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Telangana Fine Rice Distribution Hits Black Market Hard, Says CM Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on Monday credited the state's expanded fine rice distribution programme for significantly curbing black market activities that once flourished around subsidised foodgrain supplies. Speaking to reporters in Hyderabad, he said the success of the scheme marked a milestone in food security efforts and reinforced the government's commitment to welfare measures for millions of residents.

Chief Minister Reddy said the drive to supply fine rice through the public distribution system (PDS) has reduced illegal diversion of grain and effectively weakened "the black market mafia". He attributed this outcome to vigilant oversight by the Civil Supplies Department, led by Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, and concerted efforts at the district and field levels.

"Today marks the completion of a year of distribution of rice," Reddy said, outlining plans to broaden social welfare initiatives by focusing on qual-



ity education and nutritious food for students going forward.

The Chief Minister highlighted that Telangana's approach is aimed not only at ensuring food for the poor, but also at supporting farmers by encouraging them to diversify into commercial crops and

adopt crop rotation practices. He stressed that farmers are often at the mercy of middlemen who exploit their produce, a gap the government is trying to bridge with supportive policies such as the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Act.

The fine rice distribution programme traces its roots to

earlier initiatives designed to offer subsidised rice to the vulnerable. Telangana's current administration has sustained and scaled the initiative.

Over the past year, approximately 3.39 crore people — about 86 per cent of the state's population — have benefited from the scheme, receiving high quality rice directly through ration shops. Beyond improving access to food, the government has offered farmers a bonus of 500 per quintal to incentivise the cultivation of fine rice varieties, aiming to increase production and reduce dependence on coarse grains that were more commonly diverted into informal markets. Officials say the elimination of loopholes in the distribution system has not only helped consumers but also tightened the supply chain, preventing unscrupulous operators from converting or selling subsidised coarse rice as premium grade. As Telangana prepares to build on this momentum, Reddy's administration is expected to integrate these food security gains with broader agricultural and social welfare strategies in the months ahead.



Uttam Kumar Reddy Pushes Telangana to Expand Public Transport Amid LPG Shortage

Hyderabad, 30-03-2026 | TPN Bureau

In response to the ongoing LPG shortage affecting gas-based vehicles, Telangana Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy announced plans to expand public transport services as an alternative for commuters. The Minister emphasized the need for government-owned oil companies to step up supply to mitigate the crisis.

On Monday evening, Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy held an emergency review meeting at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat, Hyderabad, with civil supplies officials and representatives from major LPG suppliers, including IOCL, HPCL, GOGAS, and international companies like Total Energies, Super Gas, and Prem Gas.

The meeting highlighted that auto-rickshaws and other LPG-powered vehicles require around 202 metric tonnes of gas daily, but only 147 metric tonnes are currently available due to delays in imports and international supply disruptions, creating a shortfall of 55 metric tonnes. Private companies supply roughly 75% of the LPG for vehicles, while government enterprises maintain the remaining 25-30%

supply.

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy directed that a letter be sent to the Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri requesting an increase in LPG supply, particularly through government-owned channels like IOCL and HPCL. He also suggested engaging with auto associations to transparently communicate the current situation and coordinate alternative arrangements.

The shortage has been exacerbated by delays in import shipments and global geopolitical tensions, while some private companies are exploring alternative international sources. In Hyderabad, out of 143 LPG outlets, 23 are currently non-operational, including 17 along the city's Inner Ring Road. Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy reiterated that expanding public transport and strengthening government supply chains are crucial interim measures to manage commuter needs amid the LPG crisis.

This proactive approach aims to ensure uninterrupted mobility for the public while addressing supply bottlenecks caused by international factors and private sector limitations.

CAG Report Exposes Congress Mismanagement, Strengthens BRS Case

Hyderabad, 30-03-2026 | TPN Bureau

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has delivered a scathing assessment of the Congress government's financial management, highlighting severe shortcomings and validating concerns raised by the BRS. Former minister and Deputy Floor Leader Harish Rao described the report as a wake-up call, emphasizing that it exposes unrealistic budgeting, fiscal indiscipline, and misallocation of resources under the two-year, three-month Congress administration.

The CAG report for the 2024-25 fiscal year revealed glaring discrepancies between budget estimates and actuals. Of the budgeted 2,21,242 crore, only 1,67,804 crore was realized, achieving just 76% of projected revenue. Similarly, revenue expenditure estimates of 2,20,945 crore were met with



actual spending of 1,77,224 crore—approximately 80% of the planned outlay. The report highlighted widespread inefficiency in executing social welfare and irrigation schemes, with funds allocated but large-

ly unspent.

Harish Rao pointed out that despite borrowing substantial amounts, the Congress government failed to convert loans into assets, leading to record-level revenue deficits. The

state's revenue position went from a surplus of 779 crore in 2023-24 under the BRS to a deficit of 9,420 crore in 2024-25. He criticized the government for undermining Telangana's fiscal foundations through poor planning and policy missteps, affecting key sectors like business, real estate, and industry, which caused declines in GST, excise, stamp duty, and vehicle tax revenues. The report also exposed underperformance in social welfare initiatives. Of 25,971 crore allocated for SC, ST, and BC welfare programs, only 9,721 crore—just 37%—was spent. CAG findings made it clear that despite political promises, funds were not effectively deployed to support marginalized communities. Harish Rao emphasized that the Congress government's fiscal mismanagement extended to infrastructure and capital projects, citing failures in Palamuru-Rangareddy, Kaleshwaram, Hyderabad Metro water supply,

Mission Bhagiratha, and Swachh Bharat Mission allocations, which remained underutilized despite significant borrowings.

The CAG report also questioned the government's ambitious claims of transforming Telangana into a trillion-dollar economy by 2034, pointing out that the achieved 9% GSDP growth rate makes such projections unrealistic.

Concluding, Harish Rao urged policymakers to abandon politically motivated, vindictive decisions and focus on disciplined governance. "The CAG report is a warning—strengthen the state's fiscal foundations, prioritize the public interest, and ensure resources reach those who need them most," he said.

This report strengthens the BRS argument for disciplined, transparent, and results-driven governance while exposing the failures of the Congress administration in Telangana.



KTR Flags 'Hate Speech' Bill as Threat to Democratic Freedoms

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K. T. Rama Rao has strongly criticized the state government's proposed Telangana Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, calling it a "cruel weapon" intended to curb citizens' freedoms. In a statement released Monday, KTR alleged that the government is using the legislation to silence critics and curb dissenting voices.

