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Revanth Reddy Warns MLAs Over Absence, Stresses Discipline and Attendance

Hyderabad, March 16 |TPN Bureau:

TELANGANA Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy expressed strong displeasure over the absence of several legislators from a Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting and directed party MLAs to strictly maintain discipline and regular attendance in the Assembly. The warning came during a meeting held ahead of the Telangana Assembly's budget session.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister reportedly questioned the absence of several MLAs and asked them to treat Assembly proceedings and party meetings with seriousness. He emphasized that elected representatives have a responsibility to participate actively in legislative discussions and should not skip meetings or Assembly sessions without valid reasons.

Revanth Reddy made it clear that attendance and discipline among legislators are essential for the effective functioning of the government. He instructed MLAs to be well-prepared for debates in the Assembly and to study important issues related to the state in advance. According to him, legislators must be ready with facts, data, and strong arguments while discussing public issues and government policies.

The Chief Minister also advised ministers and senior leaders to brief MLAs about key



government initiatives, welfare schemes, and development programmes. This, he said, would help the ruling party present a strong and united voice in the Assembly while responding to criticism from opposition parties.

Revanth Reddy further stressed the importance of unity and coordination among party members during the upcoming budget session. He said that all legislators should work together to effectively highlight the government's achievements and address issues raised by the opposition. Maintaining discipline, he noted, would strengthen the credibility of the ruling party and ensure smoother legislative proceedings.

In addition to attendance discipline, the Chief Minister reportedly advised MLAs to exercise caution while interacting with the media. He warned them against engaging in unnecessary off-the-record conver-

sations with journalists that could lead to controversies or misinterpretation of government policies.

Revanth Reddy also urged legislators to focus more on governance and the welfare of the people rather than engaging in internal political distractions. He encouraged them to raise issues related to public welfare, infrastructure development, and local concerns during Assembly discussions so that appropriate solutions could be implemented.

The meeting highlighted the government's intention to ensure that legislators remain disciplined, well-informed, and actively involved in legislative work. By emphasizing attendance and preparedness, the Chief Minister aims to strengthen the functioning of the Assembly and ensure that the government effectively addresses the needs and expectations of the people of Telangana.

Governor Outlines Development Roadmap as Telangana Budget Session Begins



Hyderabad, March 16 |TPN Bureau:

THE Budget Session of the Telangana Legislative Assembly began on Monday with Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla addressing a joint sitting of both Houses and outlining the state government's vision for development, economic growth, and welfare. The Governor highlighted key initiatives and long-term strategies aimed at transforming Telangana into a major economic and innovation hub in the coming decades.

In his address, the Governor stated that the state government is committed to ensuring that every citizen becomes a partner in the development process. He emphasized that the upcoming state budget would focus on inclusive growth, strengthening welfare programmes, and accelerating infrastructure development across the state.

Shukla outlined the government's long-term economic roadmap, which aims to transform Telangana into a \$1 trillion economy by 2034 and eventually a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. He noted that the state's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) for 2025-26 is estimated at 17.82 lakh crore, reflecting a growth rate of around 10.7 percent, which is significantly higher than the national average. The per capita income in the state has reached approximately 4.18 lakh, highlighting strong economic performance.

The Governor also presented a development strategy based on the "CURE-PURE-RARE" model to ensure balanced growth across different regions of the state. Under this framework, the CURE (Core Urban Region Economy) model focuses on strengthening urban infrastructure and transforming Hyderabad into a global innovation and tech-

nology hub. The PURE (Peri-Urban Region Economy) model aims to develop industrial and logistics hubs in areas surrounding the city, while the RARE (Rural Agricultural Region Economy) model seeks to strengthen rural development, agriculture modernization, and food processing industries.

Several major infrastructure projects were also highlighted during the address. These include plans for new radial roads connecting the Outer Ring Road and Regional Ring Road, a proposed Hyderabad-Amravati expressway extending to Bandar Port, and the development of high-speed rail links connecting Hyderabad with major cities such as Bengaluru, Chennai, and Pune. The Governor also mentioned proposals for new airports in Warangal and Adilabad to improve regional connectivity.

Urban development and environmental restoration were also key focus areas. The Governor noted that large-scale initiatives are underway to restore lakes, protect public lands, and improve urban infrastructure in Hyderabad. Projects such as the Musi Riverfront Transformation and the development of a large greenfield smart city known as "Bharat Future City" are part of the government's broader plan to modernize the state's urban landscape.

The Assembly will now hold discussions on the Motion of Thanks to the Governor's address before the state budget is presented later in the session. The budget is expected to reflect the development priorities and welfare commitments outlined during the Governor's speech.

The address set the tone for the budget session, highlighting the government's ambition to achieve rapid economic growth while ensuring inclusive development and improved infrastructure across Telangana.

Telangana Targets Record 90 LMT Paddy Procurement in Rabi 2025-26

Hyderabad, March 16 |TPN Bureau:

THE Telangana government has prepared an ambitious plan to achieve a record paddy procurement target of 90 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) during the ongoing Rabi season. Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy unveiled the comprehensive roadmap during a preparatory meeting with senior officials in Hyderabad.

The meeting was attended by Additional Collectors, District Civil Supplies Officers, and District Managers of the Telangana State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited. During the discussion, the minister outlined the strategies and measures required to ensure smooth procurement operations and safeguard farmers' interests across the state.

According to officials, paddy cultivation during the Rabi sea-



son is expected to cover around 54.48 lakh acres across Telangana. The total production is projected to reach approximately 152.03 lakh metric tonnes, reflecting the strong agricultural performance of the state. To manage the large output effectively, the government has set a procurement target of 90 lakh metric tonnes, including 60 lakh metric tonnes of coarse paddy and 30 lakh metric tonnes of fine variety.

To facilitate farmer-friendly procurement, the government will establish 8,251 Paddy Purchase Centres (PPCs) across various districts. These centres

will be operated by agencies such as IKP, PACS, and other organizations to ensure decentralized procurement close to farmers' fields. The extensive network of procurement centres is expected to reduce transportation difficulties for farmers and allow them to sell their produce quickly and conveniently.

The minister assured farmers that every grain of paddy brought to the procurement centres would be purchased at the government-fixed Minimum Support Price (MSP). The MSP for the Rabi season has been fixed at ₹2,389 per quintal for Grade A paddy and ₹2,369 per quintal for the common variety. These rates, he said, would provide financial security to farmers and protect them from market fluctuations.

Officials have also been directed to ensure adequate logistics and infrastructure at all procurement centres. Sufficient gunny bags have already been

supplied, and arrangements are being made for vehicles to transport paddy from procurement centres to rice mills without delay. Each centre will also be equipped with essential tools such as electronic weighing machines, moisture meters, tarpaulins, automatic paddy cleaners, digital dial callipers, and husk removers.

To prevent any losses due to unexpected weather conditions, officials were instructed to monitor weather updates closely and take necessary precautionary measures. In addition, warehouses and storage facilities are being identified to safely store the procured paddy.

Senior officials, including Civil Supplies Principal Secretary Stephen Ravindra, attended the meeting and assured the minister that all necessary arrangements would be made to achieve the record procurement target and ensure a smooth and transparent procurement process for farmers.

Dy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Invites Governor for Telangana Budget Session

Hyderabad, March 16 |TPN Bureau:

TELANGANA Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka met Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla and formally invited him to address the State Legislature on the first day of the upcoming budget session. The meeting took place at the Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad ahead of the commencement of the Telangana Legislative Assembly's budget session.

During the meeting, the Deputy Chief Minister presented a bouquet to the Governor and extended the official invitation on behalf of the state government for the Governor's customary address to the joint sitting of the Legislature. The Governor's speech traditionally marks the formal beginning of the budget ses-

sion and outlines the government's policies, priorities, and development agenda for the year.

Several senior officials from the Finance Department accompanied Bhatti Vikramarka during the visit. Among them were Finance Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Finance and Planning Secretary Gaurav Uppal, and Finance Secretary Skitha Patnaik. The officials discussed arrangements and formal procedures related to the upcoming session of the Assembly.

The Telangana budget session is one of the most important legislative sessions of the year, during which the state government presents its annual financial statement and outlines budget allocations for various sectors such as infrastructure, welfare schemes, agriculture, education, and health. The Govern-

nor's address at the beginning of the session sets the tone for the discussions and legislative agenda that follow in the Assembly and Legislative Council.

Following the Governor's address, members of the Assembly and the Legislative Council will debate the Motion of Thanks, where legislators discuss the policies and programmes mentioned in the speech. This debate allows members of both the ruling party and the opposition to express their views on the government's priorities and governance approach.

The budget itself will be presented later in the session by Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, detailing the government's financial plans and development initiatives for the coming fiscal year. The budget is expected to focus on



strengthening welfare programmes, boosting infrastructure development, and supporting economic growth across the state.

The meeting between the Deputy Chief Minister and the Governor reflects the formal constitutional process that precedes the commencement of legislative sessions in the state. With the Governor's address and the presentation of the budget, the Telangana Assembly will begin detailed discussions on policies and financial planning for the year ahead in Telangana.

Telangana CM Revanth Reddy Meets Economist Arvind Subramanian

Hyderabad, March 16 |TPN Bureau:

ARAVIND Subramanian, Chief Minister of Telangana, held a courtesy meeting with noted Indian economist Arvind Subramanian at the Chief Minister's chamber in the Telangana Legislative Assembly on Monday. The meeting focused on various economic and financial issues related to the state's development.

The discussion was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, State Chief Secretary A. Ramakrishna Rao and other senior officials from the government.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister held detailed discussions with Arvind Subramanian on several important sectors, particularly the power sector, stamps and registrations, and Goods and Services Tax (GST). The meeting also reviewed financial models, expenditure patterns and revenue generation mechanisms in these key areas.

Officials said the discussion included the cost structure and financial sustainability of the power sector in Telangana. The Chief Minister reviewed expenditure patterns in the sector and sought expert inputs on improving efficiency and managing financial pressures. The issue of balancing power subsidies and maintaining the financial health of the electricity sector also came up during the interaction.

The meeting also focused on the Stamps and Registrations department, which is one of the major sources of revenue for the state government. Subramanian shared suggestions on improving valuation models and strengthening revenue assessment mechanisms in property registrations.



Another key area of discussion was the Goods and Services Tax (GST). The leaders reviewed the state's GST collections and tax estimation processes. Subramanian offered insights on strengthening tax forecasting models and improving revenue projections to ensure better fiscal planning for the state government.

Sources said the economist shared several suggestions aimed at improving the financial position of Telangana and enhancing revenue efficiency across departments. He advised the state government to adopt a structured and strategic approach to economic planning in order to strengthen fiscal stability and support long-term growth.

Subramanian also emphasised the need for data-driven policymaking and careful financial management to ensure sustainable economic development. He suggested that the government focus on improving institutional mechanisms and financial planning processes to address emerging fiscal challenges.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy appreciated the suggestions made by the economist and said the government is committed to strengthening the state's financial systems and ensuring balanced economic growth.

The meeting concluded with officials noting that the government would study the recommendations and consider incorporating suitable measures to improve the state's economic management and fiscal planning in the coming months.

Governor's Address Reflects Government's Commitment to Telangana's Development: Vakiti Srihari

Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

Telangana Minister Vakiti Srihari stated that the address delivered by Governor Jishnu Dev Varma in the Telangana Legislative Assembly reflects the state government's commitment and clear vision towards the overall development of Telangana and the welfare of its people.

Responding to the Governor's speech in the Assembly, the Minister said that the address highlighted the policies, developmental initiatives, and welfare programs being implemented by the government to fulfil the aspirations of the people. He added that the government is determined to live up to the trust placed in it by the people of Telangana.

Srihari explained that the Governor's speech covered several key areas related to the state's growth and welfare. These include farmer welfare, women empowerment, employment opportunities for youth, and improvements in the education and healthcare sectors. According to him, the government is working with a clear objective of ensuring inclusive development, social justice, and transparent governance.

The Minister pointed out that the government is moving swiftly to implement the promises made to the people. He mentioned that under the Mahalakshmi scheme, women across the state are being provided free bus travel, which has benefited lakhs of women. He also noted that providing LPG cylinders at ₹500 and offering up to 200 units of free electricity are major relief measures for ordinary families.

Highlighting the importance of agriculture, Srihari said that farmer welfare remains one of the top priorities of the government. Efforts are being made to reduce the financial burden on farmers by implementing farm loan waiv-



ers and strengthening irrigation facilities. The government is also focusing on modern technologies and improved agricultural practices to enhance productivity and support farmers.

The Minister further emphasized that youth development is crucial for the state's future. Steps are being taken to fill vacant government posts and provide skill development opportunities for young people. According to him, creating employment and empowering youth will play a key role in

accelerating the state's progress.

Srihari also said that the Youth Services and Sports Department is taking several initiatives to promote sports across Telangana. The government is focusing on developing sports infrastructure and encouraging athletes from the grassroots level to compete at national and international platforms.

The Minister added that the government is implementing programs that directly engage with people to understand and resolve

their issues. Through public outreach initiatives, the administration is connecting with citizens from village level to the state level.

Reaffirming the government's vision, Srihari said that the Congress government aims to ensure comprehensive development in all sectors while delivering welfare benefits to every section of society. He concluded that the Governor's address serves as a guiding roadmap for Telangana's future progress.

Ponnam Prabhakar Attends Iftar Gathering in Hyderabad



Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar attended a Dawat-e-Iftar gathering organized in the city on Sunday evening. The Iftar program was held at Muffakham Jah College of Engineering and Technology in Jubilee Hills under the aegis of the Sultan-ul-Uloom Education Society. The event was arranged by the chairman of the institution, Mohammedullah Khan, and witnessed the participation of several dignitaries, community leaders, and members of the public.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar joined the gathering and extended greetings to the Muslim community on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan. He appreciated the efforts of the Sultan-ul-Uloom Education Society for organizing the Iftar event and for its continued contribution to the field of education.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister highlighted the importance of communal harmony and unity among people from all sections of society. He stated that festivals and gatherings such as Iftar provide an opportunity for people of different communities to come together and strengthen

bonds of brotherhood and mutual respect.

The minister also praised the role of educational institutions like Muffakham Jah College of Engineering and Technology in shaping the future of students and contributing to the development of society. He noted that such institutions not only provide quality education but also promote cultural understanding and social responsibility among the younger generation.

The Dawat-e-Iftar program was attended by several prominent personalities, educationists, faculty members, and students. Participants offered prayers and shared the traditional Iftar meal after sunset as part of the Ramadan observances.

The event reflected the spirit of togetherness and harmony, bringing together people from different backgrounds to celebrate the values of compassion, charity, and unity that are associated with the holy month of Ramadan.

Organizers expressed gratitude to Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and other guests for attending the event and making the gathering a meaningful and memorable occasion.

Siddharth Reddy Surrenders in Actress Pratyusha Death Case

Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

A significant development has taken place in the long-pending death case of Telugu actress Pratyusha, as the main accused Siddharth Reddy surrendered before the court following directions from the Supreme Court of India.

According to reports, Siddharth Reddy appeared before the court and surrendered after the Supreme Court upheld his conviction in the case. The apex court had earlier dismissed his appeal challenging the conviction and directed him to surrender within a stipulated time to serve the sentence awarded in the case.

The death of actress Pratyusha in 2002 had created a major sensation in the Telugu film industry and across the country. The young actress was found dead in a hotel room in Hyderabad after allegedly consuming poison. At the time of the incident, Siddharth Reddy was also found in the same room and had reportedly consumed poison as well, but he survived after receiving medical treatment.

The incident led to widespread controversy and multiple allegations, including claims of murder and sexual assault. The case was investigated for several years and went through various stages of legal proceedings in different courts. However, investigators later concluded that there was no evidence to support allegations of murder or



sexual assault.

During the trial, the court examined several witnesses, medical reports and forensic evidence related to the incident. After evaluating the evidence, the court ruled that Pratyusha's death was a case of suicide caused by poisoning. Siddharth Reddy was found guilty of abetment of suicide under the relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code.

The case later moved to the Andhra Pradesh High Court, which reviewed the earlier verdict. The

High Court upheld the conviction but reduced the sentence from five years to two years of imprisonment.

Siddharth Reddy subsequently approached the Supreme Court seeking relief and challenging the conviction. However, the apex court rejected his appeal and upheld the High Court's decision, confirming the sentence. The court also directed him to surrender before the trial court within the specified time period.

Following the court's order, Siddharth Reddy appeared before the

court and surrendered, marking a major step in the conclusion of a case that has been under legal scrutiny for more than two decades.

