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Telugu Cinema Has Global Potential: CM Revanth Reddy



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said the State government is committed to supporting the growth of the film industry and aims to elevate Telugu cinema to global standards. Speaking at an event held at Allu Cinemas, the Chief Minister praised the contribution of the Allu family to the film industry and lauded their efforts in promoting cinema.

"I am a big fan of movies," the Chief Minister said, recalling his personal connection with cinema since his younger days. He said the film industry has been evolving rapidly with technological advancements and modern filmmaking techniques that captivate audiences across the world.

Revanth Reddy pointed out that several Indian films have recently achieved global recognition due to their high technical standards and storytelling. He cited blockbuster films such as Baahubali: The Beginning, Kalki 2898 AD, Arundhati and RRR as examples of movies that

showcased world-class production values.

The Chief Minister also acknowledged the pioneers of the Telugu film industry who played a key role in bringing cinema to Hyderabad. He specifically mentioned legendary actors N. T. Rama Rao and Akkineni Nageswara Rao for shifting the centre of Telugu cinema to the city.

Recalling his admiration for legendary actor Krishna, the Chief Minister said Krishna was known for performing daring action sequences and for being one of the most hardworking actors in the industry. "I am a great admirer of Krishna. In those days, he used to act in as many as 15 films a year," he said.

Sharing a personal anecdote, Revanth Reddy said that as a youngster he would travel by lorry to Wanaparthy to watch movies, reflecting his longstanding passion for cinema.

He emphasized that cinema plays a significant role in influencing society and shaping cultural values. Recognizing this impact, the State government considers the film sec-

tor an important industry and is committed to providing the necessary support for its growth.

The Chief Minister said the government aims to develop the film sector alongside other major industries such as information technology and pharmaceuticals. He added that Telugu cinema is now strong enough to compete globally and should not be limited to comparisons with other Indian industries like Kollywood, Sandalwood or Bollywood.

Revanth Reddy expressed hope that Hollywood productions would soon choose Hyderabad as a major filming destination. He also highlighted the contribution of areas like Krishna Nagar, which has produced many talented technicians and artists for the industry.

Concluding his remarks, the Chief Minister said language is no longer a barrier in cinema and that talent is now recognized worldwide. He expressed confidence that Telugu films would increasingly reach global audiences, including Hollywood, in the coming years.

Netflix Eyeline Facility Launched in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Netflix has expanded its presence in India with the launch of its Eyeline facility in Hyderabad, marking a significant step in strengthening the city's position as a global hub for media, entertainment, and digital innovation.

Speaking at the launch event, officials said Hyderabad is a natural home for Netflix, as both represent global success stories that continue to grow and evolve. The partnership is seen as a collaboration built on shared values, including openness to cultures, global connectivity, and innovation.

Netflix, known for entertaining audiences worldwide through its streaming platform, has built a reputation for bringing together diverse talent and stories from across the globe. Hyderabad, on the other hand, has emerged as a major gateway connecting opportunities and talent on an international scale. Organizers described the relationship between the two as one that builds bridges—linking creators, technology, and audiences across continents.

The city's transformation from the era of the Nizams to a vibrant global technology and innovation hub was also highlighted as an example of embracing change. Similarly, Netflix has undergone its own transformation, evolving from a DVD rental service into one of the world's leading OTT platforms and media studios.

Officials noted that both Netflix and Hyderabad are widely admired for their diversity and cultural

richness. Hyderabad's heritage, cuisine, tourism, and history have long attracted global attention, while Netflix's storytelling platform has helped bring cultures and narratives from around the world to international audiences.

With the establishment of the Netflix Eyeline facility, industry observers believe more content from Telangana could reach global viewers. The new setup is expected to support production, post-production, and creative collaboration, potentially showcasing Telangana's culture, landscapes, and talent to worldwide audiences.

The expansion also comes at a time when Netflix is increasingly investing in new content segments, including sports. Industry experts believe the company may emerge as a major sports broadcasting player in the future.

The Telangana government has also been emphasizing sports development, investing in infrastructure, promoting sporting talent, and working toward establishing a sports university.

Leaders at the event described both Netflix and Hyderabad as "glocal"—combining global reach with strong local roots. They expressed confidence that the collaboration will contribute to the growth of the entertainment industry and reinforce India's role in shaping the future of global media.

Officials concluded by warmly welcoming Netflix and its Eyeline initiative to Telangana, assuring full support for the venture and expressing optimism about the opportunities it will create for the region's creative economy.

KTR Urges Centre to Intervene in LPG Shortage



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

K.T. Rama Rao has urged the Central government to immediately intervene and address the growing shortage of LPG cylinders, particularly commercial cylinders, which is affecting businesses and consumers across Telangana.

In a letter to Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, the BRS leader expressed concern over the severe shortage of cooking gas and its impact on hotels, restaurants, hostels and small food establishments. He said the situation is becoming increasingly difficult for the hospital industry sector, which depends heavily on a steady supply of LPG for daily operations.

KTR stated that many restaurants and food outlets are already struggling due to the shortage, and if the issue continues for a few more days, several small eateries could be forced to shut down temporarily. He pointed out that the crisis is not limited to commercial establishments but is also affecting hostels, corporate cafeterias and student accommodations that rely on LPG for preparing meals.

The BRS leader said that the shortage is creating uncertainty among traders and consumers, leading to concerns about the availability of cooking gas in the coming weeks. He urged the Centre to take immediate steps to ensure uninterrupted LPG supply to the state

and avoid further disruption to businesses and daily life.

KTR also stressed the need for transparency in LPG distribution. He suggested that the government should create a real-time monitoring system that provides information about LPG availability in different districts. According to him, such a system would help businesses and consumers track supplies and plan accordingly during times of shortage.

In addition, he proposed that the Centre consider freezing the prices of commercial LPG cylinders temporarily to reduce the financial burden on small traders and restaurant owners. Rising fuel costs combined with supply shortages, he said, are placing significant pressure on small businesses that are still recovering from earlier economic challenges.

KTR further recommended introducing a priority-based allocation system for LPG cylinders so that smaller establishments and vulnerable businesses are not pushed to the margins during the crisis. He said ensuring equitable distribution would help stabilize the situation and protect the livelihoods of thousands of workers employed in the food and hospitality sectors.

The BRS leader emphasized that the Central government must act quickly and coordinate with state authorities to resolve the issue. He expressed hope that timely intervention would restore normal LPG supplies and prevent further hardships for businesses, workers and consumers in Telangana.

No Need to Panic Over LPG Supply: Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

N Uttam Kumar Reddy has assured that there is no need for people to panic over LPG availability in Telangana and stated that the state government is taking all necessary steps to ensure smooth distribution of cooking gas.

Speaking about the concerns raised regarding LPG supply, the minister said the government is closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with oil marketing companies to maintain sufficient stocks across the state. He clarified that both domestic and commercial LPG cylinders are being supplied regularly and that steps are being taken to address any local disruptions in distribution.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said



some reports about LPG shortage have created unnecessary concern among the public. However, he emphasized that the Civil Supplies Department is continuously reviewing the supply chain and ensuring that gas agencies receive adequate stock to meet consumer demand. Officials have also been instructed to remain vigilant and resolve any issues that may arise in the distribution process.

The minister noted that Tel-

angana has a well-organized LPG distribution network that caters to both urban and rural areas. He said the government is working with LPG distributors to streamline delivery systems and ensure that consumers receive their cylinders without delay. Special attention is being given to areas where demand for LPG is relatively higher.

He further stated that the state government is in constant touch with the Central government and oil companies to ensure that Telangana receives the required quota of LPG cylinders. According to him, coordination between different agencies is helping maintain stability in the supply chain and prevent major disruptions.