Threat to Constitutional Values

KTR expressed serious concern that the Bill, if enacted, could undermine constitutionally guaranteed freedom of expression and core democratic principles. While maintaining social harmony is the government's responsibility, he argued that the provisions in the Bill are vaguely drafted. "The enforcement machinery appears designed to give more importance to officials' personal interpretations than to objective evidence. This will inevitably lead to misuse," he warned.

Vague Language Could Criminalize Criticism

The BRS leader highlighted that terms such as "promoting hostile sentiments" and "damaging social cohesion" in the Bill lack clear legal boundaries. KTR alleged that this language seems targeted at opposition leaders, journalists, and social activists who hold the government accountable. Citizens who question policies or raise concerns could potentially be labeled as spreading "fake news" and face imprisonment, he cautioned.

Contradiction with Supreme Court Precedents

KTR referred to the landmark Supreme Court judgment in Shreya Singhal vs Union of India, which clarified that only speech directly inciting violence should be punishable, while criticism, satire, and dissent are constitutionally protected. He warned that extending restrictions beyond this threshold would violate Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution and set a dangerous precedent for free expression.

Concerns Over Severe Punishments

The Bill proposes imprisonment ranging from seven to ten years, which KTR argued could instill fear among citizens. "Journalists, students, and ordinary people may hesitate to share opinions or raise issues," he said. "Existing laws already address hate speech. Introducing this additional law serves no public interest and instead risks creating a climate of intimidation."

Call for Immediate Review

KTR demanded that the government immediately review the Bill, revise vague provisions, and ensure that democratic values are respected. He emphasized that legislation should protect social harmony without suppressing dissent, criticism, or legitimate public discourse. The BRS leader also urged lawmakers and civil society to carefully examine the implications of the Bill and advocate for safeguards to prevent misuse. KTR concluded by asserting that a democracy thrives when citizens can freely express opinions, challenge authority, and debate policies without fear of repression. He called on the government to balance public safety with constitutional freedoms and refrain from creating laws that could stifle public dialogue.

Union Minister CR Patil Blasts Kaleshwaram Project as 1 Lakh Crore Public Funds "Wasted"

New Delhi, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

NEW DELHI — Senior Union Minister C.R. Patil on Monday delivered a stinging critique of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP), alleging that nearly 1 lakh crore of public money has been wasted in the name of the ambitious irrigation scheme. Patil's remarks came during a debate in the Rajya Sabha, where he sharply questioned the project's planning, execution and value for money.

Addressing fellow parliamentarians, Patil asserted that the root cause of the project's failure lies in a lack of proper planning and significant design flaws. He said that because of these fundamental weaknesses, the project has failed to deliver the benefits originally envisaged for Telangana's farmers and rural communities. The minister also noted that a central review team is currently examining various aspects of the project's implementation to understand where funds were lost and what corrective measures might be taken.



Without naming specific political adversaries, Patil's comments carried clear political undertones, given that the Kaleshwaram project was championed by previous state governments and widely promoted as a transformative irrigation initiative. He emphasized that the sheer scale of expenditure — running into tens of thousands of crores —

demands accountability and transparency from all stakeholders involved.

Patil also criticised the utilisation of funds under the Jal Jeevan Mission for Telangana. He claimed that the state government has shown "negligence" in its use of central funds earmarked for providing safe drinking water under the mission, saying proposals from

the state have been lacking for the last three years. According to the minister, of the 873 crore allocated to Telangana under the programme, only 194 crore has actually been utilised so far, leaving significant amounts unspent and communities underserved.

The Union Minister's interventions come at a time when scrutiny of major irrigation

and water resource projects have intensified across political lines. The Kaleshwaram project, often described as one of the largest multi state lift irrigation schemes in the world, has previously attracted criticism for cost overruns, environmental concerns and questions about its economic viability.

In defence of initiatives like Kaleshwaram, state leaders have countered that the project is vital for expanding irrigation coverage and boosting agricultural productivity across drought prone regions. They have also highlighted that large infrastructure projects routinely face initial financial and technical challenges before yielding long term benefits.

Patil's statements in the upper house mark the latest escalation in national level debates over project accountability, public expenditure and infrastructure planning. Members across parties are expected to continue discussions on the matter in the coming sessions of Parliament, underscoring the political and policy implications of such high profile development programmes.

Telangana’s Mahalakshmi Free Bus Scheme Helps Women Save Rs.10,000 Crore

Hyderabad, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

HYDERABAD — Telangana’s flagship Mahalakshmi Free Bus Travel Scheme has reached a major milestone, enabling women across the state to save an estimated Rs. 10,000 crore in travel expenses since its launch. The initiative has allowed women to take more than 290 crore free bus journeys over nearly 28 months, significantly impacting daily life and enhancing economic independence for female commuters.

Under the scheme, women travelling in non luxury buses operated by the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) are eligible for free travel across the state with no limits on distance or the number of trips. Many women, especially from middle and lower income households, previously spent between Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 2,500 per month on commuting, savings that have now been redirected to families’ budgets and personal needs.

The programme has led to a



marked increase in female ridership. Women’s share of passengers on TSRTC services has risen from about 40 per cent before the scheme to more than 67 per cent currently, with roughly 35 lakh women commuting daily under the pro-

gramme. Transport authorities say this demonstrates the scheme’s popularity and its role in advancing women’s mobility and financial security.

State Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar highlighted that the government contin-

ues to reimburse TSRTC for the cost of free tickets, ensuring smooth operations while maintaining service quality, including staff salaries and bus maintenance. Plans are also underway to introduce chip based smart cards to sim-

plify access and eliminate the need to show Aadhaar cards for every journey.

Officials note that increased mobility has expanded economic opportunities for women, facilitating easier travel for work, education, healthcare, and community engagement. The scheme now operates across a large proportion of district and city bus services, reflecting efforts to make public transport a reliable tool for empowerment and inclusive development.

While the programme represents a substantial financial commitment from the state, policymakers emphasize that the long-term social and economic benefits outweigh the cost. By removing transport barriers, the Mahalakshmi scheme improves women’s participation in the workforce and access to essential services, contributing to broader gender equality objectives in Telangana. The state government plans to continue expanding service coverage and ease of use, reinforcing its commitment to women’s welfare and equitable growth across Telangana.



Sridhar Babu Slams BRS Over Disruptions in Council

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

TELANGANA Minister Duddu Sridhar Babu launched a strong attack on members of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) in the Legislative Council, condemning their conduct and accusing them of undermining democratic norms.

Addressing the House, the Minister emphasized that every member bears the responsibility of cooperating with the Hon’ble Chairman to ensure the smooth functioning of proceedings. He stated that attempting to dictate the Chair is inappropriate and goes against parliamentary decorum.