The case has remained one of the most widely discussed incidents in the Telugu film industry, drawing public attention and media coverage over the years. With the surrender of Siddharth Reddy and the confirmation of the sentence by the Supreme Court, the long-running legal battle related to actress Pratyusha's death has moved closer to its final conclusion.

Statewide Training on National Natural Farming Scheme at Rythu Vedikas Tomorrow



Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

The Telangana government will conduct statewide training programs for farmers under the National Natural Farming Scheme at Rythu Vedikas on Tuesday. As part of the initiative, Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao will formally launch the distribution of natural farming kits to selected farmers.

According to the press note, the minister will inaugurate the "Rythu Nestham" program at 10 a.m. from the Telangana Secretariat in Hyderabad. During the launch, he will interact with farmers and initiate the distribution of kits designed to promote natural and organic farming practices.

Following the inauguration, the distribution of farmer kits will take place at Rythu Vedikas across the state through local public representatives and officials. As part of the program, a one-day training session on the National Natural Farming Scheme will also be conducted for farmers at the respective venues.

Under this scheme, a total of 61,125 farmers have been selected across the state. These farmers have been grouped into 489 clusters, with each cluster consisting of 125 farmers. The program aims to encourage farmers to adopt sustainable and organic farming practices by providing them with proper training and support.

To ensure effective implementation of the scheme, two Krishi Sakshis have been selected for each cluster and trained to guide farmers on natural farming methods.

These trained resource persons will continuously provide technical support and awareness to the 125 farmers in their respective clusters regarding organic cultivation techniques.

As part of the program, farmers practicing natural farming will also be provided certification recognizing their adoption of organic cultivation methods. The government will further encourage farmers by establishing centers for the preparation of bio-inputs and organic solutions required for natural farming. These centers will supply essential materials for farmers practicing natural agriculture.

The farmer kits being distributed under the scheme include several useful items such as a cloth bag, a field diary (Kshetra Darshini diary), an identity card, a special calendar, a cap, a pen, and a small pocket diary. These items are intended to help farmers maintain records, improve awareness, and strengthen their engagement with natural farming practices.

Officials said the government's initiative aims to promote sustainable agriculture, reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and encourage farmers to shift towards eco-friendly farming methods.

Through this program, the state government hopes to strengthen the agricultural sector while ensuring long-term soil health, environmental protection, and better income opportunities for farmers adopting natural farming practices.

Suspension of Eight MPs Revoked, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy to Attend Lok Sabha Session

Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

The suspension of eight Members of Parliament, including Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, has been revoked, allowing them to attend the upcoming sessions of the Lok Sabha.

Speaking on the development, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy said that he received information from Congress Lok Sabha whip K Suresh that the suspension would be lifted and that he would be able to participate in the Parliament proceedings starting tomorrow.

The MP emphasized the importance of the ongoing budget session of Parliament, stating that discussions on the Demand for Grants are crucial for addressing issues related to various sectors. He said that as the elected representative of the people of Bhuvanagiri, it is his responsibility to raise the concerns and problems faced by the people of Telangana in the Lok Sabha.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy pointed out that several important issues related to Telangana are still pending and need to be dis-



cussed at the national level. He said that the people of his constituency had elected him to represent their voice in Parliament and that he intends to fulfil that responsibility by highlighting the state's concerns.

Explaining the circumstances that led to the suspension, the MP said that he, along with seven other MPs, had protested during the discussion on the motion of thanks

to the President's address. According to him, the MPs raised objections because they were not given an opportunity to speak and alleged that the speech of Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi was being interrupted.

He clarified that the MPs did not intend to create disruptions in the Lok Sabha but wanted to raise their concerns in a democratic manner. He added that their pro-

test was aimed at ensuring that opposition voices are heard during parliamentary debates.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy also stated that the Lok Sabha Speaker should treat all 543 MPs equally and provide them with fair opportunities to participate in discussions. He urged the Speaker not to succumb to pressure from senior leaders of the ruling party, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

He further warned that if MPs are denied the opportunity to speak or face undue pressure, they will continue to express their protest. The MP added that he expects the Speaker to provide adequate time and opportunity for members to raise issues in Parliament.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy concluded by stating that in the next two weeks he plans to raise several pending issues related to Telangana in the Lok Sabha and ensure that the concerns of the state receive proper attention at the national level.

Revanth Reddy Felicitates Cricketer Tilak Varma..



Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau :

A. Revanth Reddy, Chief Minister of Telangana, met Indian cricketer Tilak Varma at his chamber in the Telangana Legislative Assembly in Hyderabad. The meeting took place after Tilak Varma returned to the city following ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 victory with India national cricket team.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister congratulated Tilak Varma for being part of the Indian team that won the prestigious T20 World Cup. Revanth Reddy felicitated the young cricketer and appreciated his contribution to Indian cricket as well as the pride he brought to Telangana and Hyderabad.

Tilak Varma, who hails from Hyderabad, has emerged as one of the promising young talents in Indian cricket in recent years. His inclusion in the national squad and participation in the World Cup has brought recognition to the state's sporting community. The Chief Minister lauded the cricketer's dedication, discipline and hard work that helped him reach the international stage at a young age.

Revanth Reddy also said that the Telangana government is committed to encouraging sports and supporting talented athletes from the state. He emphasised the importance

of providing better facilities, training and opportunities for young players so that more sportspersons from Telangana can represent India at the international level.

The Chief Minister noted that achievements by players like Tilak Varma inspire many youngsters to take up sports and pursue their dreams with determination. He assured that the state government would continue to promote sports development and create a supportive environment for budding athletes.

Tilak Varma thanked the Chief Minister for the warm reception and encouragement. He expressed gratitude for the support extended by the state government and the people of Telangana throughout his cricketing journey.

The meeting was attended by several dignitaries and officials. Among those present were Minister Vakiti Srihari, Minister Mohammad Azharuddin, Rajya Sabha Member V. Narendar Reddy, SATG Chairman Shiv Sena Reddy, Chief Minister's Principal Secretary Srinivasa Raju and Managing Director Sony Baladevi.

Officials said the interaction highlighted the state government's recognition of sporting excellence and its commitment to nurturing future champions from Telangana.

Suspension of Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy Revoked



Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau :

The suspension of Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Member of Parliament from Bhuvanagiri, along with eight other MPs has been revoked, allowing them to attend the upcoming sessions of the Lok Sabha.

Speaking about the development, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy said that he had received information from Kodikunnil Suresh, the Congress Lok Sabha whip, that the suspension would be lifted. He confirmed that he would attend the Lok Sabha proceedings from tomorrow.

The MP emphasised that the ongoing budget session of Parliament is extremely important, as discussions on the Demand for Grants are scheduled to take place. He stated that as a representative elected by the people of Bhuvanagiri, his primary responsibility is to raise the issues and concerns of Telangana in Parliament.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy said that several important issues related to Telangana remain pending and need to be addressed at the national level. He expressed his intention to actively participate in the discussions and ensure that the voice of Telangana is heard in Parliament.

Explaining the reason behind the earlier protest in the House, he said that the group of eight MPs had objected to not being given an opportunity to speak during the debate on the motion of thanks to the President's address. According to him, the MPs staged a protest after the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, was allegedly not given

sufficient opportunity to speak and was repeatedly interrupted during his address.

The Bhuvanagiri MP clarified that the MPs did not intend to disrupt the proceedings of Parliament. Instead, they wanted to raise their concerns in a democratic manner. "We do not wish to protest inside the Lok Sabha. We only want the opportunity to question and speak democratically," he said.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy further stated that the Lok Sabha Speaker must treat all 543 Members of Parliament equally and ensure that every MP gets a fair chance to participate in debates and discussions.

He also warned that the Speaker should not act under pressure from Prime Minister Narendra Modi or Union Home Minister Amit Shah. If the Speaker succumbs to political pressure and denies them the opportunity to speak, the MPs would continue to express their protest, he added.

The MP urged the Speaker to allocate proper time for them to raise issues concerning Telangana. He said that over the next two weeks he plans to highlight several pending matters related to the state during the Lok Sabha proceedings.

Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy reiterated that his duty as a parliamentarian is to represent the concerns of the people of Bhuvanagiri and Telangana, and he would continue to raise these issues in Parliament in the coming days.

BRS Slams Congress Over 'Unfulfilled Six Guarantees Says KTR

Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau :

K. T. Rama Rao, Working President of Bharat Rashtra Samithi, launched a sharp attack on the Indian National Congress government in Telangana, accusing it of betraying farmers and failing to fulfil the Six Guarantees promised before coming to power. He said the BRS would strongly raise these issues during the ongoing budget session of the Telangana Legislative Assembly.

Addressing the media in Hyderabad, KTR alleged that the Congress government had deceived multiple sections of society by not implementing the guarantees within the promised timeframe. He criticised what he described as the government's priorities, claiming that while farmers were waiting for support, the administration was planning to allocate ₹1000 crore to Rahul Gandhi.

Before attending the Assembly session, the BRS Legislature Party visited the Telangana Martyrs' Memorial, popularly known as Gun Park, to pay tributes to those who sacrificed their lives for the formation of Telangana. BRS MLAs and MLCs offered floral tributes and staged a protest at the memorial, raising slogans against the Congress government and demanding immediate implementation of the Six Guarantees.

KTR said it has been a long-standing tradition for BRS legislators to pay homage to the martyrs before attending Assembly sessions. He noted that the party's entire legislature wing gathered



at the memorial to honour the sacrifices of the martyrs and student leaders who played a key role in the Telangana statehood movement.

He pointed out that the Congress party had promised to implement the Six Guarantees within 100 days of assuming office and had also pledged to grant them legal status in the first Cabinet meeting. However, KTR said that even after more than two years in power, the government had not provided legal backing to these promises.

Recalling the first Governor's address after the Congress government assumed office, he said the administration had officially announced that the guarantees would receive legal status. Despite this, he alleged, the commit-

ment remains unfulfilled.

KTR also criticised the government for delays in farmer welfare schemes. He said that during the BRS government led by K. Chandrashekar Rao, financial assistance under Rythu Bandhu used to be credited to farmers before the sowing season. In contrast, he claimed that farmers are now completing harvests without receiving government support.

He further alleged that the government had failed to deliver on several other promises, including the creation of two lakh jobs, financial assistance for women under the Mahalakshmi scheme, pension hikes for senior citizens, and support for agricultural labourers and auto drivers.

The BRS leader also raised concerns over pending fee reimburse-

ment dues for students, stating that nearly ₹10,000 crore remains unpaid. He added that students and parents across the state were waiting for the government to clear the dues.

KTR said the BRS would question the government on these issues in the Assembly and demand clarity on the state's finances. He accused the Congress government of mismanaging Telangana's economy and alleged that the state was being turned into an "ATM" for the party's national leadership instead of focusing on welfare and development.

He asserted that the BRS would continue to raise the concerns of farmers, students, women and other sections of society during the Assembly session.

Governor's Address Full of Lies, Says Vemula Prashanth Reddy

Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau :

Vemula Prashanth Reddy, former minister and MLA from Balkonda, strongly criticised the Governor's address delivered in the Telangana Legislative Assembly, calling it "hollow and filled with false claims." He alleged that the speech was nothing more than a script prepared by the Indian National Congress government and claimed it lacked any real substance related to public welfare.

Speaking to the media in Hyderabad on Sunday, the senior leader of Bharat Rashtra Samithi said the Governor's address resembled a "worthless document," accusing the government of presenting misleading information to the public. He alleged that several development initiatives mentioned in the speech were actually undertaken during the previous BRS government led by K. Chandrashekar Rao, but were now being projected as achievements of the current administration.

Prashanth Reddy criticised the Congress government for failing to implement the Six Guarantees promised during the elections. He said the party had made as many as 420 promises to the people of



Telangana but had failed to deliver on most of them. According to him, the Governor's address did not provide clarity on the implementation of these guarantees, raising serious questions about the government's commitment to its election promises.

He questioned the delay in providing ₹2,500 monthly financial assistance to women, which was one of the key promises made by the Congress government. Similarly, he asked why the promised increase in pensions to ₹4,000 for elderly people, widows and beedi workers, and ₹6,000 for persons with disabilities had not yet been

implemented.

The MLA also criticised the government's claims regarding farm loan waivers. He said the administration had announced that crop loans up to ₹2 lakh had been waived for farmers, but in reality, only a portion of farmers had received the benefit. He alleged that the government was misleading the public by claiming full implementation.

Prashanth Reddy further accused the government of failing to deliver on its promise of providing ₹15,000 per acre under the Rythu Bharosa scheme. He said the government had also prom-

ised a ₹500 bonus per quintal for crops, but many farmers were yet to receive the benefit.

On employment, the former minister alleged that the government was making exaggerated claims. He said the Congress had promised to create two lakh jobs annually, but only around 12,000 jobs had been provided so far. He added that most of these recruitments were based on notifications issued during the previous BRS government, not by the current administration.

He also criticised the delay in announcing a job calendar and said unemployed youth were still waiting for the government to fulfil its commitments.

Prashanth Reddy alleged that the Congress government had not launched any major new development initiatives in the last two years and was instead inaugurating projects initiated during the BRS regime. He said the Governor's speech failed to reflect the ground realities and described it as a misleading presentation.

He concluded by stating that the BRS would continue to question the government in the Assembly until all the promises made to the people of Telangana are fulfilled.

Harish Rao Alleges Telangana Water Rights Being Compromised

Hyderabad, March 16 | TPN Bureau :

T. Harish Rao, former minister and Deputy Floor Leader of Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), strongly criticised the Indian National Congress government in Telangana, alleging that the state's water rights in the Krishna River and Godavari River were being compromised due to the government's negligence.

Addressing a press conference at the Assembly Media Hall in Hyderabad, Harish Rao accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of failing to safeguard Telangana's interests and questioned whether the state had been "mortgaged" to N. Chandrababu Naidu and the government of Andhra Pradesh.

The BRS leader alleged that the Congress government's lack of initiative and foresight had resulted in serious injustice to Telangana in matters related to river water sharing. He claimed that both the Andhra Pradesh government and the Union government were allegedly working together to deprive Telangana of its rightful share of water from the Krishna and Godavari rivers.

Harish Rao recalled that during the tenure of the BRS government led by K. Chandrashekar Rao, sev-



eral steps were taken to protect Telangana's water rights. He said the previous government had worked persistently to correct historical injustices faced by the region in water allocation during the united Andhra Pradesh era.

He highlighted that the BRS government had pursued the issue of water sharing through tribunals and had taken steps to secure Telangana's share in the Krishna River through the tribunal process. Similarly, he said the rights of Telangana in the Goda-

vary basin were safeguarded under the Bachawat Tribunal award.

According to Harish Rao, Telangana was allocated a significant share of water in the Godavari basin, and the previous government had undertaken large irrigation projects to utilise these waters effectively. He claimed that projects worth hundreds of TMCs were planned and permissions were obtained to ensure the state's long-term water security.

The former minister alleged that a meeting of irrigation offi-

cial from both states held in New Delhi on January 30 had raised serious concerns about Telangana's water rights. He said the minutes of the meeting were sent to the state government on February 12, but even after more than a month, the Telangana government had not responded.

Harish Rao criticised the state government for remaining silent despite what he described as attempts by Andhra Pradesh to claim additional water from the Godavari. He questioned why the government had not raised objections to the meeting minutes or clarified its position on the matter.

He also accused the Congress government of failing to protect Telangana's temporary share of water in the Krishna River and said Andhra Pradesh was diverting a large portion of the water without resistance.

Harish Rao demanded that the state government immediately respond to the meeting minutes and firmly defend Telangana's rights over the Krishna and Godavari waters. He warned that the BRS would continue to raise the issue until the government takes concrete steps to safeguard the state's water resources.

MLA Vivekanand Reviews Development Works in Quthbullapur



Quthbullapur, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

Quthbullapur MLA and BRS Legislative Party Whip K. P. Vivekanand conducted a review meeting on the ongoing development works in the circles and wards formed after the reorganization of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). The meeting was held at the MLA's camp office in Pet Basheerabad, where officials from the engineering department discussed the progress of various development activities in the zone.

During the meeting, the MLA directed officials to accelerate development works in the newly formed wards by identifying the priority needs of the people. He stressed that public participation should be encouraged while implementing development programmes so that the works reflect the real requirements of local residents. He also asked officials to prepare comprehensive plans to ensure the availability of basic infrastructure in all wards of the constituency.

Vivekanand emphasized that essential civic works such as construction of CC roads, development of drainage systems, establishment of parks, improvement of crematoriums, and installation of street lights should be carried

out effectively. He stated that these facilities are crucial for improving the quality of life of residents and for ensuring balanced development across the constituency.