Uttam Kumar Reddy also pointed out that the government is making efforts to ensure that households, small

businesses, restaurants and other establishments that depend on LPG do not face difficulties. Measures are being taken to monitor supply patterns and increase distribution wherever necessary.

The minister urged the public not to believe rumours or misinformation circulating about LPG shortages. He said the government will continue to monitor the situation and take immediate corrective measures whenever required.

Reassuring consumers, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the state government remains committed to ensuring uninterrupted LPG supply and protecting the interests of the people. He added that authorities are working round the clock to ensure that the distribution system functions efficiently and that consumers do not face inconvenience.

Harish Rao Slams Congress Government

Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

T Harish Rao strongly criticized the Congress government in Telangana, alleging that it has failed to fulfill the promises made to the people during the elections. He accused the government of misleading the public with assurances that have not been implemented even months after coming to power.

Speaking to the media, Harish Rao said the Congress leadership had made several guarantees to voters before the elections but has been unable to translate them into reality. According to him, the government is struggling to implement its commitments and is now trying to divert public attention from

its failures.

The BRS leader said that many welfare schemes promised by the Congress government have either been delayed or implemented only partially. He alleged that the people of Telangana are beginning to realize that the assurances made during the election campaign were unrealistic and difficult to implement.

Harish Rao also criticized the state administration for what he described as poor governance and lack of clear direction. He said that instead of focusing on development and welfare, the government is spending more time on political allegations and counter-allegations.

The former minister claimed that the current government has created uncertainty among farmers, youth and various sec-

tions of society. He alleged that several groups who were expecting immediate relief through welfare programs are still waiting for concrete action from the government.

Referring to the political situation in the state, Harish Rao said the opposition will continue to question the government on behalf of the people. He stated that it is the responsibility of the opposition to highlight shortcomings and ensure accountability in governance.

He further remarked that the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) will raise public issues both inside and outside the Assembly and will continue to press the government to deliver on its promises. According to him, people voted for change with the expectation that their problems would be addressed quickly.



Harish Rao expressed confidence that the public will carefully observe the performance of the government in the coming months. He said that if the promises made to the people are not fulfilled, the government will face strong criticism and political consequences in the future.

The BRS leader reiterated that his party would remain committed to raising public concerns and ensuring that the interests of the people of Telangana are protected.



Telangana Seeks Higher Urea Allocation Ahead of Kharif 2026

Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has initiated advance measures to ensure uninterrupted fertilizer supply for the upcoming Kharif 2026 agricultural season. State Agriculture, Marketing, Cooperation and Horticulture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao has requested the central government to allocate adequate quantities of urea to the state over the next three months to help build buffer stocks before the peak farming period begins.

In a letter addressed to Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers Jagat Prakash Nadda, Thummala Nageswara Rao urged the Centre to allocate 2.00 lakh metric tonnes of urea per month for April, May and June. He explained that such allocations would allow the state to maintain sufficient reserves in advance and avoid any shortage during the Kharif season.

The minister noted that during the previous Rabi season, timely allocation of urea by the Centre enabled the state government to distribute fertilizers smoothly among farmers. Because of this, agricultural activities continued without the supply disruptions that had been experienced in earlier seasons.

With the current Rabi season nearing completion, Thummala Nageswara Rao pointed out that the opening balance of urea stocks for Kharif 2026 is expected to be only about 50,000 metric tonnes, which is significantly lower than previous years. He recalled that during Kharif 2024 the state had opening stocks of around 4.65 lakh metric tonnes, while in Kharif 2025 the opening stock dropped to 1.99 lakh metric



tonnes, leading to certain supply challenges.

The minister emphasized that maintaining adequate buffer stocks before the Kharif season begins is essential to ensure farmers receive fertilizers without interruption. Nearly 70 percent of Telangana's total cultivated area is covered during the Kharif season, when major crops such as paddy, cotton and maize are cultivated extensively. These crops require large quantities of urea during the early stages of growth.

Thummala Nageswara Rao also explained that fertilizer demand in the state generally peaks during July and August, when farming operations reach their highest level. Since the Kharif season

begins slightly earlier in Telangana compared to several other states, advance preparation and stock management become even more important.

He said creating buffer stocks during relatively low-demand months such as April and May would help the government meet the increased demand that arises later in the season. This approach would ensure that farmers have continuous access to fertilizers when sowing activities intensify.

The minister also highlighted that the state government has introduced the Urea App to improve transparency in fertilizer distribution. Through the application, farmers can check fertilizer availability at nearby outlets and

track their allocations, while officials can monitor stock levels and distribution in real time.

Thummala Nageswara Rao added that the state requires around 3.00 lakh metric tonnes of urea per month during July and August when demand peaks. By securing adequate allocations in advance, the government aims to maintain sufficient reserves and prevent shortages.

Expressing optimism, Thummala Nageswara Rao said the Centre would respond positively to the request and ensure timely supply of urea, which would help support farmers and maintain stable agricultural production during the upcoming Kharif season.

CSR Summit 2026 Poster Unveiled in Hyderabad



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

The official poster for the CSR Summit 2026, touted as the largest Corporate Social Responsibility summit in South India, was unveiled in Hyderabad on Wednesday. The summit is scheduled to be held on July 25, 2026, and aims to bring together key stakeholders committed to social development.

The poster was unveiled by Ponnampallapragada Prabhakar, who appreciated the organizers for conducting initiatives that create a positive impact on society. He highlighted the importance of corporate participation in social responsibility programmes and encouraged more organizations to actively contribute toward community development.

This year's summit will be held under the theme "Change to Legacy", focusing on transforming social initiatives into long-lasting and meaningful impact. The event is expected to provide a platform for collaboration among corporations, non-governmental organizations, social innovators, and startups working in the field of social responsibility and sustainable development.

Organizers said the summit aims to encourage dialogue, part-

nerships, and innovative ideas that can strengthen CSR initiatives across sectors. Participants will have the opportunity to share experiences, discuss challenges, and explore solutions that can help scale social impact projects.

The event is expected to attract representatives from leading corporate houses, development organizations, and entrepreneurs who are actively engaged in community development and social innovation. By bringing diverse stakeholders together, the summit seeks to promote collaboration and inspire impactful CSR initiatives.

Among those present during the poster unveiling ceremony were Vinil Reddy Edudodla (Licensee), Vamsi Muthyapu (Managing Director), Aditya Vedantham (Director), and Sumanth Vallala (Director), along with other organizers and guests.

The organizers said further details about the summit, including speakers, sessions, and participating organizations, will be announced in the coming weeks. The CSR Summit 2026 is expected to serve as a significant platform for advancing social responsibility initiatives in South India.

Vakiti Srihari Assists Accident Victims on Highway



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Vakiti Srihari displayed a humanitarian gesture on Thursday morning by personally assisting at the scene of a fatal road accident on the Bengaluru National Highway near Palmakula.

According to officials, two young men died on the spot after their motorcycle met with a severe accident on the busy highway. At the time of the incident, the minister was travelling to Makthal for an official tour when his convoy passed through the area.

Noticing the accident, Vakiti Sri-

hari immediately instructed his convoy to stop and rushed to the spot. The victims' bodies were reportedly lying on the road after the crash, creating a disturbing scene. Without hesitation, the minister, along with members of his staff, helped move the bodies aside to clear the road and prevent further danger to passing vehicles.

Eyewitnesses said the condition of the victims was tragic, as they had suffered severe head injuries in the crash. Despite the situation and the presence of blood at the scene, Vakiti Srihari personally

participated in shifting the bodies, ignoring the bloodstains on his hands while assisting the rescue effort.