Sridhar Babu expressed deep concern over what he described as the “undemocratic behavior” of BRS members, cautioning that the public is closely observing the actions of elected representatives. “People are watching every move we make in this House,” he remarked, urging members to uphold dignity and accountability.

Highlighting the significance of the Legislative Council as a “Council of Elders,” he stressed that it demands maturity, responsibility, and constructive debate. He criticized disruptions carried out for political gains, stating that such actions do not reflect the values expected in a respected institution.

The Minister assured the House that the government is fully prepared to answer all questions transparently and is committed to maintaining accountability in governance. Referring to allegations surrounding mining irregularities, he noted that the government has already ordered an inquiry by the Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department (CBCID) into issues dating back to 2014.

He further accused BRS members of politicizing the matter by demanding a House Committee despite the ongoing investigation. According to him, such moves are unnecessary and intended to create confusion rather than seek truth.

Sridhar Babu also pointed out that during its tenure between 2014 and 2018, the BRS government itself constituted three House Committees on similar matters. However, he alleged that those committees failed to function effectively, with no proper meetings conducted and no reports made public.

Calling the opposition’s stance ironic, the Minister questioned how a party that governed the state for a decade now claims to have no faith in the CBCID. He urged members to act responsibly and contribute to meaningful discussions instead of resorting to disruptions.



Kerala Needs Change, Vote for Congress: Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy

Hyderabad, 29-03-2026 | TPN Bureau

TELANGANA Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy urged the people of Kerala to vote for the United Democratic Front (UDF) to bring about a political change in the state. Addressing a public meeting, he said, “The ten-year LDF government has failed the people with corruption, lack of development, and poor governance. To ensure progress, welfare, and transparency, the UDF must win with a decisive majority.”

The meeting took place on Monday at the KSRTC Junction in Adur and Arunmula constituencies of Pattanam-titta district, Kerala. The event saw the participation of AICC leader and Lok Sabha opposition leader Rahul Gandhi, alongside Minister Srinivas Reddy, who addressed the crowd on the pressing need for political change. He emphasized that the upcoming elections are not merely about replacing a government but shaping Kerala’s future. “The people must take the right decision, remove the LDF government, and establish a UDF administration that will work for public welfare,” he said.

Minister Srinivas Reddy sharply criticized the LDF government for its decade-long tenure. “For ten years, the government has failed to create employment opportunities for the youth and attract investments. Welfare measures exist only on paper and are limited

to publicity stunts. People-centered development has been neglected, and divisive politics has harmed social harmony. The BJP has no place in Kerala due to its divisive agenda, and the UDF remains the only credible alternative,” he added.

Citing Telangana as an example, the minister highlighted Congress-led initiatives that successfully implemented welfare schemes with transparency and efficiency. “The nation has witnessed how we fulfill the promises made to the people. Similarly, in Kerala, only a Congress-led government can bring accountable governance that benefits all sections of society,” he stated.

He called on the people of Kerala to reject corruption and divisive politics and vote decisively for development-oriented governance. “Elections provide the citizens the power to secure their future. By voting for the UDF, the people of Kerala can ensure growth, employment, and transparency while ending the long-standing failures of the LDF,” he urged.

The public gathering also stressed unity among Congress supporters in the state, encouraging citizens to participate actively in the electoral process to ensure that the next government prioritizes welfare, transparency, and inclusive development over partisan interests. Minister Srinivas Reddy concluded by reaffirming Congress’s commitment to serving the people and ensuring that their aspirations for progress and good governance are met through effective administration.

Ponnam Prabhakar on the Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2026

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

TELANGANA has always stood as a beacon of Ganga-Jamuni culture, where diverse religions and communities coexist harmoniously. However, in recent years, incidents of hate speech and hate crimes have been on the rise.

Many of these incidents are amplified through digital and social media platforms, spreading at lightning speed and posing a serious threat to public peace and social harmony. Hate speech and hate crimes often promote enmity and discord based on religion, caste, race, language, or gender. Such acts undermine the fundamental constitutional values of equality, dignity, and fraternity that every citizen cherishes.

According to Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, the existing legal framework is inadequate to address the evolving nature and forms of hate speech and hate crimes. He emphasized the need for a robust, specialized law to prevent, control, and punish such acts while ensuring protection and compensation for victims.

The Bill seeks to create a dedicated mechanism to prevent and penalize hate-motivated actions. Its key objectives include:

- Preventing, restricting, and stopping the spread, publication, and promotion of hate speech by any individual, group, or organization.
- Ensuring strict deterrent punishments for those attempting to divide society,



demonstrating the full force of the law.

- Recognizing the physical and psychological harm caused by hate speech and providing appropriate compensation to victims.

Under Section 2, the government provides a comprehensive definition of “hate speech,” encompassing words, symbols, or electronic communications intended to cause harm or incite hatred. The law identifies bias based on religion, caste, gender, sexual orientation, birthplace, or language.

The punishment framework is designed to be a strong deterrent: all offenses under this law are cognizable and non-bailable. Section 6 empowers designated authorities to order im-

mediate blocking or removal of materials related to hate crimes. Furthermore, executive magistrates are authorized to take preventive measures against repeat offenders who threaten public peace.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized that the government respects democratic values, and this Bill is not just a law—it is a shield for the vulnerable and a strong message to those who spread hate. He urged all legislators, beyond party lines, to support the Bill to safeguard Telangana’s peace and ensure a harmonious future for the coming generations. Telangana will not tolerate hate speech; this legislation is a step toward securing justice, harmony, and social cohesion in the state.

TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy Advocates Health Awareness at Free Medical Camp in Sangareddy

Sangareddy, March 30 | TPN Bureau

TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy inaugurated a large-scale free medical camp in Ward 15 of Sangareddy town, emphasizing the importance of health awareness and preventive care for all citizens. The camp was held at Rajampet Bhavani Mandir under the guidance of Councillor Sushmita Prashanth, with support from Maheshwar Medical College, marking a significant step in bringing accessible healthcare services to local communities. Addressing the gathering, Nirmala Jaggareddy highlighted the importance of taking proactive measures to maintain good health. She urged citizens to make use of such initiatives, especially free health services, to monitor their well-being regularly. She emphasized that early detection of health issues and preventive care are key factors in building a healthier community. The mega health camp offered comprehensive medical examinations for attendees, including general health check-ups, blood pressure monitoring, diabetes screening, and other essential tests. Doctors and medical staff conducted consultations for individuals with specific health concerns and distributed necessary medicines free of cost. The camp witnessed a large turnout of local residents, reflecting the community’s strong interest in utilizing these health services. Municipal Chairperson Koon Vanitha Santosh, along with councillors Sangeeta Mahesh, Veena Kiran, Vamsi, Srikanth Goud, Satish Reddy, and other local leaders, including Koon Santosh, Mahesh Mudiraj, Kasini Raju, Rajampet Srinu,