The MLA further instructed the engineering officials to identify development works that are currently pending in colonies and slum areas. He asked them to prepare a systematic plan and complete the works at the earliest without unnecessary delays. According to him, timely completion of infrastructure projects will significantly contribute to the overall growth and modernization of the constituency.

Officials present at the meeting included SE Srikanti, EE Bhadraru, and Deputy Engineers Papamma, Anurag, Virat Rajkumar, Vasantha, and Balamurali. Assistant Engineers Surender Naik, Kalyan, Praveen Kumar, Ravinder, Keerthi Reddy, and Sai Prasanna also attended the review meeting along with other department staff.

The meeting concluded with discussions on strengthening co-ordination between officials and local representatives to ensure the smooth and timely execution of development works across Quthbullapur.

21 Public Grievances Received at Prajavani Programme in Quthbullapur



Quthbullapur, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

The Prajavani grievance redressal programme held on Monday at the Quthbullapur Zonal Office in Chintal witnessed several residents approaching officials with their problems and requests for solutions. During the programme, citizens submitted complaints related to different civic and administrative issues, bringing them directly to the attention of the authorities.

According to officials, a total of 21 complaints from various departments were received during the Prajavani programme. The initiative aims to provide a platform where people can present their concerns directly to the government officials and seek timely solutions to their problems.

Among the complaints received, six were related to the Town Planning department, while five grievances were associated with the Revenue department. The Engineering department received three complaints regarding infrastructure and civic works. In addition, two complaints were submitted to the Parks and Biodiversity department, mainly concerning the maintenance and development of parks and green spaces.

The programme also received two complaints regarding Sulabh Complex facilities, which include public toilets used by local residents and visitors. Two complaints were related to the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HM-WSSB), focusing on water supply

and sanitation issues in certain areas. One complaint was submitted to the Entomology department, which deals with mosquito control and sanitation-related concerns.

Officials stated that all the grievances submitted by the public have been documented and forwarded to the respective departments for further examination. The concerned authorities will review the issues carefully and take appropriate steps to resolve them as early as possible. Speaking on the occasion, Quthbullapur Zonal Commissioner Pinkesh Kumar Lalit Kumar said that the Prajavani programme has become an effective platform for understanding the problems faced by citizens at the grassroots level. He emphasized that such programmes help bridge the gap between the public and government departments by enabling direct interaction.

He further assured that the complaints received during the programme would be addressed promptly by coordinating with the concerned departments. Officials will also monitor the progress of the complaints to ensure that appropriate solutions are implemented without unnecessary delay.

The Prajavani programme continues to play an important role in resolving public grievances and strengthening communication between citizens and the administration. Residents expressed hope that their issues would be resolved soon through the efforts of the concerned authorities.

Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme Conducted at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology

Hyderabad, March 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau:

An Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) was successfully organized by the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad. The programme was conducted at the N-Block Seminar Hall in association with IEEE CASS CBIT and IEEE SPS CBIT, aiming to inspire students to explore entrepreneurship and innovation.

The event was sponsored by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, and organized in collaboration with the NSIC Technical Services Centre, Hyderabad. The programme focused on creating awareness among students about entrepreneurship opportunities, startup culture, and various government schemes that support young innovators and business aspirants.

The keynote session was delivered by Dr. T. Muthukumar, Manager (Technical) at NSIC Technical Services Centre, Hyderabad, who is also a Certified Energy Auditor (BEE). During his address, he provided valuable insights into the growing startup ecosystem in India and explained the importance of innovation in building successful enterprises. He encouraged students to think beyond conventional career paths and consider entrepreneurship as a viable and impactful option.

Dr. Muthukumar also highlighted various initiatives and support systems available through MSME schemes, which aim to assist



young entrepreneurs in transforming their ideas into successful ventures. He emphasized the role of technology-driven entrepreneurship and emerging technologies in shaping the future business landscape. According to him, engineering students possess the technical knowledge and creativity required to develop innovative solutions that can address real-world problems.

Speaking on the occasion, CBIT Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimulu stressed the importance of cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset among engineering students. He

urged them to take advantage of the numerous government initiatives designed to promote startups and innovation across the country.

Head of the Department of ECE, Dr. K. Vasanth, stated that such programmes play a crucial role in motivating students to explore entrepreneurial opportunities. He noted that awareness initiatives like this help students understand the potential of innovation, startups, and government support mechanisms available for aspiring entrepreneurs.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. B. Khalelu Rehman, Associ-

ate Professor in the Department of ECE, along with Dr. T. Aravinda Babu, Assistant Professor (ECE), Dr. M. Raj Kumar Naik, Assistant Professor (ECE), served as the faculty co-coordinator for the event.

Students actively participated in the session and showed keen interest in learning about entrepreneurship, startup opportunities, and innovation-driven careers. The programme concluded with an interactive discussion where students engaged with the speaker and clarified their queries regarding startup development and government support schemes.

Special Sanitation Drive Conducted in Gajularamaram Circle to Promote Clean Public Facilities

Quthbullapur, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

In an effort to ensure cleanliness and improve public hygiene, a special sanitation drive was carried out in Gajularamaram Circle of Quthbullapur on Monday. The initiative was undertaken to maintain public facilities in a clean and hygienic condition and to create awareness among citizens about the importance of sanitation.

The programme was organized as part of the 99-day campaign titled "Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranalika," which is being implemented by the state government to strengthen public services and improve civic infrastructure. As part of the schedule for the 11th day of the programme, municipal sanitation staff carried out extensive cleaning activities in public toilets and surrounding areas.

During the drive, sanitation workers thoroughly cleaned a public toilet facility located in Shapur-nagar. The workers ensured that the entire toilet premises, including the surroundings, were properly cleaned and maintained. Special attention was given to maintaining hygiene standards so that the public can use these facilities safely and comfortably.

Officials stated that public toilets are essential civic amenities that



serve a large number of residents and visitors every day. Maintaining cleanliness in such facilities is crucial not only for public health but also for promoting a sense of civic responsibility among citizens. As part of the drive, sanitation teams cleaned the floors, walls, and drainage areas of the toilet complex and removed accumulated waste from the surroundings.

In addition to cleaning activities, steps were taken to enhance the ap-

pearance of the premises and create a positive message about cleanliness. A colorful rangoli was drawn at the entrance of the public toilet facility to make the surroundings visually appealing and to attract public attention towards the importance of maintaining hygiene. The rangoli also symbolized the idea that cleanliness should be treated as a shared social responsibility.

Officials said that such initiatives are aimed at encouraging people to

take care of public infrastructure and to maintain cleanliness in their surroundings. They emphasized that while the government and municipal staff can carry out regular cleaning drives, the cooperation of the public is equally important to sustain these efforts.

Residents and passersby appreciated the sanitation drive and welcomed the efforts taken by the municipal staff. Many locals noted that maintaining cleanliness in public facilities like toilets, parks, and streets can significantly improve the quality of life in urban areas.

Authorities also urged the public to use civic amenities responsibly and avoid littering or damaging public property. They highlighted that maintaining hygienic conditions in public places helps prevent the spread of diseases and contributes to a healthier community.

The special sanitation drive in Gajularamaram Circle is part of a broader initiative aimed at strengthening urban sanitation and promoting community awareness about cleanliness. Officials stated that similar drives will continue to be conducted across different areas to ensure that public facilities remain clean, safe, and accessible for everyone.

Residents Raise Concerns Over Alleged Unauthorized Wine Shop Construction in Vennelagadda

Quthbullapur, March 16 | TPN Bureau:

Residents of Vennelagadda colony in Suchitra have expressed serious concern over the alleged establishment of a wine shop in their residential area without following proper rules and regulations. The issue has sparked widespread discussion among locals, who claim that the construction of a shed for the wine shop was carried out without the necessary approvals from concerned authorities.

The residents raised the issue during the Prajavani grievance programme held on Monday and submitted a formal complaint to the Deputy Commissioner and the Zonal Commissioner of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). According to the residents, the wine shop was set up along the busy Suchitra-Quthbullapur main road without adequate parking facilities, which could create traffic problems and inconvenience for people living in the area.

Locals pointed out that the shop is located very close to educational and religious institutions. A private school and a temple are situated within approximately 100 meters of the shop, while a government school lies within a radius of about 150 meters. Resi-



dents expressed concern that the presence of a liquor outlet so close to schools and places of worship could negatively impact students, families, and the overall environment of the neighbourhood.

In addition to the location issue, colony residents have alleged that the construction of the commercial shed itself violated several regulations. They claimed that the structure was built without obtain-

ing mandatory municipal permissions required for commercial establishments. Furthermore, they stated that clearances from the electricity department and a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the traffic department regarding parking arrangements were also not obtained before the construction began.

Residents said they had already submitted complaints regarding

the issue to the District Collector, municipal authorities, and the excise department. However, they alleged that no concrete action had been taken so far. Due to the lack of response, they decided to bring the matter again to the attention of officials during the Prajavani programme.

Members of the colony met the Zonal Commissioner and submitted a detailed petition explaining their concerns. According to Vennelagadda Colony President Aman Rajesh, the Zonal Commissioner assured them that he would personally visit the site and examine the situation.

Residents have warned that if the authorities fail to take action, around 80 families living in the colony will collectively organize protest programmes to oppose the establishment of the wine shop in the residential area.

Several local residents participated in the complaint process, including Rajesh Reddy, Vinod Reddy, Sanjay Kumar, Sandeep, Sridhar Reddy, and Naveen Reddy. The issue continues to draw attention within the locality as residents await an official response and appropriate action from the concerned authorities.

From Poverty to Education: Krushi High School Celebrates 17 Years of Inspiring Journey

Quthbullapur, March 16:

The 17th annual day celebrations of Krushi High School held at Ramleela Maidan in Suraram Colony turned into more than just a school function. The event symbolized an inspiring journey of determination, hard work, and commitment to education that began from humble beginnings and grew into a successful educational institution.

The programme was organized under the leadership of school correspondent Shyam Prasad and was attended by several guests and community members. Among the chief guests were Sudheer Sandra and former corporator Suresh Reddy. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and parents.

Students from Krushi High School and its Krushi Green Hills branch presented a variety of cultural performances during the celebrations. From nursery to Class 10, children showcased their talents through dance and cultural programmes. Several students dressed as mythological characters and performed energetic dances, which entertained the audience and received loud applause from parents and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Sudheer Sandra encouraged parents to support their children not only in academics but also in extracurricular activities such as arts, sports, and cultural programmes. He emphasized that students should be given opportunities to explore their talents in different fields so that they can achieve balanced and holistic development.

Addressing the gathering, Shyam Prasad shared the inspiring story



behind the establishment of the school. He said that his journey began in a modest middle-class family and that the institution was built through dedication and hard work. He credited his mother, Vanaja Kumari, for her constant encouragement and support in establishing the school.

According to him, the school initially started with just 200 students, but today it has grown significantly and currently provides education to around 1,300 students.

He expressed happiness that students from the institution have achieved recognition and performed well even at inter-state level competitions, bringing pride to the school.

To encourage academic excellence, Shyam Prasad announced that students from LKG to Class 9 who secure first rank will receive a scholarship of ₹5,000. He also revealed plans to expand the institution further by launching a third branch of the school in the near

future.

The annual day celebrations concluded with appreciation for the students' performances and recognition of the institution's contribution to education in the region. Correspondents from other schools, local leaders including Ravinder, Ravi, and Srinivas, as well as many parents and well-wishers attended the programme in large numbers, making the event a memorable celebration of education and progress.

Zonal Commissioner Conducts Field Inspections to Improve Sanitation in Quthbullapur

Quthbullapur, March 16:

As part of efforts to strengthen urban sanitation and ensure a cleaner environment, Quthbullapur Zonal Commissioner Pinkesh Kumar Lalit Kumar conducted field inspections in Kompally Circle-56 on Monday. The visit was organized under the ongoing 99-day special sanitation programme aimed at improving cleanliness and civic management across the zone.

During the inspection, the commissioner reviewed sanitation conditions in several areas and interacted with sanitation workers to assess the ground-level implementation of cleanliness measures. He emphasized the importance of maintaining hygiene in busy public places and directed officials to ensure strict monitoring of waste management practices.

As part of the visit, the commissioner inspected the Central Park Market Road area, where he interacted with local shopkeepers and instructed them to strictly follow sanitation rules. He advised shop owners to place dustbins in front of their shops and ensure that all waste generated from their estab-



lishments is properly disposed of in the bins.

He also warned that throwing garbage on the roads and public spaces not only creates unhygienic conditions but also affects the overall environment of the area. Shopkeepers were clearly informed that strict action, including fines, would be imposed on those who fail to comply with sanitation regulations.

The commissioner later visited areas near Jayabheri Park and Uma Maheshwara Colony to inspect the surroundings of the Fox Sagar Lake. He stressed the importance of maintaining cleanliness around water bodies to ensure a healthy environment for residents living nearby.

Officials were directed to monitor the lake surroundings regularly and ensure that waste is not dumped

in the area. Maintaining the cleanliness of lakes and public spaces, he said, is essential not only for environmental protection but also for improving the quality of life for citizens.

Pinkesh Kumar Lalit Kumar also instructed municipal staff to continue regular sanitation drives and ensure that garbage is collected and disposed of in a systematic manner. He said public cooperation is equally important in maintaining cleanliness and urged residents and business owners to support the municipality in its efforts.

The inspection was attended by Deputy Commissioner N. Krishna Reddy, Solid Waste Management Deputy Engineer M. Tirupati, AEE Kumari Kripa, and other municipal staff members. Officials assured the commissioner that strict monitoring and continuous sanitation efforts would be carried out to maintain cleanliness in the zone.

The initiative forms part of a broader effort by civic authorities to strengthen sanitation management, protect public spaces, and promote a cleaner and healthier urban environment in Quthbullapur.

GHMC Commissioner Conducts Surprise Inspections in Goshamahal and Karwan Circle

Hyderabad, March 16, 2026:

As part of the state government's 99-day "Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranalika" programme, R. V. Karnan, Commissioner of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), conducted surprise inspections in Goshamahal and Karwan circles on Monday morning to review sanitation and development works on the ground.

During the inspection, the commissioner visited Bhagat Singh Junction and examined the ongoing junction development works. He also inspected the Indiramma Canteen located in the area and reviewed the overall sanitation conditions in the surroundings. Officials were instructed to immediately undertake patchwork on damaged roads and nearby streets to ensure smooth and safe movement for commuters.

Karnan stressed that improving road conditions and maintaining clean surroundings are essential for providing better civic amenities to residents. He directed engineering officials to complete the repair works without delay so that the public can travel conveniently.

The commissioner also reviewed the maintenance of public toilets being operated under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. During the inspection, he verified the attendance of sanitation staff



with the caretaker and instructed officials to ensure that the facilities are kept clean and hygienic at all times. He emphasized that public sanitation facilities must be maintained properly as they are used by

a large number of people daily.

Later, along with Golconda Zonal Commissioner Mukunda Reddy, Assistant Commissioner (Sanitation) Ravi Kiran, and officials from the engineering and sanitation depart-

ments, the commissioner conducted a walking inspection of nearby roads and garbage vulnerable points (GVPs). Representatives from Ramky company also participated in the inspection.

During the visit, Karnan inspected the Ambedkar Community Hall and directed officials to immediately remove encroachments around the premises. He also instructed them to complete the necessary preparations so that the community hall can be inaugurated on the occasion of the upcoming Ugadi festival.

The commissioner later visited the Jiyaguda 100 Feet Road and reviewed sanitation management and road maintenance works in the area. He instructed officials to speed up development activities and ensure that civic infrastructure is improved in a timely manner.

The inspections were attended by the Zonal Commissioner, Superintending Engineer (SE), Executive Engineers (EE), Deputy Executive Engineers (DEE), Assistant Engineers (AE), and sanitation staff from Karwan Circle.

Officials stated that such surprise inspections are being conducted regularly as part of the 99-day programme to closely monitor civic services and ensure that sanitation and development works are implemented effectively across the city.

Woman Collapses and Dies of Heart Attack While Posing for Photo at Housewarming Ceremony



Khammam March 16, 2026:

A tragic incident occurred in Khammam district when a woman suddenly collapsed and died of a suspected heart attack while posing for a photograph during a housewarming ceremony.

The deceased has been identified as Bomma Susmitha, a resident of the 3 Town area in Khammam. According to reports, she had attended a housewarming function (Gruhapravesam) at the residence of her relatives.

During the celebrations, family members and guests were taking photographs to capture the special moments of the occasion. While posing for a photo along with others, Susmitha suddenly collapsed on the spot, leaving everyone present in shock.

Family members and relatives immediately rushed to help her and quickly shifted her to a nearby hospital for emergency treatment. However, doctors examined her and confirmed that she had already passed away by the time she was brought to the hospital. Medical professionals suspected that the cause of death was a sudden heart attack.

