rising audience numbers. However, this year's record indicates a new level of global engagement, suggesting that the sport is entering a phase of rapid growth and wider acceptance.

Industry experts believe that such milestones will encourage further innovation in how cricket is packaged and delivered to audiences. From improved broadcast technologies to fan-centric initiatives, the focus is likely to remain on making the sport more accessible and engaging.

For the ICC, the record viewership serves as both a validation of its strategies and a motivation to continue expanding the game's global footprint. With more countries showing interest in cricket and international tournaments drawing increasing attention, the future of the sport appears promising.

As the T20 World Cup continues to captivate fans worldwide, this achievement stands as a testament to cricket's evolving appeal and its ability to connect with audiences across cultures and continents.

India's T20 World Cup Semi-Final Record: A Mixed Tale of Triumphs and Heartbreaks

India's journey in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup semi-finals has been a story of brilliance, missed opportunities, and unforgettable moments. Over the years, the team has frequently reached the knockout stage, showcasing consistency in the shortest format, but their record in semi-finals reflects a mixed performance.

India first made a major impact in the inaugural 2007 T20 World Cup. Under the leadership of a young side, they defeated Australia in the semi-final and went on to lift the title. That victory remains one of the most iconic moments in Indian cricket history, setting the tone for the country's dominance in T20 cricket.

However, the years that followed saw fluctuating fortunes. In the 2010 and 2012 editions, India failed to reach the semi-finals, struggling to maintain consistency in crucial matches. Their next significant semi-final appearance came in 2014, where they delivered a strong performance against South Africa to reach the final. Although they eventually lost the title clash, the semi-final win highlighted India's ability to handle pressure on big occasions.

The 2016 T20 World Cup, held in India, brought both hope and disappointment.



The team entered the semi-final as one of the favorites but suffered a defeat against the West Indies. Despite strong performances throughout the tournament, India could not cross the final hurdle, leaving fans disappointed.

A similar pattern continued in the 2022 edition when India once again reached the semi-finals, only to be comprehensively beaten by England. The loss exposed gaps in both batting and bowling, raising questions about the team's approach in knockout matches.

India's fortunes changed in the 2024 T20 World Cup, where they not only reached the semi-finals but went on to win the tournament. Their ability to handle high-pressure situa-

tions and deliver as a unit played a crucial role in ending their long wait for another T20 World Cup title.

Overall, India has had a strong presence in T20 World Cup semi-finals, reaching this stage multiple times across different editions. However, their conversion rate—turning semi-final appearances into titles—has not always matched expectations. While they have produced memorable wins, crucial losses have also defined their journey.

In the ongoing 2026 T20 World Cup, India has once again reached the semi-finals after a dramatic campaign, including a crucial win over West Indies powered by a match-winning knock from Sanju Samson. Their upcoming clash

against England is particularly significant, as history suggests that the winner of such encounters often goes on to lift the trophy.

As India prepares for yet another semi-final challenge, the focus will be on maintaining composure, executing plans effectively, and overcoming the psychological barrier that has troubled them in the past. With a balanced squad and recent momentum, they have a strong chance to add another successful chapter to their semi-final legacy.

India's semi-final record in T20 World Cups ultimately reflects both their strength as a cricketing powerhouse and the unpredictable nature of the format—where a single game can define the fate of even the best teams.

Manchu Manoj Set to Turn Villain for Balakrishna in Gopichand Malineni's Next Big Film



In an exciting development for Telugu cinema, actor Manchu Manoj is reportedly gearing up to take on a negative role in an upcoming film starring Nandamuri Balakrishna, to be directed by Gopichand Malineni. The project, tentatively referred to as NBK111, has already generated significant buzz among fans, and this casting choice is expected to elevate expectations even further.

The film marks another collaboration between Balakrishna and director Gopichand Malineni, who previously delivered a mass entertainer with Veera Simha Reddy. That film showcased Balakrishna in a powerful dual role and was well received by his fan base for its action-packed narrative and strong screen presence. With this new venture, the duo is said to be aiming for an even bigger cinematic experience, possibly set against a historical or larger-than-life backdrop.

Manchu Manoj's inclusion as the antagonist is particularly noteworthy because it signals a significant shift in his career trajectory. Known primarily for his roles as a hero, Manoj has in recent times shown a willingness to experiment with diverse characters.

Taking on a villain role in a high-profile film alongside Balakrishna could mark a turning point, allowing him to showcase a darker and more intense side of his acting abilities.

Industry insiders suggest that Manoj's character will not be a conventional antagonist but one with depth and strong motivations, making the face-off between him and Balakrishna more compelling. Such layered antagonists have increasingly become a trend in mainstream cinema, offering audiences more nuanced storytelling rather than a simple good-versus-evil narrative.

The film is expected to be mounted on a grand scale, with high production values and a strong supporting cast. Reports have also hinted at the involvement of a leading actress, further adding to the film's appeal. Director Gopichand Malineni, known for blending commercial elements with engaging storytelling, is likely to craft a script that balances action, emotion, and drama.