Arif, and Shanti Kumar, actively participated in the program. Their presence highlighted the collaborative effort between local authorities, political leaders, and medical institutions in promoting public health. Medical staff from Maheshwar Medical College played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth operation of the camp, conducting examinations, providing guidance, and educating residents about healthy lifestyle practices. The initiative also served as a platform for disseminating information on hygiene, nutrition, and preventive healthcare measures, particularly for families who may have limited access to regular medical services. Chairperson Jaggareddy concluded by stressing that health is one of the most valuable assets of individuals and communities. She encouraged citizens to remain proactive, attend similar programs, and adopt healthy habits in daily life. The camp reflects the government and TGIIC’s commitment to strengthening community health infrastructure, ensuring accessible medical care, and fostering awareness about preventive healthcare practices in Sangareddy. This initiative stands as a testament to the importance of community-driven health programs and the efforts of public leaders in prioritizing citizen well-being, making healthcare accessible and reliable for all segments of society.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Highlights CM Revanth Reddy’s Initiative on Sanna Rice Distribution

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

TELANGANA Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy praised Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for his initiative to provide Sanna Rice to the state’s poor, calling the program a significant step toward ensuring food security for all. He emphasized that the credit for the innovative policy entirely belongs to the CM.

The government is reportedly spending 14,560 crore annually on the Sanna Rice program, aimed at providing nutritious meals to the economically weaker sections. Minister Reddy stated that the initiative reflects the government’s focus on maximizing



public welfare and ensuring that all citizens receive the food they need.

“The intention is simple: provide the food that people actually consume and ensure no one goes hungry,” he said. Cur-

rently, 86% of the state’s population benefits from the Sanna Rice program. He also noted that the scheme aligns with the principles of the Food Security Act introduced by Sonia Gandhi, ensuring justice and sup-

port to Telangana’s poor.

Minister Reddy highlighted the government’s efforts to directly transfer funds into farmers’ accounts, stating that so far, 40,000 crore has been credited to farmers under this program. In the case of Dhanayankonda, payments reach farmers’ accounts within 48 hours, ensuring timely support and minimal delays.

He also emphasized that ration cards are being distributed strictly based on need, avoiding political favoritism. To date, over 3.39 crore people have received Sanna Rice under the program, and every eligible person is provided a ration card to access benefits.

“The government’s priority is to extend maximum assis-

tance to the poor and ensure that no one is left out. This is a welfare initiative beyond politics,” Uttam Kumar Reddy said. He added that the Sanna Rice program not only supports low-income families but also strengthens the state’s commitment to food security and social equity.

Minister Reddy urged citizens to take full advantage of the scheme and praised the administrative machinery for ensuring smooth distribution and timely payments. The initiative reflects the government’s ongoing commitment to addressing hunger, supporting farmers, and improving the quality of life for the economically weaker sections of Telangana.



Heavy Police Deployment at KTR Residence Ahead of BRS MLAs' Visit to Vattinagulapally

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Tension mounted near the residence of K. T. Rama Rao as heavy police deployment was arranged following recent political developments. The security measures come a day after several BRS legislators were suspended from the Assembly,

raising political sensitivities in the state. KTR, along with senior leader T. Harish Rao, held a meeting with party MLAs at his residence to discuss the current situation and plan the party's next steps. After the meeting, a team of Bharat Rashtra Samithi MLAs, led by KTR and Harish Rao, departed for Vattinagulapally. The visit

is aimed at meeting people allegedly affected by land grabbing linked to the son of a state minister. The BRS leaders plan to interact with the victims, inspect the lands reportedly under illegal occupation, and extend support to those affected. They emphasized that assisting the victims and highlighting the issue remains their top priority.

The departure of the BRS MLAs' team from KTR's residence was closely monitored by the police due to the heightened political sensitivity surrounding the matter. Political observers note that this visit and the heavy security presence underscore the ongoing tensions between the ruling government and the opposition BRS in Telangana.

Raghava Constructions Refutes Allegations of Illegal Mining in Shamshabad

Hyderabad, 30-03-2026 | TPN Bureau

Raghava Constructions (India) Private Limited has strongly denied recent allegations made in the Telangana Assembly regarding illegal crusher operations and non-payment of royalty at Kotwalguda village, Shamshabad Mandal, Rangareddy district. The company clarified that it has always adhered to legal procedures and has no direct involvement in any unauthorized mining or crushing activities. According to the company, no official notices were received by Raghava Constructions or its authorized representatives from the Mines & Geology Department prior to the Assembly discussion. The crusher in question has been operated under lease by Tirumala Metal Industries since 12 November 2024, and all crushing operations are carried out by them. The electricity connection (USC No. 115228152) is registered under the name of Tirumala Metal Industries owner P. Mallikarjuna Kumar for non-domestic use. Raghava Constructions further clarified that it only procures crushed stone aggregates from Tirumala Metal Industries for road works assigned by HRDCL under a 27 September 2024 agreement. As per HRDCL instructions dated 8 January 2025, the company calculated and remitted the required royalty amount of 2.75 crore to the Mines & Geology Department on 8 December

2025. Therefore, the company has fully complied with all financial obligations, and any royalty payment related to stock at the crusher is the responsibility of Tirumala Metal Industries, not Raghava Constructions. The company emphasized that allegations made in the Assembly regarding show-cause notices and communications to the Pollution Control Board are misleading. Raghava Constructions is not involved in mining or crushing at Kotwalguda, and the notices, if any, were never received by the company. The company regards these actions as unnecessary and damaging to its reputation, especially after full compliance with HRDCL agreements and payments. Directors of Raghava Constructions—Ponguleti Prasad Reddy (Managing Director) and D. Niranjan Reddy (Director)—have no personal or familial involvement in the company's operations, and the company urged authorities to withdraw the notices issued without proper verification of facts. In conclusion, Raghava Constructions requested that all authorities consider the actual operations, agreements, and payments before taking further action, highlighting that the company has operated transparently and lawfully at all times.