The unexpected incident

turned what was supposed to be a joyful family event into a moment of grief and shock for the relatives and attendees present at the ceremony. Family members were deeply distressed by the sudden loss, as the incident occurred without any prior warning.

Meanwhile, a video related to the incident, reportedly captured during the ceremony, has begun circulating on social media. The visual showing the moment she collapsed has gone viral, drawing widespread attention and concern among viewers.

Such sudden cardiac incidents have been increasingly reported in recent times, raising concerns about health awareness and the importance of timely medical attention. Experts often advise regular health check-ups and awareness about heart-related symptoms to help prevent similar tragedies.

The sudden death of Susmitha has left her family members and local residents in mourning, as the community expressed shock over the unfortunate incident that took place during what was meant to be a happy celebration.

Tension at Nikhil Bharat School in Metpalli After Students Denied Entry



Jagtial, March 16:

Tension prevailed near Nikhil Bharat School in Metpalli after five students were reportedly denied entry into the school for wearing Hanuman malas, sparking protests from devotees and local residents.

According to sources, the students had been wearing Hanuman malas as part of a religious vow observed by devotees of Lord Hanuman. When they arrived at the school premises, the management allegedly refused to allow them inside, citing institutional rules and regulations regarding dress code and religious symbols within the campus.

The situation escalated when the students were reportedly told not to attend school for 21 days. This decision angered local Hanuman devotees, who strongly objected to the action taken by the school authorities. They argued that the students should not be prevented from attending classes due to their religious practices.

Soon after the incident came to light, a group of Hanuman Swamis and supporters gathered in front of the school premises to stage a protest. The protesters raised slogans and demanded that the school management immediately allow the students to attend classes without imposing any restrictions related to their religious observance.

The protest quickly attracted

the attention of local residents and passersby, leading to a tense situation in the area. Concerned about the growing crowd and the possibility of the situation turning confrontational, police officials rushed to the spot to maintain law and order.

Police personnel held discussions with the protesting devotees and appealed to them to remain calm. They assured the protesters that the issue would be examined and appropriate steps would be taken after discussions with the school management.

After some time, the police succeeded in pacifying the protesters and persuaded them to disperse peacefully. The situation gradually returned to normal, although the incident has sparked debate among locals regarding school policies and the accommodation of religious practices within educational institutions.

Residents expressed mixed reactions to the incident, with some supporting the school's rules and others arguing that flexibility should be shown in matters related to religious observances.

Authorities are currently monitoring the situation closely to prevent further tension and ensure that peace is maintained in the area. Discussions are expected to take place between the school management, parents, and local leaders to find a mutually acceptable solution to the issue.

Kerala Congress' Silent Power Struggle: Tharoor, Chennithala And Others Eye The Top Job



As Kerala moves closer to the 2026 Assembly elections, the Congress party in the state is witnessing a quiet but intense internal contest. The battle is not against political opponents but within the party itself, as several senior leaders position themselves as potential chief ministerial candidates if the United Democratic Front (UDF) returns to power.

At the centre of this silent struggle are four prominent figures: V. D. Satheesan, Ramesh Chennithala, K. C. Venugopal, and Shashi Tharoor. While they publicly present a united front, each leader is carefully building influence, strengthening support networks, and expanding public appeal ahead of the crucial election.

V. D. Satheesan, the current Leader of the Opposition, holds a natural advantage due to his position. He has emerged as a strong voice against the ruling Left government and has actively taken up issues ranging from governance failures to corruption allegations. His elevation to the top opposition role signaled a shift toward younger leadership in the state unit. However, Satheesan faces challenges as he does not command a strong factional base within the party. His relations with some influential community organizations have also been strained, limiting his broader political reach. To counter this, he has focused on outreach to minority groups, civil society,

and coalition partners, projecting himself as a consensus builder.

Ramesh Chennithala represents experience and organizational depth. A veteran leader with decades of service, he has held key positions both in government and within the party structure. His supporters argue that his earlier tenure as Opposition Leader was constrained by internal dynamics that prevented him from fully capitalizing on public dissatisfaction with the ruling government. Despite past setbacks, he maintains strong connections with party workers and senior leaders across districts. This organizational strength could play a decisive role in any internal leadership contest.

K. C. Venugopal occupies a different space altogether. As a senior national leader closely associated with the party's central leadership, he enjoys significant influence beyond Kerala. His proximity to the high command could become an advantage if the leadership question is decided at the national level, as is often the case in Congress. However, his challenge lies in translating this central influence into grassroots support within the state. While respected within party circles, he lacks the broad mass appeal of some of his rivals.

Shashi Tharoor stands out as the most publicly recognizable face among the contenders. A four-time Member of Parliament from Thiruvanan-

thapuram, he enjoys popularity among urban voters, young professionals, and sections of the middle class. His articulate communication style and international profile have made him one of the party's most visible leaders. However, his independent views and occasional divergence from official party positions have sometimes caused discomfort within the organization. This has led to a complex relationship with the state leadership, even as his popularity among voters remains strong.

The Congress in Kerala has traditionally followed a model of collective leadership, avoiding the projection of a single chief ministerial candidate before elections. Instead, the leadership decision is typically made after the results, based on legislative strength, factional balance, and coalition considerations. While this approach helps maintain unity during campaigns, it also encourages behind-the-scenes maneuvering as leaders attempt to strengthen their claims in advance.

The stakes in the upcoming election are particularly high. Kerala politics has historically seen power alternate between the Left Democratic Front and the United Democratic Front every five years. This pattern was broken when the Left retained power for a second consecutive term in 2021, making the next election a critical opportunity for Congress to stage a comeback.

Publicly, party leaders continue to

emphasize unity and teamwork. Yet their individual outreach programs, distinct political strategies, and factional loyalties suggest an undercurrent of competition. Satheesan is consolidating minority support and coalition leadership. Chennithala is strengthening organizational networks. Venugopal is leveraging national influence. Tharoor is expanding his appeal beyond traditional party structures.

None of the leaders appears willing to step aside, but none can decisively dominate the field either. This delicate balance has created a situation where competition remains intense but largely unspoken.

If the UDF succeeds in winning the election, the real battle may unfold afterward. The choice of chief minister will depend on multiple factors, including the number of legislators backing each leader, the preferences of coalition partners, and the decision of the central leadership.

In essence, the Congress in Kerala is navigating a complex phase marked by both opportunity and uncertainty. The presence of several capable leaders reflects the party's depth, but the absence of a clear frontrunner also highlights internal divisions. Whether this diversity becomes a strength or a weakness will play a crucial role in shaping the party's future in one of India's most politically aware states.

India-Japan Ties At A Turning Point: How A Takaichi Mandate Could Redefine The Partnership



Japan's political transition under the leadership of Sanae Takaichi comes at a moment of profound global uncertainty — and it could significantly reshape relations with India. With a strong mandate in Tokyo, the two countries have an opportunity not merely to continue their partnership but to transform it into a more strategic, future-oriented alliance suited to an increasingly volatile world.

India and Japan have long shared a special strategic relationship, strengthened during the tenure of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Their personal rapport helped promote the vision of a "free and open Indo-Pacific," emphasizing democratic values, open trade routes, and regional stability. Abe's assassination slowed that momentum, but continuity in Japanese leadership aligned with his worldview could revive and modernize the partnership.

Today's geopolitical environment makes such cooperation more urgent than ever. Conflicts in the Middle East, tensions in key maritime chokepoints, and disruptions to global trade have exposed the fragility of energy supplies and supply chains. Both India and Japan depend heavily on imported energy, making them vulnerable to shocks in oil markets and shipping routes. Coordinated policies — such as diversifying energy sources, building strategic reserves, and strengthening maritime security — could protect both economies while enhancing their global influence.

The partnership also benefits from deep historical and cultural connections. Civilizational links, particularly the spread of Buddhism from India to Japan, have created a reservoir of goodwill that few bilateral relationships possess. In an era when international relations are often transactional, this foundation of trust offers a significant strategic advantage.

Economically, the two countries are highly complementary. Japan brings advanced technology, capital, and expertise in manufacturing, while India offers a vast market, a growing innovation ecosystem, and a youthful workforce. Past collaborations demonstrate the power of this synergy — from automotive partnerships to major infrastructure projects such as metro rail systems and industrial corridors.

Looking ahead, cooperation in critical technologies will be central. Sectors such as semiconductors, batteries, clean energy, and critical minerals are now essential not only for economic growth but also for national security. By coordinating research, investment, and production, India and Japan could reduce dependence on unstable supply chains and position themselves as key players in future industries.

Defence and security cooperation is another area ripe for expansion. Rather than large, politically sensitive arms deals, both sides could focus on joint development, modular projects, and co-production. Such practical collaboration would build operational familiarity between the two militaries while strengthening deterrence capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region.

Demographics offer a powerful opportunity for mutual benefit. Japan faces a rapidly ageing population and shrinking workforce, while India has one of the world's youngest populations. Structured labour mobility programs, skills partnerships, and technology transfer could address Japan's labour shortages while providing employment opportunities for Indian professionals.

Beyond bilateral gains, the partnership could extend into third regions such as Africa and Southeast Asia. Combining Japanese financing and technological strength with India's entrepreneurial capacity and regional knowledge could create sustainable development models that differ from purely extractive approaches often associated with great-power competition.

Both countries also maintain close ties with the United States, making trilateral or multilateral cooperation feasible. Coordinated strategies among like-minded democracies could help preserve a rules-based international order at a time when global institutions face mounting pressure. Acting together in forums such as the Quad enhances their collective leverage while allowing each nation to maintain strategic autonomy.

However, challenges remain. Bureaucratic hurdles, differences in regulatory systems, and slow project implementation have historically limited the full potential of India-Japan cooperation. Turning ambitious plans into concrete outcomes will require sustained institutional engagement, political will, and clear accountability mechanisms.

A strong Japanese leadership mandate could help overcome these obstacles by enabling decisive policy action. It would also signal continuity to investors, allies, and regional partners, encouraging long-term commitments rather than cautious short-term engagement.

Ultimately, the evolving global landscape — marked by geopolitical conflict, technological rivalry, and economic uncertainty — is pushing India and Japan closer together. Their shared democratic values, complementary strengths, and converging strategic interests position them to play a stabilizing role in Asia and beyond.

If both nations seize this moment, the relationship could move beyond goodwill and symbolic cooperation toward a genuinely transformative partnership. With strong leadership in Tokyo and a willingness in New Delhi to match ambition with execution, India-Japan collaboration may indeed be poised to enter a new and consequential era — one defined not only by shared interests but by coordinated action in shaping the future of the Indo-Pacific and the global order.

When Crisis Struck, India Stood By The UAE — A Partnership Forged In Trust

During a period of heightened instability in the Middle East, India's swift and firm support for the United Arab Emirates highlighted the depth of a relationship that extends far beyond routine diplomacy. As attacks threatened civilian lives and critical infrastructure, New Delhi's response demonstrated solidarity, reassurance, and strategic confidence in one of its closest partners in the Gulf.

The crisis involved missile and drone strikes targeting civilian areas and key facilities in the UAE, resulting in casualties that included foreign nationals. Among those affected was an Indian citizen, underscoring how closely the safety of the two countries' populations is intertwined. The incident served as a stark reminder that regional instability can directly impact millions of expatriates living far from home.

At the core of India-UAE relations is the vast Indian diaspora in the Emirates. Numbering in the millions, Indians form one of the largest expatriate communities there. They contribute across all sectors of the economy, from construction and services to healthcare, education, technology, and business leadership. Their presence has helped shape the UAE's growth story, while remittances sent home support countless families across India.

Economic ties between the two nations are equally strong. The UAE ranks among India's most important trading partners and serves as a major gateway for Indian exports to the wider Middle East and Africa. Cooperation spans energy, infrastructure, finance, technology, logistics, and investment. This dense web of economic interdependence means that stability in the UAE is vital not only for its own citizens but also for India's economic interests.

When the crisis unfolded, India responded quickly at the highest level. Strong condemnation of the attacks and expressions of solidarity were conveyed directly between the leadership of the two countries. This prompt engagement



reflected a relationship built on trust and frequent communication rather than formal protocol alone. India's diplomatic stance signaled that it viewed the security of the UAE as closely linked to its own regional interests.

Beyond bilateral exchanges, India also supported broader international efforts aimed at addressing the situation and restoring stability. Such actions reinforced the perception that the partnership is both strategic and principled, grounded in a shared desire for peace, economic continuity, and regional security.

Despite fears that the conflict might weaken the UAE's economy or trigger instability, the country's underlying

strengths remain significant. Over the years, it has diversified its economy beyond oil, developed world-class infrastructure, and built substantial financial reserves. These factors provide resilience against external shocks and reassure investors, residents, and partners alike.

The episode also demonstrated how people-to-people ties can strengthen diplomatic relations. Cultural exchanges, tourism, business links, and long-standing personal connections between families across the two countries have created a bond that transcends formal agreements.

Ultimately, India's support during the crisis illustrated a partnership defined

ability. For India, the safety of its citizens abroad, uninterrupted trade flows, and regional stability are crucial concerns. For the UAE, India's backing reinforced confidence that a trusted partner would stand by it during difficult moments.

In international relations, true alliances are tested in times of uncertainty. This episode showed that India and the UAE share not just economic interests but a durable connection rooted in mutual respect, trust, and long-term cooperation. As the geopolitical landscape continues to evolve, this relationship is likely to remain a cornerstone of engagement between South Asia and the Gulf region.

by re-11-

Jaishankar Optimistic Iran Talks Will Help Indian Ships Cross Hormuz Safely

India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanya Jaishankar has expressed cautious optimism that ongoing diplomatic talks with Iran will help ensure safe passage for Indian vessels through the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz. His remarks come amid heightened tensions in West Asia that have disrupted one of the world's most important shipping routes.

The Strait of Hormuz is a critical maritime chokepoint through which a large share of global oil and gas supplies passes. Ongoing conflict involving Iran has led to security concerns, attacks on vessels, and a sharp decline in shipping traffic. For India, which relies heavily on energy imports from the region, keeping this route open is of paramount importance.

Jaishankar revealed that New Delhi has been in continuous dialogue with Tehran since hostilities escalated. He has reportedly held multiple conversations with his Iranian counterpart, Abbas Araghchi, focusing on the safety of commercial shipping. Iran has indicated it is open to



discussions with countries seeking secure passage for their vessels.

Encouragingly, two India-bound LPG tankers recently managed to cross the strait safely after diplomatic engagement between the two nations. The ships, carrying tens of thousands of tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas, are headed to ports in Gujarat. Jaishankar described this development as proof that dialogue

can yield results, emphasizing that coordination and reasoned negotiations are preferable to confrontation.

However, he clarified that there is no blanket agreement guaranteeing passage for all Indian ships. Each vessel's movement is being handled individually, reflecting the fragile and unpredictable situation in the region. Talks remain ongoing as many more Indian ships are still affected by the crisis.

India's approach contrasts with calls from some global powers for military intervention to secure the waterway. New Delhi has instead chosen diplomacy, leveraging its longstanding relationship with Iran to protect its economic interests without escalating tensions.

The Hormuz disruption has already had global repercussions, including rising energy prices and supply uncertainties. For India, ensuring uninterrupted maritime trade is essential not only for energy security but also for overall economic stability.

Jaishankar stressed that continued engagement with Iran will remain crucial. He noted that if diplomacy continues to produce positive outcomes, India will persist with this strategy and hopes it will contribute to broader regional stability.

As the crisis unfolds, India's careful balancing act between safeguarding national interests and avoiding military escalation highlights the importance of dialogue in resolving complex geopolitical challenges.

Over 4,300 Flights Cancelled Amid Middle East Crisis: Centre



The ongoing conflict involving Iran, Israel, and the United States has severely disrupted air travel across West Asia, forcing thousands of flight cancellations and affecting passengers worldwide. The Indian government informed Parliament that the crisis has led to the suspension of a massive number of flights due to safety concerns and widespread airspace closures.

Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Ramamohan Naidu told the Rajya Sabha that Indian airlines alone have cancelled 4,335 flights so far. In addition, foreign carriers have cancelled 1,187 flights operating in or through the region. The cancellations are largely the result of closed or restricted airspace across several Middle Eastern countries as military tensions escalated.

The minister emphasized that passenger safety remains the government's top priority. Airlines are unable to operate normally when airspace becomes unsafe or inaccessible due to missile strikes, drone attacks, or military activity. Several countries in the region have either shut their skies completely or imposed strict controls, making regular commercial flights impossible.