For Balakrishna, this project continues a successful phase in his career, where he has consistently delivered films that resonate with mass audiences. His collabora-

tion with Malineni has already proven to be fruitful, and expectations are high that their next outing will build on that momentum.

Meanwhile, for Manchu Manoj, this role could redefine his on-screen image. Playing a villain opposite a star like Balakrishna presents both a challenge and an opportunity. If executed well, it could open doors for more versatile roles in the future and position him as a formidable performer capable of handling complex characters.

The announcement has sparked excitement among fans of both actors, who are eager to see how this fresh pairing unfolds on screen. The prospect of a powerful hero-versus-villain dynamic, backed by a strong director and large-scale production, makes this film one of the most anticipated projects in the Telugu film industry.

As more details about the cast, storyline, and release timeline emerge, the film is expected to remain in the spotlight. With a combination of star power, intriguing casting, and a proven director at the helm, this upcoming project promises to deliver a gripping cinematic experience.

South Indian Actresses Call Out Inappropriate Media Camera Angles

A group of prominent South Indian actresses, including Sapthami Gowda, Rukmini Vasanth, and Ashika Ranganath, have voiced their strong displeasure over what they describe as "inappropriate and disrespectful" camera angles used by sections of the media during public events.

The issue reportedly came to light during recent film-related events and promotional gatherings, where photographers and videographers were accused of deliberately capturing angles that made the actresses uncomfortable. The actors expressed concern that such practices not only invade personal boundaries but also shift focus away from their professional work.

Sapthami Gowda emphasized that while public appearances are part of an actor's career, there should be mutual respect between celebrities and media professionals. She pointed out that such intrusive coverage can create an unsafe and awkward environment, especially during crowded events where artists already have limited control over their surroundings.

Rukmini Vasanth echoed similar sentiments, stating that it contributes to the objectification of women in the industry. She called for stricter guidelines and ethical standards in media coverage, particularly at film events where multiple cameras are present.

The actresses collectively



highlighted that this is not an isolated issue but something many female artists face regularly. They urged industry bodies and event organizers to take proactive measures to ensure safer and more respectful working conditions.

Their statements have sparked a wider conversation within the film fraternity and among fans, with many supporting the actresses for speaking up. Social

media users have also criticized unethical media practices and called for accountability. As discussions continue, this incident has once again brought attention to the need for professionalism, consent, and dignity in entertainment journalism. The actresses hope their voices will lead to meaningful change, encouraging a more respectful interaction between media and artists in the future.

As discussions continue, this incident has once again brought attention to the need for professionalism, consent, and dignity in entertainment journalism. The actresses hope their voices will lead to meaningful change, encouraging a more respectful interaction between media and artists in the future.

Newlyweds Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna Share Heartwarming Lunch with Fans in Hyderabad

Fresh from their much-celebrated wedding, popular Telugu film stars Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna delighted fans by hosting a special lunch gathering in Hyderabad, creating memorable moments and strengthening their bond with admirers.

The couple, who recently tied the knot in a private yet widely talked-about ceremony, chose to celebrate their new phase of life by engaging directly with fans. The event, held in Hyderabad, turned into an emotional and joyous occasion as the actors personally interacted with attendees, greeting them warmly and spending quality time.

Unlike typical celebrity appearances that often maintain a certain distance, Vijay and Rashmika broke barriers by mingling freely with fans. They were seen smiling, chatting, and even posing for photographs, making each guest feel valued. The atmosphere was relaxed and cheerful, reflecting the couple's genuine affection for their supporters.

Fans who attended the lunch described the experience as un-



forgettable. Many expressed happiness at being able to meet their favourite stars up close, especially during such a significant moment in their lives. The couple's humility and friendliness stood out, leaving a lasting impression on everyone present.

The gathering was not just about food but about connection. Vijay and Rashmika ensured that they interacted with as many people as possible, moving across tables and engaging in conversations. Their efforts to make the event inclusive and personal highlighted their ap-

preciation for the love they have received over the years.

This gesture comes shortly after their wedding, which had already captured public attention across the country. Their relationship, which had long been the subject of speculation, officially culminated in marriage, drawing excitement from fans and the film industry alike. By hosting this lunch, the couple extended their celebrations beyond family and close friends to include their admirers.

Both actors have enjoyed significant success in Telugu cine-

ma and beyond. Their on-screen chemistry in films like Geetha Govindam and Dear Comrade has been widely appreciated, contributing to their popularity as a pair. Their real-life union has only amplified the affection fans feel for them.

The Hyderabad event also showcased a different side of celebrity culture, where stars actively engage with their audience in meaningful ways. In an era where interactions are often limited to social media, such in-person gestures stand out and create deeper emotional connections.

For Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna, the lunch was more than a celebratory event—it was a way to acknowledge the role their fans have played in their journey. By sharing this special moment with them, the couple reinforced their image as grounded and approachable personalities in the industry.

As they step into married life, this heartfelt interaction has set a positive tone, with fans eagerly looking forward to both their personal and professional milestones ahead.