Vattinagulapalli Land Dispute: Owners Reject Political Interference

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

The ongoing land dispute at Vattinagulapalli, Survey Numbers 245, 259, and 262, has once again sparked controversy, but the landowners have firmly stated that it is strictly a family matter and should not be politicized. At a press conference held at Somajiguda Press Club, the landowners clarified that Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy or his family has no involvement in the matter, and no development agreement has been signed with Raghava Constructions. **Family Issue, Not Politics** The landowners—Avinav Shah, Akshay Shah, and Sudheer Kumar Shah—emphasized that the dispute concerns the division of land within the family and has nothing to do with politicians. They raised concerns over political leaders, including K. T. Rama Rao and Harish Rao, allegedly taking sides and making accusations without hearing both parties. Avinav Shah stated that he has been conducting land surveys since 2020, following High Court orders for subdivision and demarcation. He clarified that the issue pertains to only a three-acre parcel and requested a fair survey to allocate land correctly according to legal entitlement. He also dismissed claims of threats or illegal constructions attributed to his family. Akshay Shah stressed the need for impartial survey processes and reiterated that this



is purely a family dispute. He questioned why political interference was necessary, highlighting that a proper survey and boundary clarification would resolve the issue. Sudheer Kumar Shah added that the land has been with the family since 1969 and minor discrepancies in past allocations are natural. He insisted that once the boundaries are correctly demarcated through satellite or survey methods, the dispute would end, and the land can be handed over to developers. **Developer Clarifies Role** Siddharth Glade, Managing Partner of NuGen Developers, stated that their company is only involved as a developer for the land provided by the owners. He emphasized that they have no connection to the family dispute, and the involvement of political figures like Ponguleti Harsh or Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy for political gain has caused unnecessary difficulties for the company, affecting both employees and partners. Gade clarified that NuGen Developers alone holds the project contract, not Raghava Constructions, and that all claims of purchasing land at undervalued rates are part of a misrepresentation. The landowners collectively urged political leaders to refrain from one-sided narratives and allow legal and survey processes to determine the rightful ownership. They stressed that the matter should be resolved through lawful means rather than political posturing, as the family is prepared to present all evidence to substantiate their claims.

Balka Suman Slams Congress Over Gurukul Student Deaths and Governance Failures

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Former MLA Balka Suman held a press conference at Telangana Bhavan to strongly criticize the Congress government, highlighting governance failures and the deaths of students in Gurukul schools across the state. He pointed out that the Congress government has entered its third year without completing two full years of administration, and during this period, 128 Gurukul students have died. Suman described these deaths as "murders by negligence," referencing the suicide of a student named Shri Vinu at Chennur Gurukul. He alleged that opposition leaders were blocked from meeting the bereaved family and claimed the government's indifference directly contributed to her death. He accused Congress of attempting to erase the developmental initiatives of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhara Rao in Gurukul schools by undermining existing programs and benefits. The former MLA criticized Congress for making empty promises, noting that the party offered six guarantees and 420 assurances to win votes from BC, SC, and ST communities, but failed to deliver tangible outcomes. He contrasted this with the alleged negligence of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Labour Minister Vivek



Venkateswamy Swami, who he claimed were playing football matches while students were dying in Gurukul schools. Suman also raised concerns over corruption and land scams involving Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, alleging illegal manipulation of land from Veligumthla to Vattinagulapalli. He stated that when the BRS legislative party questioned these issues, Congress leaders, including Padi Kausik Reddy and Kadiyam Srihari, deflected accountability and politicized Dalit concerns. He further criticized Congress leaders for failing to deliver promised support to Dalit communities, claiming ministerial positions given to Dalits were symbolic rather than effective. Suman emphasized that genu-

ine empowerment and welfare measures, like those implemented by KCR for Dalits, are missing under the current administration. Balka Suman also highlighted irregularities in the Katyanapalli Municipality elections, alleging attempts to manipulate chairman and vice-chairman posts. He stated that legal action, including approaching the High Court, would be taken to ensure fair elections. In conclusion, Suman condemned the Congress government's negligence toward education, governance, and Dalit welfare, demanding accountability for Gurukul student deaths and strict action against officials involved in corruption and mismanagement.

Ponnam Prabhakar Highlights Gig Workers Bill in Legislative Assembly

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

In a discussion on the Gig Workers Bill in the Telangana Legislative Assembly, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar expressed support for the legislation, calling it a significant step toward protecting millions of gig workers across the state. Minister Vivek Venkat Swami welcomed the passage of the Bill, noting that it addresses the professional and health-related needs of gig workers. The legislation ensures that in case of any workplace accident or emergency, the government will provide necessary assistance to workers, safeguarding their welfare. Recalling recent initiatives, Minister Prabhakar mentioned that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi held meetings with gig workers during the Bharat Jodi Yatra, highlighting the urgency and public demand for the Bill. He emphasized that millions of gig workers have been awaiting legal recognition and protection, and this Bill fulfills those expectations. The Minister clarified that the Bill is not opposed to any group or community but is intended solely to benefit workers who often face hardships while managing irregular working hours. Gig workers, he said, work tirelessly day and night to make ends meet, and the legislation will ensure they



receive both legal and professional support. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and with the guidance of Labor Minister Vivek Venkat Swami, the Bill provides a comprehensive framework for gig workers' rights, protections, and assistance. Minister Prabhakar also extended his congratulations to gig workers on behalf of the Hyderabad in-charge Minister, assuring them that the current government will continue to support their welfare and professional growth. He concluded by stating that the Gig Workers Bill is a progressive measure aimed at empowering workers, providing them social security, and recognizing their vital contribution to Telangana's economy.

BRS Demands Dismissal of Minister Ponguleti Over Allegations

Hyderabad, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

HYDERABAD — The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has formally called for the dismissal of Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy amid serious allegations of corruption, illegal mining, and land grabbing. The party submitted a complaint to Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, urging immediate action and an impartial inquiry. BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), along with party MLAs and MLCs, met the Governor to present documents linking alleged irregularities to the minister and entities associated with him. The complaint highlights claims of

mining violations and unlawful land dealings involving companies allegedly connected to the minister's family. The delegation demanded the minister's immediate removal from the cabinet and called for a judicial inquiry overseen by a sitting High Court judge to ensure transparency and public trust. Party leaders expressed concerns that, as a serving minister, Ponguleti could influence any probe led by state agencies. KTR criticised the ruling government for not acting decisively on the allegations, warning that if the state failed to act, the BRS would escalate public protests and increase pressure on authorities for accountability. The allegations focus on



claims that firms linked to the minister engaged in mining activities without proper clearances or regulatory compliance, causing financial losses to the state. Opposition mem-

bers also raised concerns about land disputes, accusing the minister and his associates of attempting to encroach on private property near Hyderabad.

The controversy has triggered political unrest in the State Assembly. BRS lawmakers staged protests demanding the minister's ouster and a thorough probe, leading to in-

terruptions in proceedings and disciplinary actions by the Assembly leadership. Supporters of the BRS argue that the issue reflects deeper governance challenges and

question the administration's commitment to transparency and ethical conduct. They maintain that swift action is needed to uphold public confidence in democratic institutions and prevent misuse of executive power. Meanwhile, government representatives responded cautiously, indicating willingness to involve central investigative agencies while defending the minister against what they described as politically motivated attacks. As political pressure mounts, all eyes are on how the state government and constitutional authorities will address the BRS's demands and ensure an independent and credible inquiry into the serious allegations surrounding Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy.