He also instructed his team to call an ambulance immediately. The bodies were later shifted to a government hospital for further procedures.

Travellers and locals present at the scene appreciated the minister's quick response and humanitarian approach. Many said the gesture reflected the responsibility of public representatives to act swiftly in times of distress rather

than simply passing by.

Witnesses praised the minister for demonstrating that leadership involves standing with people during emergencies and offering help when it is most needed. His actions, they said, sent a strong message about compassion and public service.

The incident drew appreciation from several passersby, who commended Vakiti Srihari for stopping his official convoy and taking the initiative to assist at the accident site before continuing his journey.

Development Works Will Remain Permanent: Vakiti Srihari



Makthal, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Sports, Dairy Development and Animal Husbandry Vakiti Srihari said that political positions are temporary, but the development works carried out for people remain permanent. He was speaking during the distribution of Ramzan Tohfa kits and financial assistance cheques under the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes in Makthal and Maganoor.

Addressing the gathering, the minister said that around 1,100 beneficiaries in the Makthal constituency have so far received financial assistance under the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes. He noted that since the formation of the present public government, the cheques have been distributed eight times in the constituency. The schemes, he said, provide timely financial support to families from economically weaker sections during the marriages of their daughters.

Highlighting the development initiatives being taken up in the constituency, Srihari announced that a 150-bed government hospital in Makthal will be made available to the public before the upcoming Dasara festival. He also revealed that the Makthal-Narayanpet road is being upgraded into a four-lane highway at a cost of ₹210 crore under the HAM tender system, which will significantly improve connectivity in the region.

The minister further stated that an integrated school is being constructed near Golapalli at a cost of ₹230 crore to provide modern educational facilities for students. In

addition, the Makthal lake is being beautified and will soon be opened to the public as part of efforts to enhance local infrastructure and recreational spaces.

Srihari also announced the construction of a modern stadium in the heart of Makthal town with an estimated cost of ₹25 crore. According to the minister, nearly ₹1,100 crore worth of development funds have been brought to the constituency so far, which are being utilized for various infrastructure and welfare projects.

The minister emphasized that politics should be limited to elections and that leaders must focus on development once the electoral process is over. He stated that welfare schemes are being implemented for all eligible beneficiaries irrespective of political affiliations.

He listed several welfare initiatives of the government, including the supply of six kilograms of fine rice per month to poor families, the Indiramma housing scheme, free bus travel for women, free electricity up to 200 units, and interest-free loans for women's self-help groups.

Srihari said that people have the right to question their elected representatives and that such accountability helps accelerate development. He expressed pride in getting the opportunity to serve and contribute to the development of his native region.

Makthal Municipal Chairperson Manasa Hanmanthu, Maganoor Sarpanch Janardhanamma, Tahsildars Satish Kumar and Suresh, along with local leaders and councillors, also attended the programme.

Opposition MPs Protest Over LPG Price Rise, Shortage

New Delhi, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Members of the INDIA alliance staged a protest near Makar Dwar at Parliament on Thursday, raising concerns over the rising prices and shortage of LPG cylinders across the country.

Among those who participated in the demonstration was Chamalla Kiran Kumar Reddy, the Member of Parliament from Bhongir. The MPs demanded that the central government address the issue of LPG supply and take immediate steps to control the rising prices that are affecting households and small businesses.

Speaking during the protest, Chamalla Kiran Kumar Reddy criticized the government for not responding adequately to the concerns being raised by the opposition regarding LPG shortages. He said that despite the difficulties faced by people due to irregular supply and increasing prices, Narendra Modi has not made any statement on the matter in Parliament.

The MP also questioned why the government has not initiated a discussion in Parliament regarding the ongoing conflict in West Asian



countries and its potential impact on India. According to him, the situation in the region could have economic and energy-related consequences, and the government should openly discuss the issue in

the legislature.

Kiran Kumar Reddy further alleged that the central government is not allowing meaningful debates in the 18th Lok Sabha and is attempting to suppress the voices of

the opposition. He claimed that the opposition parties are being prevented from raising key public issues in Parliament.

During the protest, he also made remarks about international political developments, stating that statements made by Donald Trump were being echoed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He questioned why the Prime Minister had not openly criticized certain actions by Trump and expressed confusion over what he described as the government's silence on the matter.

The protesting MPs demanded that the central government immediately address the LPG shortage and ensure a steady supply of cylinders across the country. They also urged the Prime Minister to speak in Parliament about the situation in West Asia and its possible impact on India's economy and energy sector.

The INDIA alliance leaders said they would continue raising these issues in Parliament until the government provides clear answers and takes steps to resolve the LPG supply crisis.

KTR Assures to Raise Licensed Surveyors' Issues in Assembly



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

K. T. Rama Rao on Wednesday assured that the issues faced by licensed surveyors would be raised in the Telangana Assembly and brought to the attention of the state government for an appropriate resolution.

A delegation of licensed surveyors from Vikarabad district met KTR at his residence in Nandi Nagar in Hyderabad and submitted a memorandum highlighting the difficulties they are currently facing in their profession. The delegation was led by Dr. Methuku Anand, who explained the problems affecting surveyors and urged the party leadership to intervene.

During the meeting, the surveyors outlined various issues related to their work, including administrative hurdles and professional challenges that have been affecting their functioning. They requested the BRS leadership to bring the matter to the government's notice so that appropriate steps could be taken to address their concerns and improve the working conditions of licensed surveyors.

Responding to the delegation, KTR assured them that he would take up the matter in the Assembly and highlight the issues before the government. He said that the con-

cerns raised by the surveyors deserve attention and that efforts would be made to ensure that their problems are discussed at the appropriate forum. KTR also stated that the role of licensed surveyors is crucial in land-related matters and administrative processes, and therefore their professional difficulties should be resolved in a timely manner.

The meeting also saw the participation of several BRS leaders and representatives who extended their support to the surveyors' demands. Among those present were Rohith Reddy, former BC Commission member Shubhaprad Patel, and Vikarabad BRS Town President Gopal Mudiraj.

Licensed surveyors who attended the meeting expressed hope that their concerns would receive serious consideration following KTR's assurance. They said that raising the issue in the Assembly would help draw the government's attention to the challenges faced by surveyors across the district.

The delegation thanked KTR and the BRS leadership for giving them the opportunity to present their grievances and expressed confidence that the matter would be pursued at the legislative level to ensure a constructive solution.

Hyderabad Set to Become Global AVGC Hub: Sridhar Babu



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

D. Sridhar Babu on Thursday said the Telangana government is taking structured steps to position Hyderabad as a global leader in the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC) sector by building world-class infrastructure and nurturing a future-ready talent ecosystem.

The minister made these remarks after inaugurating Eyeline Studios, a production studio of global streaming platform Netflix, along with A. Revanth Reddy at HITEC City.

Speaking on the occasion, Sridhar Babu said the state government is simultaneously strengthening infrastructure and investing in skill development initiatives to support the rapid growth of the AVGC sector. He highlighted that the government is focusing on large-scale skilling, reskilling and upskilling programmes to prepare the workforce for emerging opportunities in digital content creation and entertainment technology.

According to the minister, the establishment of Eyeline Studios in Hyderabad will significantly strengthen the city's position in the global digital content and entertainment ecosystem. The presence of Netflix in the city is expected to create new opportunities for local artists, technicians, designers and creative professionals.

He said the collaboration with in-

ternational studios will help integrate Hyderabad more deeply into the global production ecosystem, allowing local talent to participate in world-class projects. With advanced production standards, cutting-edge creative tools and innovation-driven workflows becoming part of the local industry environment, young professionals in Telangana will gain exposure to future-ready skills and global career opportunities.