The conflict has disrupted one of the world's busiest aviation corridors, which connects Asia, Europe, and Af-

rica. Major airlines have been forced to reroute aircraft, suspend services, or operate limited schedules. Airports across the Gulf region have experienced chaos, delays, and uncertainty, leaving many passengers stranded or forced to change travel plans at short notice.

Despite the crisis, the government noted that a significant number of travelers have still managed to fly during this period using alternative routes. However, longer flight paths, higher fuel costs, and operational risks continue to challenge airlines.

The broader impact extends beyond passenger inconvenience. Global trade, tourism, and cargo movement have also been affected, as the Middle East serves as a key transit hub for international flights. Disruptions in this region ripple across the entire aviation network.

Authorities continue to monitor the situation closely while coordinating with airlines and foreign governments. Flight operations are expected to remain volatile until tensions ease and airspace restrictions are lifted.

For now, travelers are advised to check flight status regularly, stay in touch with airlines, and prepare for possible delays or cancellations as the geopolitical situation evolves.

Rajya Sabha Elections In Three States Turn Into A Test Of Opposition Unity

The upcoming Rajya Sabha elections in three Indian states have emerged as a critical test of cohesion and loyalty within the opposition ranks. Traditionally viewed as routine parliamentary processes, these polls have taken on heightened political significance this year as parties navigate alliances, internal rivalries, and strategic positioning ahead of larger electoral battles.

The Rajya Sabha, the upper house of India's Parliament, elects members through state legislative assemblies. Unlike direct public elections, these polls reflect the strength and alliances within state legislatures, making them important indicators of political influence and collaboration. With several key seats up for grabs in states where opposition parties hold significant numbers, how these parties cooperate — or fail to — is being watched closely by political analysts.

In all three states facing Rajya Sabha elections, opposition leaders are confronting the challenge of choosing common candidates and preventing internal dissent. When multiple parties contest the same seats without coordina-



tion, it can split the opposition vote and inadvertently benefit the ruling party's candidates. This dynamic makes unity essential for maximizing representation in the Upper House.

In one state, longstanding rivalries between regional allies have resurfaced as discussions about seat sharing continue. Senior leaders have been trying to broker agreements, but lingering distrust from past conflicts has complicated negotiations. In another state, smaller parties are asserting their demands more forcefully, seeking recogni-

tion and influence proportional to their legislative strength, which has put additional pressure on traditional allies.

These internal pressures are happening against a broader backdrop of national politics, where opposition parties are attempting to present a united front against the ruling coalition at the Centre. Rajya Sabha elections offer a chance to demonstrate that unity, as a strong showing can send a message of solidarity and shared purpose to voters ahead of major state and general elections.

Yet, analysts point out that unity for its own sake is not enough. Opposition parties must balance cooperation with maintaining their individual identities and policy priorities. Finding that balance is proving difficult in states with diverse political landscapes, ideological differences, and strong personalities.

The outcome of these Rajya Sabha polls could have implications beyond the seats themselves. A successful collaboration would bolster confidence among opposition ranks and signal effective strategy ahead of future contests. Conversely, visible fractures could weaken the perception of readiness to govern collectively.

As the election dates draw near, all eyes are on how opposition leaders manage alliance talks, candidate selections, and internal expectations. What began as a procedural election has transformed into a barometer of opposition unity, testing whether diverse political entities can work together in pursuit of shared goals or whether internal divisions will limit their impact.

"Culture Of Casual Protests" In Parliament: Deve Gowda Writes To Sonia Gandhi

Former Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda has written a strongly worded letter to senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi expressing deep concern over what he described as growing disorder and frequent protests in Parliament during the ongoing Budget Session.

In his letter dated March 16, the 92-year-old veteran said he was disturbed by the confrontational atmosphere inside and around Parliament, warning that repeated disruptions could weaken the foundations of India's parliamentary democracy. He noted that he had initially hoped the situation would improve but saw little sign of change.

Drawing on his decades-long political career, Deve Gowda pointed out that he had spent nearly 65 years as a legislator and parliamentarian, much of it in the Opposition. Despite this, he said he had never resorted to storming the well of the House or staging disruptive protests either in Parliament or in state legislatures.

The former Prime Minister alleged that Congress MPs, led by the Leader of the Opposition, were responsible for many of the recent disruptions, including slogan-shouting, demonstrations, and protests within the Parliament complex. He also criticized the increasing practice of holding dharnas and blockades outside Parliament, calling them unprecedented in scale.

One of his key concerns was what he described as an emerging "culture of casual protests." Referring to recent demonstrations, he said scenes of MPs sitting on Parliament steps, ordering tea, snacks, and engaging informally during protests diminished the dignity of the



institution.

Gowda recalled that his understanding of parliamentary conduct had been shaped by the ideals of India's founding leaders such as Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel, B. R. Ambedkar, and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. In his view, the current level of chaos and casualness had rarely been seen in earlier decades.

Appealing directly to Sonia Gandhi, whom he described as one of the most senior figures in the Opposition, he urged her to guide party leaders toward restoring decorum and responsibility in parliamentary proceedings. He expressed hope that her experience would help bring restraint and seriousness back to debates and discussions.

Deve Gowda's intervention highlights growing concern among senior leaders about the functioning of Parliament, where frequent disruptions often stall legislative work. His letter underscores the belief that maintaining dignity, discipline, and constructive debate is essential for preserving democratic institutions.

The development has sparked political discussion about the balance between protest and parliamentary functioning, especially during contentious sessions.

TMC Walks Out Of Rajya Sabha Over Transfer Of Bengal's Top Officials After Poll Announcement



Members of the All India Trinamool Congress staged a day-long walkout from the Rajya Sabha on Monday, protesting the Election Commission of India decision to transfer several senior bureaucrats in West Bengal shortly after announcing the state Assembly election schedule.

The protest was led by senior TMC MP Derek O'Brien, who raised the issue before the Zero Hour proceedings began. He strongly criticized the late-night administrative reshuffle, describing it as a sudden move carried out "in the dead of night" and questioning the timing of the decision immediately after poll dates were declared.

The Election Commission had ordered the removal of key officials, including Chief Secretary Nandini Chakravorty and Home Secretary Jagdish Prasad Meena, within hours of announcing the election schedule. Replacement officers were appointed soon afterward, triggering political backlash from the ruling party in the state.

O'Brien acknowledged that the Commission has the authority to make administrative changes during elections but argued that the manner and timing of the transfers raised serious concerns. As a mark of protest, he announced that TMC MPs would boycott proceedings for

the entire day, calling the move an unwarranted intervention in the state's administration during a sensitive pre-election period.

Responding to the protest, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju defended the poll body, emphasizing that the Election Commission is an independent constitutional authority. He maintained that its decisions should not be questioned on the floor of Parliament and accused opposition parties of repeatedly targeting constitutional institutions.

The administrative reshuffle has sparked a wider political controversy in West Bengal, where relations between the state government and the Election Commission have often been tense during election cycles. The ruling party views the transfers as disruptive, while supporters of the Commission argue that such measures are necessary to ensure neutrality, fairness, and a level playing field during polls.

With Assembly elections approaching, political tensions in the state are expected to intensify further. The Rajya Sabha walkout highlights how decisions involving election administration can quickly escalate into national political disputes, especially when they affect senior officials in a politically sensitive state.

AIADMK Faces Existential Test In 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly Elections



The upcoming Assembly elections in Tamil Nadu are shaping up to be a decisive and potentially existential battle for the opposition All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. Once a dominant force in the state's politics, the party has struggled to regain its footing since the death of its iconic leader J. Jayalalithaa.

Without her towering presence, the party has faced internal divisions, leadership tussles, and electoral setbacks, weakening its once formidable base. Now led by Edappadi K. Palaniswami, the AIADMK hopes to stage a comeback and reassert itself as the primary challenger to the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam government headed by Chief Minister M. K. Stalin.

The stakes are unusually high because the party's relevance in Tamil Nadu politics is increasingly being questioned. Several developments have contributed to this perception. Former senior leader and ex-Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam has moved away from the party, while longtime Jayalalithaa confidante V. K. Sasikala has launched a separate political outfit. These moves have fragmented the traditional support base that once rallied firmly behind AIADMK.

Adding to the challenge is the emergence of new political forces. Actor-turned-politician Vijay has entered the

political arena with his party, drawing significant public attention and potentially reshaping voter dynamics, particularly among youth and urban voters. This new competition could split opposition votes and further complicate AIADMK's path to power.

Despite these setbacks, the party leadership remains confident. Palaniswami has been touring the state extensively, attempting to consolidate cadre support and project unity. AIADMK is also working on alliances and campaign strategies to counter the ruling DMK's organizational strength and welfare-driven governance narrative.

The election is expected to be held in a single phase, with all 234 Assembly constituencies voting on the same day. For AIADMK, the outcome will determine whether it can reclaim its position as a major political force or risk sliding into long-term decline.

Political observers believe that this contest is not merely about winning or losing seats but about survival. A strong performance could revive the party's fortunes, while a poor showing may accelerate fragmentation and marginalization in Tamil Nadu's evolving political landscape.

As campaigning intensifies, the battle for Tamil Nadu promises to be one of the most closely watched state elections in recent years — and for AIADMK, perhaps the most crucial in its history.

Israel Envoy Clarifies Timing Of Iran Offensive After PM Modi's Visit



Israel's Ambassador to India has addressed speculation surrounding the timing of the ongoing Iran conflict, stating that the military operation against Iran was approved only after Prime Minister Narendra Modi concluded his visit to Israel. The clarification comes amid political criticism suggesting that the trip coincided with preparations for war.

According to the envoy, the "operational opportunity" for Israel and the United States to launch strikes emerged after the Indian Prime Minister had departed Tel Aviv following a two-day visit. He emphasized that although the region was already tense, the decision to proceed with the offensive was taken later. The Israeli cabinet, he said, formally approved the operation two days after the visit ended.

The explanation was aimed at countering allegations that the timing of the visit created the impression of tacit support for military escalation. Critics had argued that the trip ap-

peared poorly timed given the rapidly deteriorating situation in West Asia. The envoy's statement sought to dispel that perception by stressing that the attack plans were finalized only afterward.

He also indicated that the strikes had significant strategic objectives. According to his assessment, the offensive targeted Iran's military infrastructure and leadership, severely weakening its capabilities. He claimed that about 70 percent of Iran's missile-launching capacity had been degraded as a result of the operation.

Another key objective, he said, was to neutralize Iran's nuclear ambitions. The strikes reportedly made the country's nuclear stockpile inaccessible and disrupted production capabilities spread across multiple locations. Israel maintains that preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons remains a central goal of its military strategy.

The broader conflict has had far-reaching consequences across the Middle East and be-

yond. Joint US-Israeli airstrikes on Iran triggered retaliatory attacks, including missile and drone strikes on regional targets. The escalation has also severely disrupted shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy corridors.

This narrow waterway carries roughly one-fifth of global seaborne oil supplies, making any disruption a major threat to the world economy. Following the outbreak of hostilities, tanker traffic fell sharply, insurance costs soared, and many shipping companies suspended operations due to security risks.

The conflict has already caused global energy prices to spike and raised fears of prolonged supply shortages. Analysts warn that extended disruption in the Gulf could trigger inflation, economic instability, and supply-chain shocks worldwide.

India, which depends heavily on energy imports from the region, has been closely monitoring the situation. The safe-

ty of Indian nationals and the uninterrupted flow of oil and trade remain top priorities for New Delhi. Diplomatic engagement with regional players has intensified as the crisis unfolds.

The envoy's remarks underscore how sensitive diplomatic timing can be during periods of conflict. While leaders often travel amid uncertain conditions, subsequent military actions can quickly reshape perceptions of those visits.

By clarifying that the operation was approved only after the Indian Prime Minister's departure, Israel appears keen to prevent any misunderstanding about India's role or position in the conflict. The statement also reflects the broader effort by all sides to manage international opinion while military operations continue.

As tensions remain high and the situation evolves, the conflict's trajectory will likely depend on both battlefield developments and diplomatic efforts to prevent a wider regional war.

Netanyahu "Death" Rumours Swirl After New Video Sparks Deepfake Claims



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has become the focus of intense online speculation after a video released to dispel rumours about his death instead fueled fresh controversy. The clip, showing him calmly drinking coffee at a café, quickly spread across social media but raised questions about its authenticity.

Rumours claiming that Netanyahu had been killed or seriously injured began circulating amid the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. In response, a video was shared through official channels in which he appeared relaxed, casually addressing the speculation while seated in a public setting. The intention was to reassure the public that he was alive and well.

However, the footage had the opposite effect for some viewers. Social media users pointed to what they described as unusual visual details, including facial expressions and hand movements, suggesting the possibility that the video might have been digitally manipulated. These claims rapidly gained traction, with many questioning whether the clip had been generated using artificial intelligence.

The controversy intensified when an AI chatbot on a major social media platform

reportedly labeled the video as a potential deepfake. The system cited possible inconsistencies such as unnatural lip movement and visual anomalies, further amplifying doubts among online audiences. This added another layer of confusion, as people debated whether to trust the video or the algorithm's assessment.

Despite the speculation, independent verification efforts indicated that the footage was genuine. The café where the video was recorded was identified as a real location, and additional images reportedly showed Netanyahu present there. These findings supported the view that the video captured an actual visit rather than a computer-generated scene.

Netanyahu later appeared to treat the rumours with humor, dismissing claims about his death and mocking the theories circulating online. Officials from his office also rejected the allegations, stating that the prime minister continues to perform his duties as usual.

The episode highlights how quickly misinformation can spread during periods of crisis. In an environment already charged with fear and uncertainty, unverified claims can gain momentum within minutes, especially when amplified by

social media platforms.

It also underscores the growing impact of artificial intelligence on public trust. Deepfake technology has advanced to the point where fabricated videos can appear highly realistic, making it difficult for viewers to distinguish authentic footage from manipulated content. At the same time, automated systems designed to detect fake media can sometimes produce uncertain or misleading conclusions, adding to the confusion.

In this case, a video intended to serve as proof of life became a source of further suspicion. The incident illustrates a broader challenge facing governments and the public alike: even credible evidence may be doubted once the possibility of digital manipulation enters the conversation.

As conflicts increasingly unfold alongside online information battles, the ability to verify facts and assess sources has become as important as events on the ground. The controversy surrounding Netanyahu's video demonstrates how modern technology can blur the line between reality and perception, turning a simple reassurance into a global debate over truth and authenticity.

Trump Urges Allies To Escort Ships Through Hormuz — But Key Nations Hold Back

As the Iran conflict intensifies and global energy markets face mounting pressure, U.S. President Donald Trump has called on allied nations to deploy warships to escort commercial vessels through the Strait of Hormuz. The proposal, aimed at safeguarding one of the world's most vital shipping routes, has received a cautious response, revealing divisions among major powers over how to manage the escalating crisis.

The Strait of Hormuz is a narrow but strategically crucial passage linking the Persian Gulf to the open ocean. A significant portion of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas supplies passes through this corridor each day. Any disruption to traffic in the strait can therefore have immediate and far-reaching consequences for global energy prices, trade flows, and economic stability. In the wake of the ongoing conflict, shipping activity has slowed sharply due to attacks, mines, and fears of further escalation.

Washington is reportedly seeking to form an international coalition to ensure the safe passage of oil tankers and merchant vessels. The United States argues that countries heavily dependent on Gulf energy supplies should contribute naval assets to keep the route open. Officials have warned that failure to act collectively could strain long-standing security partnerships and alliances.

Despite these concerns, several major allies have been hesitant to commit forces. Some nations have indicated they have no immediate plans to deploy ships, citing domestic political constraints, legal limitations, and the risk of becoming directly involved in hostilities. Others are still assessing



their options but remain wary of actions that could escalate tensions or expose their naval personnel to missile or drone attacks.

Iran's stance has further complicated the situation. Tehran has signaled that it is prepared to defend its interests and has warned that vessels belonging to adversarial nations could face danger in the area. The uncertain security environment has made shipping companies, insurers, and governments extremely cautious, leading many commercial operators to avoid the route altogether whenever possible.

The disruption has already triggered a surge in global oil prices, fueling fears of inflation and economic slowdown.

Higher insurance premiums, increased shipping costs, and delays in supply chains are adding to the strain on importing nations. Because alternative routes cannot easily handle the same volume of energy shipments, a prolonged crisis could have severe consequences for economies worldwide.

Beyond the economic impact, the situation carries major geopolitical implications. A multinational escort mission could help deter attacks and restore confidence among commercial shippers, but it also risks direct confrontation with Iranian forces. Conversely, inaction could encourage further disruptions and undermine the credibility of security guarantees in the region.