Advocate Bhimrao Naik Thanks Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Advocate Bhimrao Naik has expressed his gratitude to Revanth Reddy for introducing a landmark law aimed at protecting the rights and welfare of advocates in Telangana.

Speaking at Osmania University on Monday, Naik stated that it is a historic move, as no other state in India has so far introduced such a dedicated law for the protection of lawyers. He lauded the Chief

Minister for taking a progressive step by recognizing the challenges faced by the legal fraternity and ensuring their safety through legislative measures.

Naik highlighted that the government's initiative goes beyond protection, extending support through welfare measures such as health assistance for advocates and scholarships for junior lawyers. He also appreciated the allocation of 100 crores for the development and welfare

of advocates, calling it a significant step toward strengthening the legal community.

He further noted that incidents of attacks on lawyers, even in places like the Supreme Court of India, underline the urgent need for such protective legislation. In this context, he described the Telangana government's decision as timely and exemplary.

Calling it a "historic achievement," Naik said that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy

has set a precedent for other states to follow. He expressed hope that the new law would not only ensure the dignity and safety of advocates but also enhance their role in the effective implementation of justice.

Naik urged advocates to actively contribute to upholding the law and maintaining the integrity of the profession, adding that such initiatives would help elevate the respect and recognition of lawyers in society.



Excise Raids Intensified on Private Buses in Suchitra

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Acting on credible intelligence about the smuggling of cannabis through private buses, the State Excise Task Force carried out extensive inspections in the Suchitra and Kompally areas along the Medchal National Highway on Sunday.

The operation was conducted under the leadership of CI Balaraj, who led a special team to intercept and check nearly 20 private travel buses passing through the route. These buses, primarily arriving from Nagpur to Hyderabad, were suspected of being used for illegal transportation of ganja.

Officials stated that buses originating from multiple states, including Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh, were subjected to sudden and thorough inspections. The checks were part of a broader strategy to curb the increasing instances of narcotics smuggling into the city. According to the Excise Department, strict surveillance



has been put in place to monitor suspicious vehicle movements. Authorities warned that such surprise inspections would be intensified in the coming days to dismantle smuggling networks and ensure stricter enforcement against illegal drug transportation.

The task force reiterated its commitment to maintaining vigilance and preventing the misuse of interstate transport

systems for unlawful activities. No major seizures were reported during the operation; however, officials emphasized that the crackdown serves as a strong deterrent against potential offenders.

The inspection team included SI Sandhya and staff members Vijay, Krishna, Santosh, Yadagiri, Kaushik, Hanif, Saikiran, Rohini, and Nitin, among others, who actively participated in the operation.

Sanitation Drive Intensified in Quthbullapur Zone

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

A special sanitation drive was carried out in the Quthbullapur Zone as Zonal Commissioner Pinkesh Kumar conducted a surprise inspection in Kompally Circle on Monday morning, emphasizing strict monitoring of cleanliness works.

During his visit to Saibaba Nagar and Rajiv Gruhakalpa areas in Circle-56, the Commissioner personally reviewed the ongoing sanitation activities. He paid particular attention to the removal of Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste, which has been a growing concern in several localities.

Expressing dissatisfaction over delays in clearing such waste, Pinkesh Kumar issued stern instructions to the officials concerned. He made it clear that negligence in waste removal would not be tolerated under any circumstances and directed that all C&D debris be cleared within a fixed deadline.

Highlighting the importance of public health and hygiene, the Commissioner stressed the need for continuous monitoring



to ensure that garbage does not accumulate in residential areas. He also instructed sanitation staff to maintain higher cleanliness standards and remain actively engaged in fieldwork on a regular basis.

Deputy Commissioner N. Krishna Reddy briefed the Commissioner on the progress of the sanitation works and

measures being taken to improve waste management in the zone. The Commissioner reviewed the ground-level execution and urged officials to adopt a proactive approach in addressing sanitation issues.

The inspection was attended by DEE Tirupati, AE Krupa, Sanitation Supervisor K. Potha Reddy, and other municipal

staff, who participated in the drive and took note of the directives issued during the visit.

Officials reiterated their commitment to ensuring a cleaner and healthier environment for residents through sustained sanitation efforts and strict implementation of guidelines.



Jeedimetla PS Tops Lok Adalat Performance

Quthbullapur, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Jeedimetla Police Station has emerged as the top performer in the Cyberabad Commissionerate by delivering an outstanding performance in the recent Mega Lok Adalat, resolving a record 131 cases and securing the number one position. Continuing its consistent track record, the police station once again demonstrated efficiency in providing speedy justice through the Lok Adalat platform. Officials noted that the initiative played a crucial role in reducing the burden on courts while offering quick relief to victims by settling long-pending cases.

The achievement is being attributed to the coordinated efforts, discipline, and commitment of the Jeedimetla police team. Their proactive approach and dedication enabled the swift disposal of cases, setting a benchmark for other police stations in the region.

Senior officials, including DCP N. Koti Reddy, Additional DCP Purushottam, and ACP Bala Gangireddy, lauded the team for their commendable work. Station Inspector Gaddam Mallesh and SI Naidu, along with four members of the court staff, were honored with rewards in recognition of their contribution.

Speaking on the occasion, officials emphasized that such results are possible only through teamwork and a strong commitment to public service. They reiterated that delivering timely justice to citizens remains a top priority for the department. The repeated success of Jeedimetla Police Station highlights its consistency in effective policing and strengthens public trust. Local residents have appreciated the station's efforts, stating that its performance serves as an inspiration for other stations aiming to improve service standards and responsiveness.

Town Planning Tops Complaints at Prajavani

Quthbullapur, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Public concerns over civic administration came to the fore during the Prajavani grievance redressal programme held at the Quthbullapur Zonal Office in Chintal on Monday, where officials received a total of 17 complaints across various departments.

According to zonal authorities, the Town Planning department accounted for the highest number of complaints, with 10 grievances reported. The Engineering, Sanitation, and Revenue departments received two



complaints each, while one complaint was registered under Biodiversity Parks.

The figures highlighted growing public dissatisfaction

with town planning issues, including alleged unauthorized constructions, layout concerns, and delays in approvals. Citizens also raised issues re-

lated to infrastructure, waste management, and land matters during the session.