Sridhar Babu also emphasized the government's commitment to building a strong talent pipeline for the AVGC industry. He invited Netflix representatives to collaborate with the state government's Young India Skills University initiative to develop industry-aligned training programmes and prepare students for careers in the rapidly expanding digital media sector.

The minister further encouraged Netflix to explore establishing a studio in the proposed Bharat Future City, which is envisioned as a next-generation urban hub designed to promote innovation, technology and creative industries.

Officials believe that such collaborations between global companies and the state government will accelerate the growth of Hyderabad's creative economy and position the city as a major centre for animation, visual effects and digital entertainment on the global stage.

Gas Shortage Due to Centre's Policies: Ponnamp Prabhakar

Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar has alleged that the ongoing shortage of cooking and commercial gas in the country is a result of policies adopted by the Central government. He said disruptions in gas supply to India, partly due to the ongoing conflict in West Asia, have led to a severe shortage of LPG cylinders, affecting both households and businesses.

Speaking on the issue, the minister said hotels and restaurants are being forced to shut down or scale down operations due to the shortage of commercial gas cylinders. At the same time, common citizens are facing difficulties in booking and receiving cooking gas cylinders, forcing many households to look for alternative arrangements for daily cooking needs.

Prabhakar criticized the Central government for what he described as its indifferent attitude towards the issue. He pointed out that Telangana has eight Members of Parliament and two Union ministers, but despite this representation, the state is struggling to secure adequate gas supply to meet public demand.

The minister said that during



times of crisis, the Central government should act like a "big brother" and step in quickly to resolve the situation. He questioned why the government, which had previously intervened in global diplomatic matters such as calling for peace during the Russia-Ukraine War, is now remaining silent over the emerging gas supply concerns affecting citizens.

Prabhakar also referred to questions raised by Rahul Gandhi

regarding the increase in LPG prices and asked why the Central government has not provided clear answers to these concerns. He said that if there is no shortage of gas as claimed by the Centre, then the public deserves an explanation for the rise in LPG prices.

The minister further warned that experts and agricultural scientists have indicated the possibility of a shortage of fertilizers

in the near future if supply chain disruptions continue. He urged the Central government to take immediate steps not only to address the current gas supply issues but also to ensure that fertilizer availability for farmers remains unaffected.

According to Prabhakar, the responsibility of increasing gas supply in line with public demand lies with the Central government. However, he alleged that decisions are often being taken without adequately considering the needs of individual states.

He said the current disruption in gas supply is affecting several sectors, including transportation, small businesses and domestic consumers. Meanwhile, the Telangana government is closely monitoring the situation and taking steps to ensure that people do not face major hardships.

Prabhakar once again demanded that the Centre increase gas allocations to the state and introduce clear policies on gas distribution to meet the needs of the people. He said protecting public interests remains the priority of the state government and expressed hope that the Centre would cooperate in resolving the issue at the earliest.

Osmania University a Pride of Telangana: Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said that Osmania University stands as a proud icon of Telangana and has played a significant role in shaping the intellectual and social landscape of the state. He expressed hope that the university would soon rise to international standards with the support of the government.

The minister was speaking after inaugurating the "Nirman-26" technical conference at the Engineering College of Osmania University on Thursday morning. Addressing the gathering, he said the institution, established in 1917, has brought immense recognition to Telangana and has been a centre of academic excellence for decades.

Highlighting the government's commitment to strengthening higher education infrastructure, Uttam Kumar Reddy praised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for sanctioning ₹1,000 crore for the development of the historic university. He described the allocation as a landmark decision and one of the largest funding commitments in the university's history.

According to the minister, the government has prepared a detailed roadmap to modernize



infrastructure and enhance academic standards at Osmania University so that it can compete at the global level. He also said the issue of filling vacant faculty positions would be discussed with the Chief Minister to ensure that the institution receives the necessary academic support.

Uttam Kumar Reddy noted that Osmania University has produced a vast pool of intellectual talent over the years, many of whom have gone on to achieve global recognition. He remarked

that a large number of engineers working in global technology hubs, including Silicon Valley, trace their academic roots back to Osmania University.

He also pointed out that many leaders, professionals, sports persons and public figures who rose to prominence from grassroots to national levels began their journeys at the university. In addition, he acknowledged the crucial role played by Osmania University students during the Telangana statehood movement, describing their sacrifices as his-

torically significant.

Encouraging students to focus on holistic development, the minister advised them to actively participate not only in academics but also in sports and cultural activities. He emphasized that the engineering department of the university has played an important role in the development of major irrigation and infrastructure projects in the region.

Referring to landmark irrigation projects such as Nizamsagar Project, Nagarjuna Sagar Dam and Srisailem Dam, he said they stand as examples of engineering excellence. He added that modern projects like the SLBC and Devadula schemes also demonstrate the technical capabilities of engineers from the state.

The minister urged engineering students to focus on sustainable development, the use of modern technology and integrated water resource management. He stressed that engineers must take responsibility not only for building infrastructure but also for ensuring its safety and maintenance.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said technical conferences like Nirman-26 provide an excellent platform for students to enhance their research skills, innovation and creativity, ultimately contributing to the progress of society.

Vakiti Srihari Calls for Transparent Local Governance

Narayanpet, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Sports, Dairy Development, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Youth Services Vakiti Srihari called upon public representatives to work with transparency and responsibility to achieve the vision of strong rural governance. He was addressing an awareness and training programme organised for elected representatives under the "Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranaliika" initiative in Narayanpet district.

The training session was held at Gayatri Function Hall in Narayanpet as part of the government's 99-day action plan to guide local representatives in implementing development programmes effectively at the grassroots level. The programme saw participation from around 272 village sarpanches and 72 councillors from across the district.

In his address, the minister said the State government is giving high priority to strengthening village administration through structured planning and effective leadership. He emphasised that the position of a sarpanch is highly significant and



carries great responsibility in shaping the future of villages. Similarly, municipal chairpersons also play a crucial role in local governance, he said.

Srihari noted that sarpanches and municipal chairpersons hold key responsibilities such as issuing birth and death certificates and addressing local administrative needs, making their roles vital for the functioning of rural and urban bodies. He encouraged the representatives to work sincerely so that the development they

bring to their villages will be remembered for generations.

The minister shared that he himself began his political journey as a sarpanch and eventually rose to the position of a minister, highlighting the importance of grassroots leadership. He urged local representatives to dedicate themselves to the development of their respective areas and contribute towards realising the dream of "Gram Swaraj" envisioned by Mahatma Gandhi.

Srihari said the State government is committed to addressing the needs of villages and is implementing several development initiatives with sincerity. He pointed out that the Maktal-Narayanpet-Ko-dangal project, being constructed at an estimated cost of ₹5,000 crore, has already begun and will benefit the region significantly. The government, he said, has also compensated displaced landowners with ₹20 lakh per acre.

Highlighting welfare initiatives, the minister

said the government is providing minimum support price along with bonus for paddy farmers and distributing fine rice to poor families through ration shops. He also stressed that women's empowerment remains a key focus of the government, with efforts aimed at helping one crore women achieve financial stability.

Interest-free loans to self-help groups, opportunities to manage petrol bunks and operate rented buses for the state transport corporation are helping women become economically stronger, he said. He also urged public representatives to remain vigilant about children's health and the dangers of drug abuse.

Earlier, the minister inaugurated the training programme and guided the participants on implementing development initiatives effectively. Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Phaninder Reddy, Superintendent of Police Dr. Vineeth, Additional Collector (Revenue) Srinu, along with municipal chairpersons, vice-chairpersons, sarpanches, councillors and district officials attended the event.