Innovative Ticket Offer Announced for 'Sampradayini Suppini Suddapooani' Ahead of Release



The makers of the upcoming Telugu film Sampradayini Suppini Suddapooani have unveiled a special and attractive ticket pricing strategy aimed at drawing audiences back to theatres. The initiative is being seen as a fresh attempt to boost footfall and make cinema more affordable for families.

The film, starring actor Sivaji in the lead role, is gearing up for its theatrical release on March 6. As part of its promotions, the production team has introduced a unique family ticket package designed to encourage group viewing experiences.

Under this offer, a group of four people can watch the film for a combined ticket price of approximately Rs 499. The package also includes complimentary refreshments such as popcorn, making it a value-for-money deal for moviegoers. This bundled pricing model is expected to appeal particularly to mid-

dle-class families looking for affordable entertainment options.

The move comes at a time when the film industry has been experimenting with various strategies to revive theatre attendance following fluctuations in audience turnout. Rising ticket prices and the growing popularity of OTT platforms have made it increasingly challenging for filmmakers to ensure strong box office openings. By offering discounted group tickets, the makers are attempting to make the theatrical experience more accessible and attractive.

"Sampradayini Suppini Suddapooani" is described as a dark comedy with elements of crime and family drama. The story revolves around a traditional middle-class family that unexpectedly finds itself entangled in unusual and chaotic situations. With a mix of humor and suspense, the film aims to present a relatable yet entertaining

narrative.

The cast also includes well-known actors such as Laya, Ali, and several popular comedians, adding to the film's appeal among a wide audience base. The combination of a familiar family-centric storyline and comedic elements is expected to resonate strongly with viewers.

Industry observers believe that such innovative pricing strategies could play a crucial role in reviving theatre culture, especially for small and medium-budget films. If successful, this model may inspire other filmmakers to adopt similar approaches in the future.

As anticipation builds, all eyes are on how audiences respond not just to the film's content, but also to this experimental ticketing approach. The success of this initiative could signal a shift in how movies are marketed and consumed in the evolving entertainment landscape.

Toxic Delay Gives Dhurandhar 2 a Clear Run, Boosting Box Office Prospects

The postponement of Yash's much-anticipated film Toxic has significantly reshaped the box office landscape, offering a major advantage to Dhurandhar 2, starring Ranveer Singh. Originally set for a high-stakes clash in March 2026, the two big-ticket films were expected to compete fiercely for audience attention and revenue. However, with Toxic now pushed to June, Dhurandhar 2 finds itself in a far more favorable position.

The decision to delay Toxic comes amid global uncertainties, particularly tensions in the Middle East, which have had ripple effects across industries, including entertainment. The makers opted to avoid potential disruptions and ensure a smoother release window. While this move may benefit Toxic in the long run by allowing more time for promotions and market expansion, it has, in the short term, handed Dhurandhar 2 a strategic upper hand.

Initially, the simultaneous release of both films was seen as a potential box office showdown. Industry experts had predicted that the clash could divide audiences and impact overall earnings, even though both films carried strong hype. With that competition now removed, Dhurandhar 2 is poised



to enjoy a solo release, which is often considered ideal for maximizing theatrical performance.

The impact of this shift is already visible, especially in overseas markets. Advance bookings for Dhurandhar 2 have shown a sharp increase, particularly in North America. Reports indicate a significant surge in ticket sales within a short span, reflecting growing audience interest. The film has crossed notable pre-sale milestones well ahead of its release, suggesting strong opening prospects.

This surge can largely be attributed to the absence of a competing blockbuster. With no direct rival, Dhurandhar 2 is likely to benefit from wider screen availability and increased showtimes. This not only enhances visibility but also boosts revenue potential during the crucial opening weekend.

The film's timing further

strengthens its position. Scheduled for release during a festive period, it stands to gain from holiday footfall, which traditionally drives higher cinema attendance. A clear release window combined with festive momentum creates an ideal environment for box office success.

Meanwhile, the delay of Toxic allows its makers to recalibrate their strategy. The new release date in June provides additional time for post-production work, marketing campaigns, and international outreach. While the postponement may have disappointed some fans, many have viewed it as a practical and well-considered decision given the circumstances.

From a broader industry perspective, this development highlights how external factors can influence film releases and box office dynamics. Unforeseen

global events, logistical challenges, and market conditions often force filmmakers to rethink schedules. In this case, the ripple effect of one film's delay has directly benefited another.

For Dhurandhar 2, the opportunity is significant. The film already carries strong expectations as a sequel to a highly successful predecessor. With heightened buzz, expanding pre-sales, and no immediate competition, it is well-positioned to deliver a strong performance both domestically and internationally.

At the same time, the postponement underscores the unpredictable nature of the film business. While strategic planning plays a crucial role, external variables can quickly alter the landscape. Producers and distributors must remain flexible, adapting to changing conditions to optimize outcomes.

As things stand, Dhurandhar 2 appears set for a powerful box office run, benefiting from a rare combination of factors—solo release, strong demand, and favorable timing. Whether it can fully capitalize on this advantage will depend on audience reception and word of mouth after release.

For now, however, the delay of Toxic has cleared the path, giving Dhurandhar 2 a golden opportunity to dominate the box office and set new benchmarks.