Governments are therefore balancing competing priorities: protecting energy supplies, avoiding military escalation, and maintaining diplomatic channels. The decisions made in the coming weeks will likely shape not only the course of the conflict but also the stability of global markets.

Ultimately, the debate over escorting ships through the Strait of Hormuz highlights a broader dilemma facing the international community — how to secure critical global infrastructure without triggering a wider war. As tensions remain high, the world is watching closely, aware that developments in this narrow waterway could have consequences far beyond the Middle East.

Trump May Send Troops To Seize Iran's "Crown Jewel" Kharg Island



Amid the escalating conflict with Iran, U.S. President Donald Trump is reportedly considering sending ground troops to capture Kharg Island — Iran's most critical oil export hub and a target he has described as the country's "crown jewel." If carried out, such a move would represent a major escalation, shifting the conflict from air and naval strikes to a potential ground operation.

Kharg Island, located in the Persian Gulf, plays a central role in Iran's economy. Despite its relatively small size, the island handles a large share of the country's crude oil exports and hosts extensive storage facilities, pipelines, and loading terminals connected to offshore oil fields. Control over the island would therefore strike directly at one of Iran's most important sources of revenue.

The United States has already conducted heavy bombing raids on the island, focusing primarily on military targets such as missile storage areas, naval bases, and defensive infrastructure. Oil facilities were largely avoided in these strikes, though officials have indicated that restraint could change depending on

Iran's actions in the region. The attacks are said to have significantly weakened Iran's military presence on the island.

Capturing Kharg Island would have both economic and strategic implications. Economically, it could severely disrupt Iran's ability to export oil and finance its war efforts. Militarily, it would give U.S. forces a forward base close to the Iranian mainland and near vital shipping lanes in the Persian Gulf. Such a position could also be used to monitor or deter threats to commercial vessels passing through the region.

The broader conflict has already affected global energy markets. Iran has been accused of threatening shipping routes and targeting vessels, contributing to rising oil prices and increased insurance costs for maritime transport. Any further disruption could deepen economic uncertainty worldwide.

However, a ground invasion of Kharg Island would carry significant risks. Amphibious assaults are complex operations requiring extensive preparation, air superiority, and naval support. Iran could respond with missile strikes, drone attacks, naval mines, or re-

taliation against U.S. bases and allied interests across the Middle East. Such escalation could quickly draw additional countries into the conflict.

Reports indicate that additional American forces and naval assets have been deployed to the region, signaling readiness for a range of possible actions. At the same time, diplomatic efforts continue behind the scenes as international actors seek to prevent a wider war.

For now, no final decision has been publicly announced, and officials maintain that all options remain under consideration. The situation remains fluid, with developments on the battlefield likely to influence the next steps.

What is clear is that Kharg Island has emerged as one of the most strategically important flashpoints in the crisis. Control over this small but vital territory could significantly affect Iran's economic stability, regional security, and global energy supplies. As tensions continue to mount, the fate of the island may shape the next phase of the conflict and determine whether the confrontation remains limited or expands into a broader regional war.

Bulls Roar Back: Sensex Surges 939 Points, Nifty Reclaims 23,400 Mark

Indian stock markets staged a strong comeback, snapping a three-day losing streak as heavy late buying pushed benchmark indices sharply higher. The rally lifted the BSE Sensex by about 939 points and drove the Nifty 50 comfortably above the key 23,400 level, signaling renewed bullish momentum.

After a weak and volatile start, markets fluctuated between gains and losses for most of the trading session. However, strong buying in the final hour reversed earlier declines and powered the indices into solid positive territory by the close. The Sensex finished near the 75,500 mark, while the Nifty settled around 23,409, reflecting a sharp recovery after recent losses.

Key Sectors Lead The Rally

The rebound was largely driven by strength in automobile, banking, FMCG, and metal stocks. Large-cap companies in these sectors attracted significant buying interest, helping the benchmarks climb steadily.

Among the major gainers were Mahindra & Mahindra, Grasim Industries, Trent Limited, UltraTech Cement, and HDFC Bank. On the other hand, stocks such as Bharat Electronics Limited, Wipro, Sun Pharmaceutical, and Coal India ended the session lower.



Broader Market Shows Mixed Trend

Despite the strong headline performance, the broader market remained under pressure. Midcap and smallcap indices lagged behind the main benchmarks and slipped slightly during the session. A large number of stocks also touched their 52-week lows, indicating that weakness persists beneath the surface.

This divergence suggests that the rally was concentrated mainly in heavyweight stocks rather than being broad-based across all segments of the market.

Short-Covering And Bargain Hunting Drive Gains

Market analysts attributed the surge to value buying after recent declines, along with short-covering by traders who had bet on falling prices. Investors appeared to take advantage of lower valuations, stepping in to buy fundamentally strong companies.

Heavyweights such as Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, and State Bank of India played a major role in lifting the indices from intraday lows.

Outlook Remains Cautious

While the rebound indicates that bullish sentiment is still

present, uncertainty continues due to global factors such as geopolitical tensions, oil price movements, and monetary policy expectations.

The sharp recovery suggests that investors are willing to buy on dips, but volatility is likely to remain high in the near term. Sustained upward momentum will depend on supportive global cues and stable domestic conditions.

Overall, the session delivered a strong signal that the bulls have returned after recent weakness — though the path ahead may remain uneven as markets react to evolving economic and geopolitical developments.

Kotak Mahindra MF Raises Stake In Park Medi World, Stock In Focus



Kotak Mahindra Mutual Fund has increased its shareholding in Park Medi World Limited to above the key 5 percent mark after purchasing additional shares through open market transactions.

Prior to the latest acquisition, the fund held just under 5 percent of the company's equity, amounting to more than 2.15 crore shares. It subsequently bought around 1.75 lakh additional shares, taking its total holding to about 5.04 percent. Crossing the 5 percent threshold is significant because it triggers mandatory disclosure requirements under market regulations, drawing attention from investors and analysts.

The purchase was made through various schemes of the mutual fund and does not involve the company's promoters. Such investments by large institutional players are often viewed as a sign of confidence in a company's long-term growth potential, particularly in sectors with strong demand out-

looks like healthcare.

Park Medi World operates a network of multi-specialty hospitals and has been expanding its capacity to capitalize on rising healthcare needs. Increasing health awareness, growing insurance coverage, and higher spending on medical services are supporting long-term growth prospects for hospital chains across India, especially in smaller cities.

A brokerage firm has also initiated coverage on the company with a positive outlook, citing strong expansion plans and favorable industry trends. Policy support and a gradual shift toward higher-value treatments are expected to improve the company's earnings potential over time.

Despite the positive signal from institutional buying, the stock did not witness a sharp rally during the trading session. Shares opened slightly lower than the previous close and slipped further during the day, reflecting cautious sentiment among

investors.

Market participants note that while institutional investments can boost confidence, short-term price movements depend on several factors including overall market conditions, valuations, liquidity, and profit-taking.

Park Medi World has attracted attention since its listing, but analysts emphasize that sustained stock performance will depend on the company's execution, expansion strategy, and financial results in the coming quarters.

The increase in stake highlights growing institutional interest in India's healthcare sector, which is expected to expand steadily due to demographic changes and rising demand for quality medical services.

Overall, Kotak Mahindra Mutual Fund's move places Park Medi World firmly on investors' radar, signaling confidence from a major institutional investor even as near-term market reactions remain cautious.

PhonePe Puts IPO On Hold As West Asia Crisis Shakes Markets

Digital payments major PhonePe has postponed its much-anticipated initial public offering due to escalating tensions in West Asia and the resulting volatility in global financial markets.

The Bengaluru-based fintech firm has decided to defer its public listing plans until market conditions stabilize. The IPO, which was expected around the middle of the year, is now on hold as investors adopt a cautious approach amid geopolitical uncertainty.

Conflict Triggers Market Turbulence

The ongoing crisis in West Asia has unsettled financial markets worldwide, leading to sharp fluctuations in stock prices, currency movements, and overall investor sentiment. Indian markets have also experienced pressure, with significant swings in valuations over recent weeks.

In such uncertain conditions, companies often struggle to secure favorable pricing for public offerings. Launching an IPO during volatile periods can result in weak demand, discounted valuations, or disappointing listing performance — risks that firms typically aim to avoid.

PhonePe's leadership has indi-



cated that the company remains committed to going public in India but will wait for stability to return before proceeding.

Size And Structure Of The Proposed IPO

The company was reportedly planning to raise around 1.5 billion dollars at a valuation of approximately 15 billion dollars, which would make it one of the largest fintech listings in India.

The proposed issue was expected to involve existing shareholders selling part of their stakes rather than the company issuing a significant number of new shares. Major investors, including entities linked to Walmart,

were likely to reduce their holdings through the offering.

Market Concerns Add Pressure

Apart from geopolitical risks, analysts have pointed to concerns about elevated stock market valuations following a long rally. Recent corrections have increased fears of further volatility, making the timing less favorable for large public offerings.

PhonePe's decision reflects a broader trend, with several companies delaying IPO plans and adopting a wait-and-watch strategy until investor confidence improves.

Strong Growth, Ongoing Losses

Despite being one of the dominant players in India's digital payments ecosystem, PhonePe continues to report losses, though these have been narrowing. The company's revenues have been growing steadily, driven by strong user adoption and expansion into new financial services.

As a leading participant in India's UPI ecosystem, PhonePe's eventual IPO is expected to be a landmark event for the country's fintech sector.

What Lies Ahead

For now, the company is waiting for calmer market conditions before reviving its listing plans. Investors eager to participate in the offering will likely have to wait until geopolitical tensions ease and market stability returns.

PhonePe's move highlights how global events can directly influence corporate fundraising decisions, even for companies operating far from the conflict zone. If conditions improve in the coming months, the IPO could be relaunched — potentially becoming one of the most significant fintech listings in India.

Fino Payments Bank Shares Plunge After Probe Reports Rattle Investors

Shares of Fino Payments Bank tumbled sharply, falling about 16 percent in a single trading session and hitting a 52-week low, even as the lender issued a clarification denying serious allegations circulating in the media.

The steep decline followed reports that certain online gaming transactions linked to the bank could come under scrutiny by the Enforcement Directorate. Such reports triggered panic selling among investors, who reacted to fears of potential regulatory action.

However, the bank moved quickly to reassure stakeholders. In an official statement, it said it is not under investigation by the Enforcement Directorate or under money-laundering laws. Instead, it confirmed that the only ongoing inquiry is by the Directorate General of GST Intelligence in Hyderabad, and that too relates to certain program managers and merchants rather than the bank's core operations.

The lender also rejected claims that it was involved in betting or gaming activities. It stated that it does not directly or indirectly promote or facilitate such busi-



nesses through any platform or channel.

Despite the clarification, market sentiment remained weak. Investors appeared unconvinced, partly because regulatory scrutiny in the financial sector can escalate quickly and carry significant reputational and financial risks.

Adding to concerns is a separate development involving the bank's leadership. Its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Rishi Gupta, was arrested in

late February under provisions of GST laws as part of an investigation into suspected irregularities. The case is reportedly linked to transactions handled by associated entities rather than the bank itself, but the incident has heightened uncertainty.

Analysts say that banking stocks are particularly sensitive to governance issues because trust is a critical factor in financial institutions. Even the possibility of regulatory action can lead to sharp sell-offs, as investors

try to reduce exposure to risk.

The sell-off also pushed the stock close to lower circuit levels during trading, reflecting intense selling pressure. The decline came even as the broader market showed relative stability, indicating that the fall was driven largely by company-specific concerns rather than overall market conditions.

Interestingly, the bank highlighted positive business indicators at the same time. It reported strong deposit growth, reaching around Rs 2,900 crore, and said it had added about 1.5 lakh new accounts in recent weeks. However, these fundamentals did little to calm investor nerves amid the controversy.

For now, the stock's future trajectory will likely depend on how the investigation unfolds and whether authorities provide further clarity. If regulatory concerns ease, the shares could stabilize, but continued uncertainty may keep pressure on the stock in the near term.

The episode underscores how quickly confidence can erode in the financial sector when questions arise about compliance, governance, or regulatory scrutiny.

Ola Electric Plans Stake Sale To Raise Up To ₹2,000 Crore For Battery Arm



Ola Electric is preparing to raise up to ₹2,000 crore by selling a minority stake in its battery subsidiary, Ola Cell Technologies, as part of efforts to strengthen its finances and accelerate its turnaround strategy.

The proposed fundraising will involve bringing in financial investors rather than issuing new shares at the parent company level. The move comes at a time when the electric two-wheeler maker is restructuring operations, attempting to regain market share, and stabilise its balance sheet amid declining sales.

Battery Arm At The Core Of EV Strategy

Ola Cell Technologies operates a lithium-ion battery manufacturing facility in Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu, often described as one of India's first gigafactories for electric vehicle cells. The plant currently has an operational capacity of about 1.5 GWh, with plans to expand to around 6 GWh by the end of the financial year.

The facility represents a major investment and is central to India's push to localise battery production, reduce dependence on imports, and build a domestic EV supply chain.

Beyond powering elec-

tric scooters, the plant is designed to support broader energy storage solutions across sectors, including residential and commercial applications.

Valuation And Investor Interest

The stake sale is expected to help establish an independent valuation for the battery business, which has not previously been valued separately. The asset has reportedly attracted interest from large financial investors, including global funds.

Investment banks have been appointed to manage the fundraising process and identify potential buyers for the stake.

Part Of Broader Restructuring

Ola Electric has been implementing cost-cutting measures and operational restructuring to improve efficiency and move toward profitability. The company faces intense competition in India's electric two-wheeler market from established automakers and emerging EV startups, which have steadily gained market share.

Recent declines in sales have increased pressure on the company to streamline operations and secure

fresh capital to support expansion plans.

Strategic Importance Of Battery Technology

Battery manufacturing is widely considered the most critical component of the electric vehicle ecosystem. By investing heavily in cell production, Ola Electric aims to control costs, improve performance, and reduce reliance on foreign suppliers.

The company is also working on advanced battery technologies and manufacturing processes to strengthen its long-term competitiveness in both domestic and global EV markets.

What Lies Ahead

If successful, the fundraising could provide the capital needed to expand production capacity, launch new products, and strengthen the company's financial position. It would also represent one of the significant investments in India's domestic battery manufacturing sector.

The outcome of the stake sale will play a key role in shaping Ola Electric's future growth trajectory and its ability to compete in an increasingly crowded electric mobility market.

Man Confronts Students Throwing Paper From School Bus, Viral Video Sparks Debate



A viral video showing a man confronting school students for littering has ignited widespread discussion on social media about civic responsibility and appropriate ways to correct public behaviour. The incident, captured on camera and widely shared online, shows pieces of paper scattered across a road after being allegedly thrown from a passing school bus.

According to reports, a motorcyclist noticed the litter on the street and believed it had come from the bus. He then chased the vehicle, pulled alongside it, and eventually boarded it while recording the entire episode. Once inside, he questioned the students about their actions and asked why they had thrown trash onto a public road, challenging them to consider whether they thought it was acceptable behaviour.

The video, posted on social media on March 14, quickly gained traction, drawing tens of thousands of views and reactions. Faces of the students and staff were blurred, and the exact time and location of the incident have not been officially verified.

Online reactions have been sharply divided. Many viewers praised the man for taking a stand and teaching the students a lesson about cleanliness and public responsibility. Supporters argued that such direct action is neces-

sary in a country struggling with littering issues, especially when young people fail to understand the impact of their behaviour on shared spaces.

Others, however, criticized the confrontation. They felt the biker's approach may have been excessive and potentially unsafe, suggesting he should have reported the matter to school authorities instead of confronting minors directly. Some commenters also emphasized that children make mistakes and should be guided rather than publicly reprimanded.

The incident has therefore sparked a broader conversation about how society should address civic misconduct, particularly when it involves young people. While most agree that maintaining cleanliness in public spaces is essential, opinions differ on whether public shaming, direct confrontation, or institutional action is the best solution.

Ultimately, the viral clip highlights a persistent issue — everyday littering — while also revealing deeper concerns about accountability, education, and the role of ordinary citizens in enforcing social norms. It serves as a reminder that building civic sense requires both awareness and constructive guidance, especially among the younger generation.

Folk Musicians Turn Airport Security Check Into A Magical Musical Moment



Passengers at Jodhpur Airport recently witnessed an unexpected cultural treat when a group of Rajasthani folk artists transformed a routine security check into a lively musical performance. What is usually a quiet, procedural moment suddenly became memorable as traditional melodies filled the terminal.

The artists, led by renowned folk performer Ismail Langa, began singing while passing through the screening area, surprising both travellers and airport staff. Their spontaneous performance featured soulful Rajasthani folk music, instantly creating a warm and festive atmosphere inside the otherwise formal security zone.