Neglected Baby Pond Turns into Garbage Dump



Quthbullapur, March 12 | TPN Bureau

A baby pond set up for festival immersions in Suraram under Kompally Circle has now turned into a foul-smelling dump yard, allegedly due to the negligence of authorities. The pond, located beside Katta Maisamma Cheruvu in the Suraram area, was initially created as a temporary facility for idol immersions during festivals such as Bathukamma and Vinayaka Chavithi. However, months after the celebrations ended, the stagnant water still remains, causing concern among local residents.

According to locals, the baby pond was meant to be drained and cleaned immediately after the festival season. Instead, it has been left unattended for several months, turning into a breeding ground for garbage and foul odours. Residents allege that while authorities make elaborate arrangements and publicity during the festivals, the site is ignored once the events conclude.

Due to the absence of proper sanitation monitoring, the pond has reportedly become a dumping spot for waste. Some individuals have allegedly been discarding garbage, including spoiled food and plastic waste, into the water. As a result, the pond has turned into a filthy pit, with the water appearing dark and polluted.

The situation has become particularly troubling because the baby pond is located right beside a busy main road. Commuters and residents passing through

the area are forced to endure the unbearable stench emanating from the stagnant water and decaying waste. Locals say the unpleasant smell has made it difficult even to walk near the site.

Residents have expressed surprise that such a visible problem along a major road has gone unnoticed by officials for months. They claim that despite the potential health risks, no concrete action has been taken so far to address the issue. The stagnant water is also raising fears of mosquito breeding, which could lead to the spread of diseases in nearby residential areas.

Many locals believe the situation reflects serious administrative neglect. They question whether the authorities are unaware of the issue or simply ignoring it despite its impact on public health and sanitation.

Residents are now urging higher authorities to intervene immediately. They demand that the stagnant water in the baby pond be drained, the accumulated garbage cleared, and the area properly cleaned and maintained. Without prompt action, they warn that the site could turn into a serious public health hazard.

For now, what was once created as a facility to support festive traditions has ironically turned into a symbol of neglect, leaving residents to wonder whether the problem has truly escaped official notice or if it is yet another example of administrative indifference.

LPG Shortage Leaves Auto Drivers Waiting in Long Queues



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

A shortage of LPG has led to long queues of autorickshaws at petrol pumps near Sagar Ring Road in the LB Nagar area of Hyderabad, causing inconvenience to drivers and traffic disruptions in the locality.

According to local reports, a large number of autorickshaws were seen lined up outside fuel stations as drivers waited for hours to refill LPG. The shortage has forced many drivers to remain idle, affecting their daily earnings and schedules.

Auto drivers said that due to the limited availability of LPG, they are unable to refuel their vehicles on time. As a result, dozens of autos have been standing in queues for extended periods, hoping to receive gas once supplies arrive. Several drivers expressed frustration over the uncertainty, saying they have been forced to spend valuable working hours waiting at fuel stations.

The situation has also begun to impact traffic movement in the area. With autos parked in long lines near the petrol pumps along the busy Sagar Ring Road stretch,

vehicular flow has slowed down, especially during peak hours. Commuters passing through the area reported congestion due to the large number of vehicles waiting for refuelling.

Many drivers said that LPG-powered autos depend entirely on a steady gas supply to operate. Any disruption in supply directly affects their livelihood, as they cannot switch to alternative fuels easily. Some drivers also pointed out that the shortage has occurred repeatedly in recent days, making it difficult for them to plan their work.

Auto drivers have urged the authorities and fuel supply agencies to take immediate steps to restore normal LPG supply and prevent such shortages in the future. They emphasized that timely distribution of LPG is essential to avoid long queues and ensure smooth traffic movement in busy urban areas.

Until the supply improves, drivers fear that the long waiting hours and congestion near petrol pumps may continue, adding to the daily struggles of autorickshaw operators in the city.

Gas Shortage Disrupts Meals in Private Hostels

Quthbullapur, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Private hostels in Maisammaguda under the Quthbullapur area are facing serious difficulties due to a shortage of commercial LPG cylinders, raising concerns about food arrangements for hundreds of students staying in the facilities.

According to hostel operators, the reduced supply of commercial gas cylinders across the country has begun to affect their daily operations. With LPG cylinders not being delivered on time, many hostels have been forced to rely on traditional wood-fired stoves to cook meals for students.

These hostels usually accommodate hundreds of students and prepare food on a large scale every day. However, the recent disruption in gas supply has severely affected their kitchen operations. Hostel managements say they are making extraordinary efforts to ensure that students continue to receive meals without interruption.

To manage the crisis, cooks have started preparing food on firewood stoves. While this temporary arrangement has helped maintain meal services, hostel operators say it is far from ideal and involves significant effort and time. They also



point out that firewood is not easily available in sufficient quantities, making the situation even more challenging.

Hostel administrators expressed concern that if the shortage continues, it could disrupt food services

for students and create operational problems for hostels. Some operators warned that prolonged gas shortages could push them into financial difficulties, especially if students begin reconsidering hostel accommodation due to the

inconvenience.

Questions are also being raised about the reasons behind the shortage of commercial LPG cylinders. Locals and hostel operators are demanding clarity on whether the issue is due to supply chain disruptions, logistical problems, or lapses in distribution by intermediaries.

Residents in the area believe the authorities should intervene and ensure a steady supply of commercial LPG cylinders to prevent further complications. They argue that institutions like hostels, which provide essential services to students, must be given priority in fuel distribution.

Hostel owners have urged the government and gas supply agencies to act swiftly to resolve the shortage. They stress that timely supply of commercial LPG is crucial not only for the smooth functioning of hostels but also to ensure that students do not face disruptions in their daily meals.

If the current situation persists, operators fear that some hostels may eventually struggle to continue operations, potentially affecting accommodation and food services for many students in the area.

Illegal Shed Near Tech Mahindra Raises Questions

Quthbullapur, March 12 | TPN Bureau

A large shed allegedly being constructed without official permission near Bahadurpally, opposite Tech Mahindra under the Dundigal Circle, has sparked controversy, with locals questioning the inaction of town planning authorities.

According to residents, the structure is being built on a massive scale despite reportedly having "zero permission" from the concerned authorities. Even as construction activity continues rapidly, officials from the Town Planning department are accused of remaining silent and failing to take decisive action.

The issue has already been highlighted in media reports on two earlier occasions. However, locals claim that the Town Planning Assistant City Planner (ACP) has only stated that action would be taken, without any visible steps being implemented so far. Meanwhile, construction work at the site has reportedly progressed swiftly and the shed is now nearing completion.

Residents are now raising serious questions about the lack of enforce-



ment against what they describe as an illegal construction. They say that if authorities had acted promptly after the issue was first reported, the building work could have been stopped earlier.

Another major concern revolves around whether any official notices

have been issued to the builders. Locals say officials have not clearly revealed how many notices, if any, have been served regarding the construction. The absence of transparent information has further fueled suspicions among residents.

Questions are also being raised

about whether the structure has any approvals from the Dundigal Circle authorities or the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA). If valid permissions exist, residents argue that officials should openly present the documents and clarify the situation to the public.

Given the scale and location of the construction, locals believe the matter cannot go unnoticed by authorities. They suspect either serious administrative negligence or deliberate inaction, both of which have drawn criticism from the community.

Residents are now urging the town planning department to respond immediately and clarify the status of the construction. They demand that authorities verify whether the shed has the required permissions and take appropriate action if violations are confirmed.

For now, the situation has left locals wondering whether the authorities will intervene to stop the alleged illegal construction or continue to remain silent as the structure reaches completion.