Zonal Commissioner Pinkesh Kumar Lalit Kumar reviewed the complaints and directed officials to ensure swift action. He instructed that all grievances be forwarded immediately to the respective circles and departments, emphasizing that delays or negligence in resolving public issues would not be tolerated.

The Commissioner stressed the importance of prioritizing each complaint and addressing them within a stipulated timeframe. He also called for improved coordination among

departments to enhance service delivery and ensure transparency in handling grievances.

Officials reiterated that the Prajavani programme aims to provide a direct platform for citizens to voice their concerns and seek timely solutions. They assured that necessary steps would be taken to resolve the issues efficiently and strengthen public trust in civic administration.

The programme witnessed active participation from citizens, reflecting increasing awareness and engagement in local governance matters.

Property Seizures for Tax Dues in Gajularamaram

Quthbullapur, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Municipal authorities have taken strict action against property tax defaulters in Gajularamaram Circle under Quthbullapur Zone, intensifying efforts to recover pending dues.

Under the supervision of the Circle Deputy Commissioner, special teams conducted inspections across four dockets. During the drive, properties belonging to individuals who failed to pay property tax were

identified and seized as part of enforcement measures.

Officials stated that these actions are aimed at ensuring better tax compliance and strengthening municipal revenue. They warned that such strict measures would continue against those who ignore repeated notices and fail to clear their dues on time.

The Deputy Commissioner informed that March 31 is the last date for payment of property tax. He urged citizens to make use of the 90 percent discount offered by the govern-

ment on old arrears, calling it a final opportunity for defaulters to settle their dues with substantial relief.

He appealed to residents to pay their pending taxes immediately and cooperate with the authorities to avoid further legal action, including additional property seizures and penalties.

Municipal Tax Inspectors and bill collectors participated in the drive, carrying out inspections and enforcing the rules at the field level.

Officials reiterated that im-



proving tax collection is essential for providing better civic services and maintaining in-

frastructure, and stressed that public cooperation is key to achieving these goals.

Global Gold City Project Announced in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

A major initiative to transform the gold sector has been announced with plans to establish a Global Gold City in Hyderabad. Ambika Barman, Chairperson of Gold Sikka Limited, revealed that the innovative project will be launched in Begumpet, Secunderabad. She stated that the primary objective of the Global Gold City is to bring the entire gold supply chain—from mining to market—onto a single integrated platform. The project aims to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the gold industry. Highlighting the current challenges, Barman noted that



the sector faces several issues, including lack of transparency in mining operations, inefficiencies in supply chains, shortcomings in depository systems, and gaps in environmental regulation enforcement. These factors, she said, have hindered the growth and modernization of the gold industry.

The proposed Global Gold City seeks to address these issues by creating a unified ecosystem that integrates mining, storage, processing, and sales. This centralized system is expected to ensure better regulation, streamlined operations, and improved trust among stakeholders. Barman also pointed out that global chal-

lenges in using gold as a form of currency have been considered while designing this project. The initiative aims to provide a comprehensive solution that aligns with international standards and practices.

She further revealed that discussions have already been held with the Kerala government regarding the project, and they have expressed positive support. Plans are also underway to expand the Global Gold City concept to the Telugu states in the near future.

The project is expected to significantly boost the gold industry, create new opportunities, and position Hyderabad as a key hub in the global gold market.

Last Date for OTS Property Tax Rebate Ends March 31

Hyderabad, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has announced that March 31 is the final deadline to avail the One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme offering a 90 percent waiver on interest for pending property tax dues. GHMC Commissioner R V Karnan urged property owners across the city to clear their dues immediately and benefit from the limited-time concession. He emphasized that the scheme is aimed at encouraging taxpayers to settle long-pending arrears while reducing their financial burden.

According to the Commissioner, the Telangana government is providing this relief for the financial year 2025-26, allowing citizens to pay their pending property taxes with a significant rebate on accumulated interest if cleared before the deadline. He clarified that property tax payments will be accepted only through online modes. Citizens can make payments via the official GHMC portal, the MyGHMC (MyCURE) mobile application, Mee Seva centers, and Citizen Service Centers. The Commissioner appealed to residents to make use of this opportunity without delay and contribute to the city's development by

paying taxes on time. He highlighted that timely tax payments play a crucial role in improving civic infrastructure and public services. At the same time, GHMC has warned that strict action will be taken against chronic defaulters under the provisions of the GHMC Act. Enforcement measures may include penalties and legal proceedings for those who fail to comply even after repeated notices. Officials reiterated that the OTS scheme provides a final chance for defaulters to regularize their tax payments and avoid punitive action while supporting the overall development of Hyderabad.

Advanced Excavator Launched to Restore City Lakes

Hyderabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

In a significant step toward strengthening urban water management, Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inaugurated a state-of-the-art excavator near Sanjeevaiah Park along PV Marg in Hyderabad. The advanced machinery has been deployed under the supervision of Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority to accelerate lake restoration and maintenance works across the city.

The newly introduced excavator is designed to carry out multiple critical operations,

including desilting of lake beds, dredging, strengthening of bunds, removal of aquatic weeds, and clearing of debris and sludge. Officials stated that the machine will play a vital role in rejuvenating old and neglected water bodies, thereby improving water storage capacity and environmental health.

Authorities highlighted that the equipment will also be extensively used in key locations such as the Kukatpally Nala and other lakes across the city. With Hyderabad facing challenges related to urban flooding and water stagnation, such advanced

technology is expected to significantly enhance efficiency in maintaining water channels and preventing blockages.

The excavator is particularly beneficial during festival seasons, when large-scale immersion of idols takes place. It can be effectively utilized during events like Ganesh Chaturthi, Durga Puja, Bathukamma, and Chhath Puja, ensuring quick removal of remnants and maintaining cleanliness in water bodies.

Speaking at the event, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized the government's commitment to restoring

lakes and improving urban infrastructure. He noted that the deployment of modern machinery reflects a proactive approach toward sustainable city development and environmental conservation.

For operational efficiency, each shift will be managed by a skilled operator, a semi-skilled assistant, and a service engineer to ensure smooth functioning and timely maintenance of the equipment.

Officials expressed confidence that the initiative will not only improve lake ecosystems but also contribute to better flood management and overall urban resilience.



Water Booth Opened in Ichoda to Beat Summer Heat

Adilabad, March 30 | TPN Bureau

Amid soaring summer temperatures, a public water booth (Chalivendram) was inaugurated in Ichoda mandal headquarters of Adilabad district to provide much-needed to residents and commuters. The facility, strategically set up near the local post office, aims to ensure easy access to safe drinking water for people passing through the area.

The initiative was organized in memory of late Nimmala Asha Reddy, father of former MPTC Nimmala Shivakumar Reddy, as a tribute to his legacy of community service. The inauguration ceremony was attended by local public representatives, officials, and villagers, marking the occasion with a sense of community spirit and purpose.