The performance was later shared online by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), which manages airport security across India. Posting the video on its official social-media account, the force described the episode as a "musical moment at the airport," noting how the artist's heartfelt rendition added a touch of sweetness to the travel experience.

According to reports, the group was travelling together when the impromptu performance occurred. Rather than a staged event, the song emerged naturally during the security process, blending traditional culture with a modern travel setting. Passengers nearby paused to watch, many appear-

ing delighted by the unexpected show.

The video captures the troupe's distinctive musical style — rich vocals accompanied by traditional expression — delivered with ease despite the unusual environment. The fusion of heritage art with a contemporary public space created a unique scene rarely witnessed in airports, where strict procedures typically leave little room for spontaneity.

Rajasthani folk music is known for its deep emotional quality, storytelling tradition, and vibrant cultural roots. Performances like this highlight how such art forms continue to thrive beyond formal stages, reaching audiences in everyday spaces.

Online reactions to the clip have been overwhelmingly positive. Many viewers praised the artists for spreading joy and showcasing India's cultural richness in an unexpected setting. Others noted how the moment humanized airport security, turning a routine checkpoint into a shared experience of music and connection.

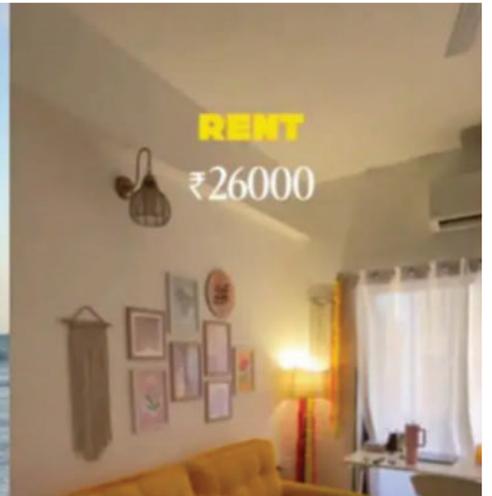
Ultimately, the viral video serves as a reminder that art can emerge anywhere — even in the most ordinary situations. For a brief moment at Jodhpur Airport, travellers were not just passengers rushing to catch flights but an audience brought together by the timeless power of folk music.

Living Solo In Goa: Techie Reveals ₹82,000 Monthly Expense Breakdown

A software professional has sparked online discussion after sharing how much it costs to live alone in Goa. In a detailed social-media post, the techie revealed that maintaining a comfortable single lifestyle in the popular coastal state costs about ₹82,000 per month — a figure that surprised many who consider Goa a budget-friendly destination.

According to the breakdown, accommodation formed the largest portion of expenses. The techie reportedly lives in a rented apartment, paying a substantial amount for housing due to the demand for well-located homes near workspaces and urban conveniences. Rent alone consumed a major chunk of the monthly budget, reflecting how property prices in Goa have risen with the influx of remote workers and digital nomads.

Food and groceries accounted for another significant share. The individual balanced home-cooked meals with occasional dining out, which pushed monthly food expenses upward. Transportation costs were also notable, as public transport options in



Goa are limited compared to major metros. Many residents rely on private vehicles or rentals, adding to recurring expenses.

Utility bills — including electricity, internet, water, and mobile services — further increased the total. Reliable high-speed internet, essential for tech professionals working remotely, can be a particularly important expense. In addition, routine household costs such

as maintenance, cleaning supplies, and personal care items contributed steadily to the monthly outflow.

Lifestyle spending played a key role as well. The techie allocated money for entertainment, shopping, subscriptions, and leisure activities, reflecting a comfortable but not extravagant way of living. Health-related expenses, insurance, and emergency provisions were also

part of the budget, underscoring the need for financial planning when living independently.

The post triggered mixed reactions online. Some users felt the amount was high for a single person in Goa, arguing that a simpler lifestyle could cost far less. Others noted that the figure seemed reasonable for someone seeking privacy, modern amenities, and a balanced quality of life.

Cost-of-living studies

support this wide variation. Monthly expenses for a single person in Goa can range roughly from ₹35,000 to ₹90,000 depending on housing choice and lifestyle preferences.

Overall, the techie's detailed account highlights an important reality: while Goa is often seen as a relaxed, affordable paradise, living there full-time — especially alone and comfortably — can be significantly more expensive than many people expect.

₹1.5 Lakh Salary, Only ₹20,000 Saved: Viral Post Reveals Bengaluru's Costly Reality

A viral social-media post has ignited debate about the true cost of living in Bengaluru after revealing that a professional earning ₹1.5 lakh per month manages to save barely ₹20,000. The story, shared online by a user about his cousin, highlights how even high salaries in India's tech capital can be quickly consumed by everyday expenses.

According to the post, the young software professional moved to Bengaluru for his first job, believing he had achieved financial success. However, within six months, he realised that the city's high living costs significantly reduced his disposable income. Family and friends initially assumed he was doing extremely well, but the reality turned out to be far more complicated.

Rent emerged as the biggest expense. The man reportedly pays around ₹36,000 per month for a small apartment located close to his workplace — a



common choice among professionals trying to avoid long commutes in the city's heavy traffic. Groceries form another major component, costing roughly ₹13,000 to ₹15,000 monthly, reflecting the rising cost of food and daily necessities in urban areas.

Transportation also takes a substantial share of income. Due to congestion and limited public transport convenience,

the professional spends between ₹6,000 and ₹8,000 per month on cabs and auto-rickshaws. Lifestyle expenses add further pressure, with about ₹10,000 to ₹12,000 going toward online food orders, coffee, and weekend outings — costs that many young professionals consider part of maintaining a balanced social life.

After accounting for these recurring expenses and other routine bills,

only a small amount remains for savings at the end of the month. The post resonated widely online, as many users shared similar experiences of struggling to save despite earning what would be considered a high income in most parts of India.

Reactions, however, were mixed. Some commenters argued that careful budgeting and lifestyle adjustments could signifi-

cantly increase savings. Others maintained that Bengaluru's housing prices, traffic-related costs, and urban lifestyle make high expenses unavoidable, especially for newcomers seeking convenience and comfort.

The discussion reflects a broader reality: in major metropolitan hubs, salary figures alone do not determine financial security. High rents, transportation challenges, and lifestyle expectations can quickly erode income, leaving even well-paid professionals feeling financially stretched.

Ultimately, the viral post serves as a reminder that while Bengaluru offers lucrative career opportunities, achieving meaningful savings often requires disciplined spending, strategic housing choices, and long-term financial planning — especially for those living independently in one of India's most expensive cities.

"Too Comfortable In Germany": Indian-German Couple Moves To India For A New Life

An Indian-German couple has gone viral online after revealing why they chose to leave their stable life in Germany and relocate to India — not because of problems abroad, but because life had become "too comfortable." Their story, shared on social media, has sparked widespread discussion about what truly defines a fulfilling life.

According to the couple, Germany offered everything most people aspire to: financial security, social stability, efficient systems, and a high quality of life. However, over time, that very stability began to feel limiting. They said their daily routine had become repetitive, predictable, and emotionally unchallenging, making it seem as though life was running on autopilot.

In their post, the man, Deepesh Patel, explained that they were not leaving due to common complaints such as cold weather or bureaucracy. Instead, they wanted something entirely differ-



ent — uncertainty, excitement, and personal growth. Despite enjoying comfort and security, they began craving new experiences and a sense of transformation.

The couple also emphasized that they did not want to live with future regrets. They feared look-

ing back and wondering "what if" they had never taken a bold step outside their comfort zone. Ultimately, the desire for challenge outweighed the fear of failure, motivating them to make the move.

India, they said, felt like the perfect destina-

tion for reinvention. They were drawn to the country's vibrant culture, deep traditions, diversity, and dynamic energy. Unlike the predictability they experienced in Germany, India offered what they described as chaos mixed with creativity — an environment where

new perspectives and personal growth are constantly possible.

Their decision quickly attracted attention online. Many social media users praised the couple's courage, calling the move inspiring and refreshing. Some people who had returned to India after living abroad shared similar sentiments, saying they appreciated the country's liveliness, colours, festivals, and sense of community.

Others, however, expressed surprise at leaving a developed country for a more unpredictable environment, highlighting how differently people define happiness and success.

Overall, the viral story highlights a powerful idea: material comfort does not always guarantee fulfillment. For this couple, true satisfaction lay in embracing uncertainty, cultural richness, and the possibility of growth — even if it meant leaving behind a secure life in one of Europe's most stable nations.

Suryakumar Yadav Reveals Selection Difference With Gautam Gambhir In India's T20 Setup

India's T20 captain Suryakumar Yadav has revealed that he and head coach Gautam Gambhir did not initially agree on one player's inclusion in the national T20 squad, highlighting the honest discussions behind team selection. Despite the difference in opinion, Surya emphasized that the final decision was taken collectively, reflecting a healthy team environment.

Speaking about the selection process, Suryakumar said that debates between captain and coach are natural when building a competitive side. He noted that both he and Gambhir have strong cricketing instincts and want what is best for Team India. While they differed on one particular name, they discussed the options thoroughly before arriving at a consensus.

The Indian skipper stressed that such disagreements are professional rather than personal. According to him, open communication allows the team management to evaluate players from multiple perspectives — current form, role suitability, match conditions, and long-term planning. He added that the coaching staff and selectors ultimately work toward a common goal: creating a balanced squad capable of winning consistently.

Suryakumar also highlighted his positive working relationship with Gambhir, describing it as based on mutual respect and clarity. Since taking over as coach, Gambhir has brought a focused and aggressive mindset to the T20 setup, encourag-



ing players to express themselves while maintaining discipline. Surya said the coach's experience as a former international player has been invaluable in shaping strategies and handling pressure situations.

Importantly, the captain did not disclose the identity of the player over whom the disagreement occurred. However, he indicated that the chosen squad reflects collective thinking rather than individual preferences. The episode, he suggested, demonstrates how decisions

at the highest level of cricket often involve detailed discussions rather than unilateral calls.

Under Suryakumar's leadership, India's T20 team has been transitioning toward a new generation of players following the retirement of several senior stars from the format. The focus has been on building a fearless batting lineup, versatile bowlers, and strong fielding standards to remain competitive in global tournaments.

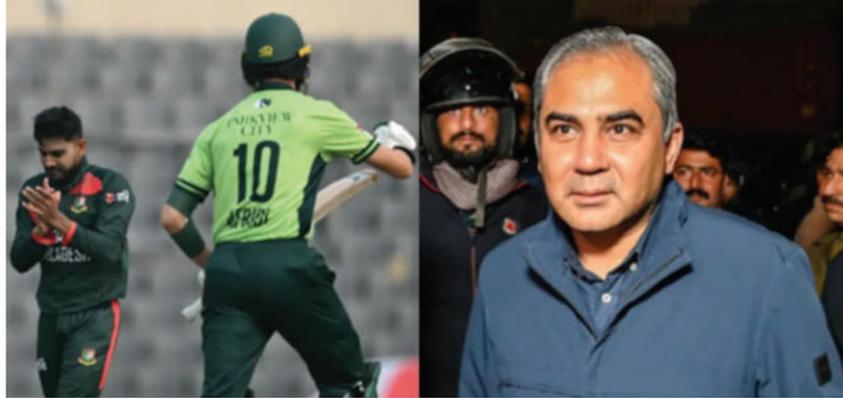
The revelation offers a rare glimpse into the inner work-

ings of team management, showing that even top leaders do not always see eye to eye. Instead, constructive debate appears to be an integral part of shaping a successful side.

Ultimately, Suryakumar's comments reinforce the idea that differences in opinion, when handled professionally, can strengthen rather than weaken a team. By combining diverse viewpoints, India aims to assemble the strongest possible T20 squad as it prepares for upcoming international challenges.

"Will You Steal ICC Trophy Now?"

Ex-Star Tears Into Pakistan After Bangladesh Shock



Pakistan cricket is facing intense criticism after suffering a humiliating ODI series defeat to Bangladesh national cricket team, with former wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal launching a scathing attack on the team and cricket administration.

Pakistan lost the three-match series 2-1, continuing a disappointing run that began with an early exit from the T20 World Cup. The defeat has been widely described as a new low for the team, raising serious questions about its rebuilding process and overall direction.

Akmal did not hold back in his criticism. Taking aim at both the players and the leadership, in-

cluding Pakistan Cricket Board chief Mohsin Naqvi, he delivered a sarcastic remark that quickly went viral. He questioned whether the team would now try to "steal" an ICC trophy since they were unable to win matches on the field, reflecting deep frustration among former players and fans.

The decisive third ODI was closely contested but ultimately ended in heartbreak for Pakistan. Despite a brilliant century from Salman Ali Agha, the team fell short while chasing a competitive target. Agha's dismissal late in the innings triggered a collapse, and Pakistan were eventually bowled out, allowing Bangladesh to clinch

the series.

The loss is particularly damaging because it comes at a time when Pakistan is attempting to rebuild with a relatively new squad. Expectations were high that fresh faces would signal a turnaround after recent disappointments, but the results have instead intensified scrutiny of team selection, strategy, and leadership.

Critics argue that Pakistan's performances have been marked by inconsistency, fragile batting, and a lack of composure under pressure. The inability to close out matches—even when individual players perform well—

has become a recurring theme.

Akmal's comments echo a broader sentiment within Pakistan's cricket community. Many former players have publicly expressed concern that the team is drifting without a clear plan. Some have even warned that Pakistan risks falling behind emerging cricket nations if urgent reforms are not implemented.

The series defeat is also significant because Bangladesh has historically struggled against Pakistan in international cricket. Losing to them in a bilateral series underscores how competitive the global game has become and how far Pakistan's standards may have slipped.

For the Pakistan Cricket Board, the challenge now is to restore confidence among supporters while stabilizing the team ahead of future tournaments. This could involve changes in leadership, improved domestic structures, or a renewed focus on player development.

As criticism continues to mount, the pressure on players and administrators alike is intensifying. Whether Pakistan can regroup and regain its stature in world cricket remains uncertain, but the backlash following this defeat makes one thing clear—patience among fans and former stars is rapidly running out.

"Goal Is To Win The Trophy": RR Star Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Sets Big Target For IPL 2026

Teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has set his sights firmly on team success ahead of IPL 2026, declaring that his primary goal is to help Rajasthan Royals lift the trophy this season.

The young opener, who recently played a key role in India's Under-19 World Cup triumph, shared his ambitions during the BCCI Naman Awards ceremony in New Delhi. While expectations around him are sky-high after his record-breaking performances, Sooryavanshi emphasized that personal milestones are secondary to the franchise's success.

He said his focus is on contributing as much as possible to the team's victories. According to him, strong individual performances matter only if they help Rajasthan Royals win matches and ultimately secure the championship.

Sooryavanshi's rise has been nothing short of extraordinary. At just 14, he has already become the youngest player to debut in the IPL and the youngest centu-



riion in the league's history, announcing himself as one of cricket's most exciting prospects. His fearless batting style and ability to score quickly have made him a key player in RR's plans for the upcoming season.

Despite the hype, the youngster has shown maturity beyond

his years. He stated that he is not concentrating on setting personal records or chasing individual achievements. Instead, he wants to follow the team's process, play his role effectively, and help build winning momentum throughout the tournament.

Interestingly, Sooryavanshi

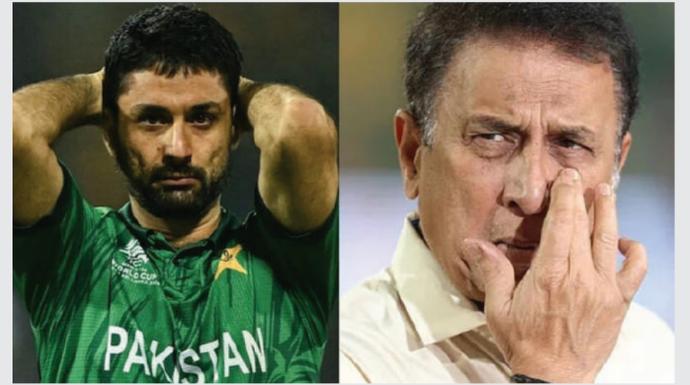
has also expressed a desire to challenge one of the IPL's most iconic records — the highest individual score in the league. However, he reiterated that such achievements would only be meaningful if they contribute to team success.

Rajasthan Royals, champions in the inaugural IPL season, have been eager to reclaim the title after several inconsistent campaigns. With a blend of experienced players and emerging talents like Sooryavanshi, the franchise hopes to mount a serious challenge in IPL 2026.