ACP Invited to Grand Iftar Gathering



Quthbullapur, March 12 | TPN Bureau

A grand Iftar gathering is set to be held in Bachupally on Friday as part of the ongoing holy month of Ramadan, bringing together people from different communities in a spirit of unity and harmony.

Dr. Muddapuram Srikanth Goud has formally invited ACP Bala Gangireddy and his police team to attend the special Iftar dinner. The invitation was extended as a gesture of goodwill and respect for the police officials serving in the region.

According to the organizers, the Grand Iftar will be held on March 13, 2026, at 6 pm in Bachupally under the Quthbullapur area. The event is being organized with the aim of promoting communal harmony, friendship, and mutual understanding among people from various sections of society during the sacred month of Ramadan.

Organizers said the gathering will bring together community members, local leaders, dignitaries, and invitees to share the Iftar meal and strengthen bonds of unity. They emphasized that such events

help foster goodwill and create a platform for people of different backgrounds to come together in a spirit of respect and cooperation.

As part of the preparations, Dr. Srikanth Goud personally invited ACP Bala Gangireddy and requested him and his team to grace the occasion and make the event successful. The organizers expressed hope that the presence of senior police officials would further encourage community participation and reinforce the message of harmony.

Police officials including Bachupally Circle Inspector Satish, Jeedimetla Circle Inspector Malleham, Jagathgiritutta Circle Inspector Venkatesham, and other officers were also present during the invitation.

The organizers said the event is expected to witness participation from a large number of residents and guests, reflecting the spirit of togetherness that the month of Ramadan symbolizes. The Grand Iftar gathering aims to strengthen social bonds and celebrate the values of compassion, unity, and peace among communities in the region.

Railway Leaders Felicitated for Securing Berth Allotment for AC Escorting Staff

Secunderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Railway employees felicitated senior union leaders for their efforts in securing berth allotment for AC escorting staff after a prolonged struggle with the Railway Board. The honour was presented to M. Raghavaiah and Bharani Bhanu Prasad for playing a key role in achieving the long-pending demand.

The felicitation programme was organized by employees from the Electrical Headquarters wing, who gathered to express their gratitude to the leaders for their commitment and persistence in raising the issue at higher levels.

Union members stated that berth allotment for AC escorting staff had been a longstanding demand, as employees assigned to escort duties on trains often faced difficulties during long journeys due to the lack of proper accommodation. Following continuous representations and discussions with the Railway Board, the leaders were able to secure a positive outcome, bringing relief to many staff members.

During the event, Divisional Secretary Prabhu Raju honoured the leaders with shawls and mementos in recognition of their efforts. Speaking on the occasion, employees praised the leadership of the union and acknowledged the role played by the representatives in protecting the welfare and rights of railway workers.

The programme witnessed the presence of several union representatives and members. Among those who attended were Branch Secretary Vijay Kumar, Working Chairman Prakash, Assistant Secretary Nagaraju Reddy, EX-CCS Delegate G. Rajesh, Divisional Youth Coordinator



Satyanarayana, Zonal Youth Coordinator Tirumalesh, Vice Chairman Mustaq, WC Member Thota Srinivas, Jitta Ravi, Ramakrishna and others.

Participants expressed their happiness over the successful resolution of the issue and congratulated the union leadership for their determination and continued efforts in addressing the concerns of railway employees.

Union members stated that such achievements strengthen the confidence of employees and demonstrate the importance of collective representation in resolving workplace challenges within the railway system.

Industrial Safety Needs Coordination: DCP Koti Reddy

Quthbullapur, March 12 | TPN Bureau

An industrial safety coordination meeting was held in the Jeedimetla industrial area under the supervision of the Cyberabad Police to strengthen safety standards and prevent accidents in factories and industrial units.

The meeting was conducted following the directions of M. Ramesh Reddy, with the participation of government department officials, industrialists, factory owners, and safety officers. Discussions focused on improving safety measures within industries, ensuring preparedness during emergencies, and strictly implementing safety regulations in workplaces.

Addressing the gathering, N. Koti Reddy emphasized that maintaining safety in industries is a shared responsibility. He said that only through effective coordination between industrial managements, government departments, and workers can accidents be prevented and a safe working environment ensured.

The DCP stressed the need for industries to adopt proper safety protocols, conduct regular inspections, and maintain emergency response systems. He also highlighted the importance of awareness and training for employees so that they can respond effectively during emergencies.

Officials from various government departments also shared guidelines and best practices related to industrial safety. They discussed accident prevention strategies, compliance with regulatory norms, and the importance of periodic safety audits in factories.

The meeting saw the participation of several key officials including



Pollution Control Board Executive Engineer Rajender, TGIIC Zonal Manager Madhu, Quthbullapur ACP Bala Gangireddy, Assistant Director of Electricity Veeresham, Prem Kumar, Station Fire Officer Shekhar Reddy, and Inspector of Factories Nithin.

Representatives from the Jeedimetla Industrial Association, including Vice President Ranga Raju, and IALA Chairman PDSN Raju also attended the programme. In total, around 250 industrialists and employees from various companies participated in the meeting.

The event was coordinated by Jeedimetla SHO Malleesh, who

worked with multiple departments to organize the programme successfully. Officials called upon industries in the region to give top priority to safety measures and strictly follow all safety guidelines to ensure the well-being of workers and the smooth functioning of industrial operations.

CBIT Hosts Workshop on Winning Guinness World Records



Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

A workshop titled "Perspectives on Winning Guinness World Records: Case Studies in Crochet Art" was conducted at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT) in Hyderabad on Thursday. The programme took place at the N-Block Seminar Hall and was organized by IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) CBIT in association with the IEEE Hyderabad Section.

The session featured Madhavi Suribhatla, Founder Chairman of Mahila Manovikas, Visakhapatnam, AIR artist and a Guinness World Record holder, as the resource person. She shared her inspiring journey of achieving a Guinness World Record through crochet art and highlighted her well-known initiative "Project Tiranga."

During the session, Suribhatla explained how determination, teamwork, creativity and systematic planning play a vital role in achieving global recognition. Through several real-life case studies from her experiences, she illustrated the effort and perseverance required to reach world-record levels of accomplishment.

Addressing the gathering, CBIT Principal C. V. Narasimhu

lu appreciated the organizers for conducting such an inspiring programme. He said that interactions with achievers who have gained international recognition encourage students to think creatively and strive for excellence beyond academics.

He emphasized that exposure to real-world success stories motivates students to develop innovative ideas and pursue ambitious goals. According to him, such workshops help students broaden their perspectives and understand the importance of dedication and hard work in achieving extraordinary milestones.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members, who actively interacted with the speaker and gained valuable insights into innovation, perseverance and record-setting achievements.

The programme was coordinated by S. Siva Priyanka from the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, while Venkata Barla served as the convener of the event.

Organizers said the workshop aimed to inspire students to explore creative fields and encourage them to pursue unique achievements that could gain global recognition.

Police Role Key to \$3 Trillion Economy Goal: Bhatti Vikramarka

Hyderabad, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu said the role of the police department will be crucial in achieving the state's ambitious goal of becoming a three-trillion-dollar economy by 2047. He made these remarks during pre-budget meetings held with the Home Department and later with the Industries and IT departments at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat on Thursday.

The meeting was attended by IT and Industries Minister Dudilla Sridhar Babu and senior officials from various departments. During the discussions, the Deputy Chief Minister stressed the need for a strong law-and-order system to support the state's rapid economic growth and increasing investments.

Bhatti Vikramarka said that a large number of investors are showing interest in investing in Telangana and maintaining a stable and secure environment is essential to sustain that momentum. He directed Home Department officials and police personnel to remain vigilant and ensure that there are no lapses in maintaining law and order. The government, he assured, would extend full support to the police department in carrying out its responsibilities effectively.

Highlighting technological ad-



vancements, the Deputy Chief Minister suggested introducing Electric Vehicles (EVs) in the police department in a phased manner. He said adopting EVs would help modernize the department while also contributing to environmental sustainability.

He also underlined the importance of surveillance infrastructure in controlling crime. Bhatti Vikramarka instructed officials to expand the network of CCTV cameras across the state and ensure that non-functional cameras are re-

paired immediately. Increasing the number of cameras, he said, would help authorities detect suspicious activities quickly and strengthen the overall security system.

The Deputy Chief Minister also spoke about the need to adopt innovative economic strategies to achieve the state's long-term growth targets. He advised the Industries Department to prepare plans based on the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model to accelerate development and attract investments.

Along with initiatives such as

CURE and PURE, Bhatti Vikramarka emphasized the importance of focusing on RARE (Rural Agri Region Economy) to ensure balanced development across the state. He asked officials to formulate strategies to attract large-scale investments and industries in rural agricultural regions, which would help improve rural incomes and create employment opportunities.

Encouraging the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) was also highlighted as a priority by the Deputy Chief Minister. He said strengthening the MSME sector would generate large-scale employment for the youth and help nurture a new generation of entrepreneurs in Telangana.

Speaking at the meeting, Sridhar Babu noted that Telangana currently ranks first in the country with 41 Global Capability Centres (GCCs). He added that the government will continue working to maintain this growth momentum. Bhatti Vikramarka also advised the minister to promote the large-scale use of Artificial Intelligence in data centres to strengthen the state's technology ecosystem.

Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, Finance Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Home Department Special Chief Secretary C. V. Anand, and other senior officials were present at the meeting.

Bhavana Goud Conducts 'Basti Bata' Outreach in Nacharam



Nacharam, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Bhavana Goud conducted a "Basti Bata" public outreach programme in HMT Nagar Division of Nacharam on Wednesday, interacting directly with residents and spreading awareness about government welfare schemes.

The programme began with special prayers at the Sai Baba Temple in the area. After offering prayers, Bhavana Goud, along with Congress leaders and party workers, launched the Basti Bata initiative aimed at connecting with residents at the grassroots level.

As part of the programme, Bhavana Goud and her team visited households in Sai Nagar Colony, going door-to-door to interact with residents. During the interactions, they inquired whether people were receiving the benefits of various government welfare schemes and discussed the issues faced by the local community.

Bhavana Goud also used the opportunity to create awareness among residents about the welfare programmes being implemented by the government. She encouraged eligible individuals to apply for the schemes so that they could avail themselves of the benefits intended for them. Assuring support, she told residents that her team would extend all

possible assistance in helping them complete applications and access government services.

Speaking to colony residents, Bhavana Goud said the purpose of the Basti Bata initiative is to ensure that government programmes reach every household and that people are not deprived of benefits due to lack of information or administrative hurdles. She added that public representatives and political leaders should remain accessible to the people and understand their day-to-day problems.

Residents also shared several local issues during the interaction. Bhavana Goud assured them that any concerns brought to her attention would be taken up with the relevant authorities and efforts would be made to resolve them at the earliest.

The programme witnessed participation from several local Congress leaders and activists including Krishna Reddy, Krishna Yadav, Sunil Reddy, Firoz, Azeem, Shankar Goud, Sheshu, Naresh, Mahender, Bheem, Chintu, Srikanth, and Anil, among others.

Party leaders said such outreach activities help strengthen the connection between public representatives and citizens while ensuring that welfare initiatives effectively reach the grassroots level.

Public Service a Divine Opportunity: Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy

Khammam, March 12 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said that participating in public service is a rare opportunity and a blessing bestowed by God. He stated that leaders should enter politics with the sole aim of serving people and ensuring development in their villages and wards.

The minister made these remarks while addressing a training programme for newly elected public representatives at Bhakta Ramadasu Kalakshetram in Khammam on Thursday. Speaking at the event, he said that public representatives should strive to earn the goodwill and blessings of the people through dedicated service.

"After completing our term, people should proudly say that our village or ward has developed significantly during our tenure. That appreciation from the public is the greatest asset a leader can gain," he said.

Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy emphasized that the State government is giving high priority to strengthening gram panchayats. He noted that significant funds have recently been credited to the accounts of panchayats, and additional allocations are expected by the end of March. The minister advised sar-



panches to utilize these funds carefully and in a planned manner for projects that directly benefit the public.

He urged the representatives to treat public funds with the same care and responsibility as their own personal resources. "Just as we

spend our own money carefully, public funds must also be used with utmost responsibility and transparency for developmental works," he said.

The minister also stressed the importance of coordination between officials and elected representatives

to resolve local issues effectively. According to him, many problems related to infrastructure such as drinking water supply and drainage can be addressed efficiently through proper coordination and timely decisions.

Keeping the approaching summer season in mind, he requested district authorities to ensure that there are no drinking water shortages in any area. He also asked the district administration to closely monitor water supply arrangements and respond quickly to any emerging issues.

Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said that politics should be limited to elections and that once elected, leaders must focus entirely on serving the people. He urged representatives to ensure that government welfare schemes reach every eligible beneficiary, irrespective of political affiliations.

The minister also called upon officials to provide proper guidance and encouragement to newly elected women representatives so that they can effectively discharge their responsibilities. He expressed confidence that with collective efforts, the government's 99-day action plan would be implemented successfully and contribute to the overall welfare and development of the people.

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

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

A War Born from Strategic Calculations

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

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

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

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

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

Iran's Unexpected Resilience

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

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

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

Different Political Incentives

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

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

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

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

The Problem of an Unclear Endgame

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

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

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



long-term tensions.

Economic and Global Consequences

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

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

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

Trump's Public Confidence

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

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

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

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

The Risk of Regional Escalation

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

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

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

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

A Strategic Gamble

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

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

consequences.

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

Conclusion

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

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

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

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

How the War Disrupted Energy Supplies

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

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

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

The Growing LPG Shortage India relies heavily on LPG

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

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

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

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

Why Piped Gas Is Less Vulnerable

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

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



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

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

India's Natural Gas Supply System

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

The imported gas typically

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

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

Potential Risks to Piped Gas

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

One possible risk is damage

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

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

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

A Possible Shift Toward Piped Gas

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

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

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

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

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

Government Response and Long-Term Planning

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

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

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

Lessons From the Crisis

The current LPG shortage

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

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

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

Conclusion

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

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

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

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

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

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

Strait of Hormuz Disruption Raises Global Concerns

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

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



Government Assures Stable Fuel Supplies

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

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

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

maintain stable supply chains. Steps to Protect LPG Availability

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

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

India Navigating a Global Energy Crisis

The minister acknowledged that the current situation is

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

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

Call for Unity During the Crisis

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

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

Situation Remains Under Watch

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

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

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



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

First Tanker to Reach India After Escalation

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

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

Diplomatic Talks Over Energy Security

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

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

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

Strait of Hormuz: A Critical Energy Route

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

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

Impact of the Ongoing Conflict

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

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

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

India's Response

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

A Positive Sign for Energy Supplies

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

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

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

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

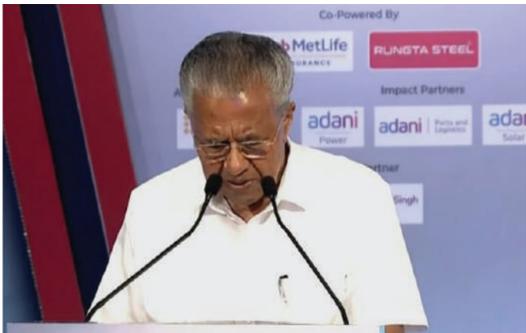
Speaking at the NDTV Kerala Power Play Summit, Vijayan criticised campaigns that he believes try to misrepresent Kerala ahead of the upcoming elections. Referring to controversies surrounding the film *The Kerala Story* and discussions around similar narratives, he said such portrayals spread misinformation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

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

Emphasis on Social Harmony

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

He argued that critics often focus on isolated incidents



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

Development Initiatives Highlighted

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

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

forward and ensuring their completion.