The youngster's confidence and clarity have impressed fans and experts alike. His approach reflects a team-first mindset rarely seen at such a young age, suggesting he could play a crucial role in RR's campaign.

As the new season approaches, all eyes will be on the teenage prodigy to see whether he can translate promise into match-winning performances. If he succeeds, Rajasthan Royals' long wait for another IPL trophy could finally come to an end.

Gavaskar Slams Abrar Ahmed Deal, Warns Of Fan Boycott For Sunrisers Franchise



Indian cricket legend Sunil Gavaskar has strongly criticized an Indian-owned franchise's decision to sign Pakistani spinner Abrar Ahmed for an overseas league, warning that the move could trigger massive protests and even a fan boycott.

The controversy erupted after Sunrisers Leeds — a team linked to the owners of Sunrisers Hyderabad — signed Abrar during The Hundred auction in England. The franchise reportedly paid a substantial fee for the mystery spinner, making him one of the most talked-about picks. However, the acquisition sparked outrage among sections of Indian fans due to long-standing political tensions between India and Pakistan.

Gavaskar took a firm stand, arguing that Indian entities should refrain from signing Pakistani players. He said that payments made to such players eventually flow into their home country's system, which could indirectly contribute to activities harmful to India. His remarks reflected the deep sensitivities surrounding sporting ties between the two nations, especially after past conflicts.

Pakistan cricketers have not participated in the Indian Premier League since its inaugural season in 2008, following the Mumbai terror attacks later that year. Since then, Indian franchises have generally avoided signing Pakistani players even in overseas competitions. The Sunrisers' decision therefore broke an unwritten pattern, intensifying the backlash.

Gavaskar also warned that fans might express their anger through demonstrations at matches involving the team. He suggested that crowds could stay away from stadiums to show disapproval, potentially hurting the franchise both financially and reputationally. The reaction, he implied, could overshadow on-field performance regardless of how strong the squad is.

The signing has already generated heated debate on social media, with supporters and critics clashing over whether sport should remain separate from politics. Some argue that international leagues are meant to unite players across borders, while others believe national sentiment cannot be ignored.

Meanwhile, cricket authorities in India have clarified that they cannot intervene because The Hundred is an English tournament, not governed by the Indian board. This means the final decision rests with the franchise itself.

Abrar Ahmed, a highly rated T20 bowler, was signed purely for his cricketing abilities, according to team management. Yet the controversy highlights how geopolitical tensions can spill into global sports, turning routine player transfers into national flashpoints.

Ultimately, the episode underscores the complex relationship between sport, politics, and public sentiment in South Asia — where even a single signing can ignite debate far beyond the boundary ropes.

RCB Cleared To Host IPL 2026 Matches At Chinnaswamy Stadium



The Royal Challengers Bengaluru have received official permission to host their home matches of IPL 2026 at the iconic M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, bringing relief to fans after months of uncertainty. The approval was confirmed by the Karnataka State Cricket Association following a detailed review by government authorities.

The clearance comes after a thorough assessment by an expert committee appointed to evaluate the stadium's readiness. Officials examined safety arrangements, infrastructure improvements, emergency response systems, and crowd management plans before granting the final nod. The review was necessary because large-scale events at the venue had been under scrutiny after a tragic stampede during last year's victory celebrations, which resulted in casualties and injuries.

Since that incident, authorities had restricted major gatherings at the stadium until necessary upgrades were completed. Over the past several months, organizers have implemented a series of measures designed to ensure a safer experience for spectators. These include improved entry and exit procedures, better barricading, enhanced surveillance, and stronger coordination between security agencies and event staff.

According to officials, the committee concluded that the venue now meets the required standards to host high-profile sporting events. The approval allows Bengaluru to once again stage IPL matches at its historic cricket

ground, which is widely known for its vibrant atmosphere and batting-friendly pitch.

As per the schedule, the stadium will host five of RCB's seven home league matches this season, while the remaining two fixtures will be played at an alternate venue in Raipur. Among the matches planned in Bengaluru are several marquee encounters, including the tournament opener featuring RCB and Sunrisers Hyderabad. A highly anticipated clash against Chennai Super Kings is also set to take place at the venue.

The return to Chinnaswamy Stadium is a significant boost for both the franchise and its supporters. Playing at home offers RCB a familiar environment and strong crowd backing, which can be crucial in a competitive tournament like the IPL. For fans, it means the revival of the electrifying match-day experience that the stadium is famous for.

Officials emphasized that strict monitoring will continue throughout the tournament to ensure compliance with safety protocols. Authorities and organizers are determined to prevent any repeat of past incidents while delivering a smooth and enjoyable event.

With all permissions secured and preparations in place, IPL cricket is set to return to Bengaluru in full force. The decision marks the restoration of one of the league's most iconic venues and promises packed stands, high energy, and thrilling T20 action for the 2026 season.

Salman Khan's War Drama Gets New Title "Matrubhumi," Sparks Buzz Online



Bollywood superstar Salman Khan has stirred significant discussion on social media after changing the title of his upcoming war drama. The film, which was earlier announced as "Battle of Galwan," will now be released under the new title Matrubhumi.

Salman Khan personally unveiled the new title by sharing a striking poster on social media. In the image, the actor appears intense and battle-worn, with visible injuries and blood stains on his body. He is shown gripping a barbed barricade, as if standing firm to prevent enemies from advancing. The dramatic visual is accompanied by the powerful caption, "Let the war rest in peace," further fueling curiosity about the film's tone and storyline.

Earlier, the makers had announced April 10 as the film's release date. However, the newly released poster does not mention any release date, leaving fans confused and speculating about a possible postponement. The absence of an official update has only added to the buzz surrounding the project.

The film is inspired by the 2020 Galwan Valley clash between Indian and Chinese troops in Ladakh. The confrontation, which occurred in the Galwan Valley region, drew global attention as Indian soldiers displayed extraordinary courage under extreme conditions. The

movie aims to dramatize those events and highlight the bravery and sacrifices of the Indian armed forces.

Directed by Apoorva Lakhia, the film is expected to focus heavily on patriotism and the emotional cost of war. It will portray the determination, heroism, and resilience of soldiers defending the nation's borders. The project is being produced under the banner of Salman Khan Films.

Actress Chitrangda Singh stars opposite Salman Khan, adding further star power to the film. Given the subject matter and the actor's massive fan base, expectations are already high.

The earlier title had reportedly attracted controversy, with criticism emerging from Chinese state-linked media outlets. The change to "Matrubhumi," which translates to "Motherland," appears to shift the focus more toward patriotic sentiment rather than a specific historical confrontation.

Overall, the film has generated strong audience interest well ahead of its release. The title change, the intense first poster, and the missing release date have all contributed to heightened anticipation. As discussions continue online, fans are eagerly waiting for an official announcement about when this high-profile war drama will finally hit theatres.

Sai Pallavi To Play Madhubala? Buzz Around Biopic Of Legendary Star Gains Momentum



Acclaimed South Indian actress Sai Pallavi, known for her natural performances and minimal reliance on glamour, is once again in the spotlight amid reports that she may portray legendary actress Madhubala in an upcoming biographical film. The news has sparked excitement across film circles, though no official confirmation has been made yet.

Sai Pallavi has built a strong reputation in the South Indian film industry through her expressive acting and relatable screen presence. Over the years, she has expanded her popularity beyond regional cinema, establishing herself as a pan-India star. She has also begun making inroads into Bollywood, appearing in projects alongside prominent actors. She reportedly worked in the film "Ek Din" opposite Aamir Khan's son, and is also part of the ambitious epic Ramayana starring Ranbir Kapoor.

Her recent Telugu release Thandel performed well, further strengthening her position as one of the most sought-after actresses in the country. With multiple offers coming from Hindi cinema as well, her career trajectory continues to rise.

According to industry buzz, a grand biopic based on Madhubala's life is currently in development. Widely regarded as one of the most beautiful and talented actresses in Indian cinema history, Madhubala's life story — marked by immense success as well as personal struggles — offers rich cinematic material.

Reports suggest that Sai Pallavi has been approached to portray the iconic star on screen.

The project is said to be planned by celebrated filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali, known for his visually spectacular films and emotionally powerful storytelling. His past blockbusters include Padmaavat and Gangubai Kathiawadi, both noted for grand production values and strong performances.

Earlier, names like Kiara Advani and rising star Aneet Padda were reportedly considered for the role. However, insiders claim that Bhansali believes Sai Pallavi's grace, innocence, and natural acting style make her particularly suited to capture Madhubala's charm and emotional depth.

Interestingly, Sai Pallavi had once stated in an interview that she was not keen on acting in biopics, regardless of how big the project might be. This has created uncertainty about whether she will accept the offer if it is formally made.

While an official announcement is still awaited, fans are already enthusiastic about the possibility. Many believe that an actress of Sai Pallavi's calibre portraying a timeless icon like Madhubala could result in a truly special film.

For now, all eyes remain on whether Sai Pallavi will give her nod to what could become one of the most anticipated biographical films in Indian cinema.

Pawan Kalyan Shares Candid Views On Movie Ticket Price Hike Ahead Of "Ustaad Bhagat Singh" Release

Actor-politician Pawan Kalyan has voiced his clear opinion on the ongoing debate over rising cinema ticket prices during the pre-release event of his upcoming film Ustaad Bhagat Singh. The movie is set for a grand theatrical release on March 19 as a Ugadi festive special, and anticipation among fans is already high.

Speaking at the event, Pawan Kalyan emphasized the cultural importance of cinema in India. He described entertainment as the "soul of the nation," stating that films are deeply woven into the country's culture and everyday life. According to him, neither Telugu audiences nor Indian viewers as a whole can be separated from cinema, as it remains one of the most powerful and accessible forms of mass entertainment.

Addressing criticism over increasing ticket prices, the star pointed out that watching a film in theatres is not compulsory. He stressed that it is entirely the audience's choice whether to watch a movie or not. No one is being forced to visit theatres, he said, adding that viewers today have multiple options. They can either enjoy the cinematic experience on the big screen or wait to watch the film later on digital streaming platforms.

Pawan Kalyan also highlighted the financial realities of filmmaking. Large-scale productions require enormous investment



from producers, he noted, which is why they sometimes request a moderate increase in ticket prices. He insisted that such hikes should not be viewed as exploitation of audiences but rather as a necessity to sustain big-budget cinema. Having worked in the industry for decades, he said he understands the effort and risk involved in mounting large projects.

He further explained that higher ticket prices also benefit

the government through tax revenue. Approximately 18 percent of every ticket goes to the government as GST, he said. If official prices remain low, it could encourage black-market sales, where tickets are sold illegally at inflated rates and the extra money goes to middlemen instead of public revenue.

The actor also addressed industry dynamics, clarifying that he harbors no jealousy toward the success of other stars. He

said he genuinely wishes for everyone to succeed and urged the entire film fraternity to support each other's releases. According to him, the growth of the film industry depends on unity among producers, actors, governments, and audiences alike.

Pawan Kalyan's remarks have since gone viral on social media, sparking fresh discussion about ticket pricing, audience choice, and the economics of big-budget filmmaking in India.

March Second Half Set For Box Office Fireworks With Major Pan-India Releases

The summer season has always been a crucial period for the Telugu film industry, as family audiences flock to theatres during holidays. Producers and stars often target this window for releasing their biggest films, hoping to capitalize on the surge in footfall. While January witnessed a few major releases that energized the box office, February remained relatively quiet. Now, all eyes are on March, especially its second half, which is shaping up to deliver a wave of high-profile films across languages.

The early weeks of March saw mostly small and medium-budget movies hitting screens. However, the latter half of the month is dominated by big-ticket pan-India projects expected to reignite theatrical business. One of the most anticipated releases is Toxic, starring Kannada superstar Yash. Directed by Geetu Mohandas, the action drama reportedly revolves around the dark world of the drug mafia. Industry insiders suggest the film will feature grand visuals, intense action, and a gripping narrative, contributing to the massive expectations surrounding it nationwide.

Adding to the excitement, Bol-



lywood actor Ranveer Singh will also arrive on the same day with his spy thriller sequel Dhurandhar 2. Directed by Aditya Dhar, the film promises high-octane action sequences and a fast-paced storyline typical of the espionage genre. With two large-scale films releasing simultaneously, trade analysts predict a fierce box office clash that could dominate headlines and drive audience interest.

The excitement does not end

there. On March 26, Telugu cinema's "Power Star" Pawan Kalyan will return to the big screen with Ustaad Bhagat Singh. The film is directed by Harish Shankar, marking their reunion after the blockbuster Gabbar Singh, which remains one of the biggest hits of Kalyan's career. Fans are eagerly awaiting this collaboration, expecting a mass entertainer packed with action, drama, and powerful dialogues. Trade experts believe that the

arrival of these major releases could inject fresh energy into the box office after a sluggish period. With multiple big stars, diverse genres, and pan-India appeal, the latter half of March has the potential to draw large crowds back to theatres.

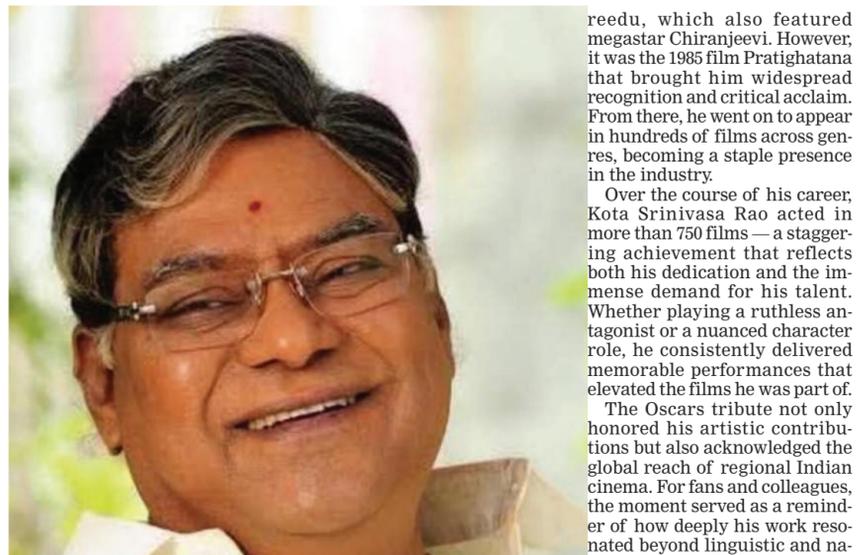
If audience response matches the pre-release hype, the month could mark a strong start to the summer season, setting the tone for the blockbuster months ahead.

Oscars Pay Emotional Tribute To Veteran Actor Kota Srinivasa Rao

The Academy Awards ceremony, regarded as the most prestigious event in global cinema, witnessed a deeply emotional moment this year as the Academy paid tribute to legendary film personalities who passed away in the previous year. As part of its traditional "In Memoriam" segment, the Oscars honored artists from across the world, remembering their invaluable contributions to the film industry.

Among the names featured was iconic Telugu actor Kota Srinivasa Rao, a towering figure in Indian cinema. His inclusion alongside international legends made the moment especially significant for Indian audiences, who expressed pride and emotion at seeing one of their own recognized on such a global platform. The tribute list also included several other prominent Indian personalities, highlighting the global impact of Indian cinema.

Kota Srinivasa Rao was widely regarded as one of the finest character actors in Telugu films. With a career spanning more than four decades, he became synonymous with versatility, effortlessly portraying villains, comic roles, and powerful sup-



porting characters. His distinctive voice, expressive acting, and commanding screen presence earned him immense respect from both audiences and filmmakers.

The veteran actor passed away on July 13, 2025, in Hyderabad

due to age-related health issues. He was 83 years old at the time of his death. His passing marked the end of an era for Telugu cinema, leaving behind a legacy that few actors can match.

Kota began his film journey with the movie Pranam Kha-

redu, which also featured megastar Chiranjeevi. However, it was the 1985 film Pratigatana that brought him widespread recognition and critical acclaim. From there, he went on to appear in hundreds of films across genres, becoming a staple presence in the industry.

Over the course of his career, Kota Srinivasa Rao acted in more than 750 films — a staggering achievement that reflects both his dedication and the immense demand for his talent. Whether playing a ruthless antagonist or a nuanced character role, he consistently delivered memorable performances that elevated the films he was part of.

The Oscars tribute not only honored his artistic contributions but also acknowledged the global reach of regional Indian cinema. For fans and colleagues, the moment served as a reminder of how deeply his work resonated beyond linguistic and national boundaries.

For many Indians, seeing Kota Srinivasa Rao remembered on the Oscars stage was a proud and poignant moment — a fitting farewell to a legendary actor whose performances will continue to live on in the hearts of audiences for generations.