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

Remarks on Centre-State Relations

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

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

Concerns Over West Asia Conflict

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

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

"Real Kerala Story"

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

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

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

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

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

Warning of a Potential Energy Crisis

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

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

Highlighting India's heavy



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

Criticism of Government's Foreign Policy

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

According to Gandhi, this situation has made the coun-

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

Claim of Being Denied Opportunity to Speak

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

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

Government's Position

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

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

Growing Political Debate

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

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

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



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

Ceremony Attended by State Leadership

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

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

from the state administration were also present.

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

Appointment After Leadership Change

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

Experienced Administrator

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

establishment.

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

Key Role Ahead of State Elections

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

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

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

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



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

A Vital Route for Global Energy

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

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

Because such a large portion of global energy trade

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

Impact of the Current Conflict

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

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

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

Limited Alternatives

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

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

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

Impact on Global Markets

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

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

Implications for India

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

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

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

A Strategic Flashpoint

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

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

Conclusion

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

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

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

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

Rising Tensions Hit Global Oil Supply

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

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

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

Oil Prices Jump Amid Supply Fears

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

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



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

Record Oil Release to Stabilise Markets

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

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

The oil released from these re-

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

A Major Disruption to Global Energy

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

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

Impact on the Global Economy

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

contribute to higher inflation and slower economic growth worldwide.

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

Conclusion

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

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

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

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

Drone Incident Triggers Explosion

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

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

Conflict Expands

Beyond Iran and Israel

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



porting Washington and Israel.

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

Damage and Security Concerns

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

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

Rising Regional Tensions

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

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

A Region on Edge

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

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

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



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

Family Alleges Prolonged Detention

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

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

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

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

DHS Rejects the Allegations

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

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

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

Conflicting Accounts Spark Controversy

The sharply different versions of events have created confusion and controversy. While Naqvi's family insists she was held for more than a day, federal officials say available evidence contradicts that claim.

Authorities in Wiscon-

sin have also indicated that they have no record of Naqvi being held in the detention facility where her family believed she had been taken.

Debate Over Airport Screening

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Mid-cap and small-cap stocks

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. Profit Booking After a Strong Rally

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

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

2. Broader Market Weakness



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

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

side in defence stocks despite the geopolitical backdrop.

3. Execution and Supply Challenges

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

Many defence projects involve long production cycles and com-

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

Long-Term Outlook Remains Positive

Despite the recent muted performance, experts remain optimistic about the long-term prospects of the defence sector. India has been actively promoting domestic defence manufacturing through initiatives aimed at reducing dependence on imports.

Rising geopolitical tensions globally could eventually increase demand for defence equipment, particularly from countries looking to strengthen their military capabilities. This could benefit Indian defence companies in the long run.

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

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



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

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

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

for the time being.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Just when the situation seemed overwhelming,



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

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

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

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

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

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

Reflecting on the moment later, the rider said

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

However, she clarified that February was not a

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

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

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

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

spending for February reached approximately Rs 1.43 lakh.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

A New Team Mindset

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

He described how the leadership group wanted to remove

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

Careful Preparation Behind the Scenes

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

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

Turning Point in the Tournament

The captain pointed to a tense

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

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

Trust in Young Players

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

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

Contributions Across the Team

Another standout performer

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

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

Emotional Moments After Victory

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

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

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

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

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

Importance of Team Culture

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

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

Axar Patel's Impact

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

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

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



of a game within a few overs.

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

Leadership and Responsibility

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

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

Looking Ahead

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

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

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



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

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

A Rush to Get Home

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

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

Travelling in Disguise

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

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

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

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

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

A Quiet End to the Trip

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

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

A Memorable Off-Field Story

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

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

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

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



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

Strong Start by India

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

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

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

Navneet Kaur Takes Charge

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

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

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

ward line and was the defining moment of the match.

Wales Score but India Stay in Control

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

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

Important Step Toward World Cup Qualification

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

phase of the tournament.

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

Momentum for the Next Stage

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

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

Rashmika Mandanna Warns of Legal Action Over Media Misinformation



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

Actress Slams False Narratives

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

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

Years of Online Criticism

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

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

Personal Matters Resurface

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

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

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

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

Warning to Remove Misleading Content

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

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

Protecting Privacy

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

Rukmini Vasanth to Star Opposite Dhanush in Upcoming Film



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

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

Rising Popularity of Rukmini Vasanth

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

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

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

Strong Cast Expected

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

Dhanush's Busy Film Schedule

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

in Tamil and other languages.

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

High Expectations from the Collaboration

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

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

Grand Song Launch Event Held for 'Ustaad Bhagat Singh'

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

Massive Fan Response

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

Cast and Crew in Attendance

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

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

project.

Energetic Musical Launch

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

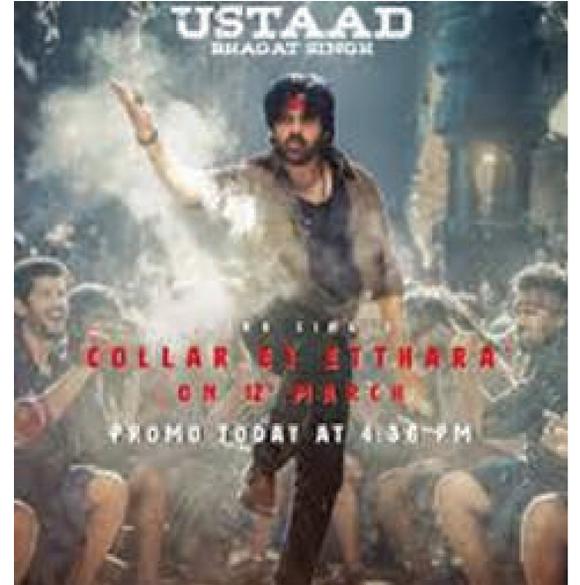
During the event, the makers showcased the song and shared insights into the making of the film's music and action sequences.

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

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

High Expectations from the Film

With strong fan support, energetic music, and a popular



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

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

Vishal Criticises Rajendra Prasad Over Remarks on MGR

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

Controversy Over Award Function Comments

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

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

Vishal Demands Apology

Reacting to the issue, Vishal expressed disappointment and



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

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

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

Respect for Both Legends

While criticising the remarks, Vishal also clarified that prais-

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

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

Call for a Resolution

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

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

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



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

A New Fantasy Adventure

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

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

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

Balakrishna Impressed by Vassishta's Work

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

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

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

Director's Growing Career

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

High Expectations from the Project

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

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

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

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

Vintage Style Look for Nagarjuna

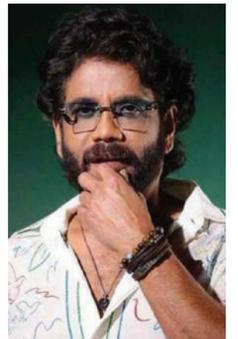
According to the film's director Ra Karthik, Nagarjuna will appear in a stylish vintage look in the movie. The actor is expected to sport multiple get-ups, and some of them are said to resemble the iconic looks from his earlier films like Shiva and Rakshakudu.

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

A Special Film in His Career

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

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



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

Story and Cast

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

Planned Festival Release

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

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