Village Sarpanch Jalai Jaku and Deputy Sarpanch Lok Shirish jointly inaugurated the water booth. Speaking on the occasion, they highlighted the importance of providing clean drinking water during extreme



summer conditions, noting that such facilities play a vital role in protecting public health and preventing heat-related issues.

They also paid tribute to late Nimmala Asha Reddy, recalling his contributions to the community. Establishing the Chalivendram in his memory, they said, is a meaningful initiative that not only honors his legacy but also directly benefits the public. They emphasized that acts of service like this reflect a deep sense of social responsibility and compassion.

Former MPP Nimmala Preetham Reddy, EO Suresh, postal department officials, and several local residents were present at the event. The programme witnessed a good turnout, with attendees appreciating the timely effort to address the challenges posed by rising temperatures.

Residents expressed the need for more such service-oriented initiatives, especially during peak summer months when access to drinking water becomes a pressing concern in rural and semi-urban regions. Many noted that simple yet impactful measures like water booths can significantly ease the hardships faced by daily commuters and laborers.

Officials and community leaders reiterated that collective efforts are essential to tackle seasonal difficulties. They stressed that ensuring access to basic necessities like drinking water should remain a priority, particularly during extreme weather conditions, and called for continued community participation in such welfare activities.

11 BRS MLCs Suspended in Telangana Council Amid Protest

Hyderabad, Telangana, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

HYDERABAD — Eleven members of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) were suspended from the Telangana Legislative Council on Monday after staging a protest that brought the upper house of the state legislature to a halt during its session.

The drama unfolded soon after the council resumed its proceedings in the morning. The BRS MLCs rose together, displaying placards and demanding the immediate formation of a House committee to investigate issues related to Raghava Constructions, a firm at the centre of controversy over alleged irregularities. Their demands also included calls for accountability in connection with complaints that have been circulating about the company's operations and alleged links to influential political figures.

As the MLCs raised their slogans and refused to take their seats, chaos spread across the council chamber. Gutha Suke-



nder Reddy, Chairman of the Telangana Legislative Council, repeatedly appealed to the protesting members to return to their seats and allow the day's legislative business to continue, stressing the importance of orderly conduct in the House.

However, the BRS legislators remained defiant, insisting that their protest be acknowledged and that a formal committee be constituted without further delay. They argued that their stand was aimed at securing justice and transparency,

particularly regarding allegations that have sparked anger both within and outside political circles.

With tensions escalating on the council floor and normal proceedings disrupted, the Chairman invoked the council's rules to suspend all eleven BRS members for the day. The punitive action was taken to restore decorum and enable the council to proceed with its scheduled agenda.

The suspension of the BRS MLCs highlights growing po-

litical turbulence in Telangana's legislature, where contentious issues have frequently triggered clashes between opposition members and the ruling party. Critics of the current government have been using such platforms to amplify allegations of misconduct and press for investigations, while the ruling benches maintain that legislative procedures must be respected and upheld.

The suspension comes at a politically charged moment in the state, with the budget session underway and several key policy debates in progress. With the BRS drawing attention to unresolved issues and demanding institutional probes, the standoff in the council may intensify discussions around accountability and legislative processes in the days ahead.

The suspended members are expected to rejoin the council once their one day suspension expires. In the meantime, the council is set to continue its session with remaining members and focus on its legislative business for the day.

BJP Leader Ramchander Rao Slams Telangana Hate Speech Bill

Hyderabad, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

HYDERABAD — N. Ramchander Rao, state president of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Telangana, on Monday launched a fierce attack on the recently introduced Telangana Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2026, accusing the ruling Congress government of attempting to curb democratic freedoms and silence dissent. Speaking in Hyderabad, Rao claimed the bill was not genuinely aimed at curbing hate speech or promoting communal harmony, but rather designed to target the BJP and its leaders. He argued that the legislation could be misused to stifle political opposition and suppress voices critical of the government.

Rao drew parallels with past national controversies over freedom of speech, citing historical examples where laws were allegedly used to restrict dissent. He said the Hindu voice, already under pressure from what he described as decades of "pseudo secularism," could face further policing and prosecution under the new bill.

The BJP leader criticised the Congress for what he termed a pattern of curbing free expression, a stance he said dated back to earlier political measures like controversial amendments and emergency powers in previous decades. Rao vowed that his party would fight resolutely against what he described as actions detrimental to democracy and freedom of speech. In addition to his criticism of the bill, Rao also raised concerns over financial management at the village level. He urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to immediately



release central funds allocated to gram panchayats, alleging that substantial amounts meant for local development had been diverted, leading to crises in rural governance. Rao said many village heads were struggling to pay for completed works, and he claimed some sarpanchs had faced severe stress due to withheld funds. Addressing representatives of the Telangana State Sarpanchs' Association, Rao emphasised the need for prompt release of pending dues, especially with the impending transition to funds under the 16th Finance Commission. He pledged the BJP's full support to the movement demanding financial clarity and accountability at the grassroots level.

The Hate Speech and Hate Crimes Bill, introduced in the Telangana Assembly earlier this week, proposes stringent penalties for individuals found guilty of offences that incite hatred or violence based on religion, caste, race, language, gender and other identities. The legislation aims to establish legal mechanisms to prevent and punish hate motivated conduct, though opposition parties have raised concerns about its broad scope and potential for misuse. With the bill now referred to a select committee for further scrutiny, debates over its provisions and implications for constitutional freedoms are likely to continue across political platforms in the state.



Congress Stages Rasta Roko in Jangaon Over Remarks Against Srihari

Jangaon, March 30, 2026 | TPN Bureau

JANGAON — Congress party activists on Monday staged a "rasta roko" protest in Raghunathpally mandal as a demonstration against controversial remarks made by Huzurabad BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy about senior leader Kadiyam Srihari, a legislator representing the Station Ghanpur constituency. The protest, led by local Congress mandal president Kolla Ravi Goud, also included the burning of an effigy of the BRS lawmaker.

The demonstrators gathered on a major road in the district, disrupting traffic for several hours to draw attention to what they called "derogatory and disrespectful conduct" by

Kaushik Reddy during a recent session of the Telangana Legislative Assembly. They demanded that the Assembly Speaker take disciplinary action, including disqualification, against the MLA for his alleged conduct.

Congress leaders and local representatives accused Kaushik Reddy of making offensive remarks targeting Srihari, whom they described as a respected senior leader. Members of the party argued that such comments not only insulted an individual politician but also insulted the Dalit community that Srihari represents. They claimed the remarks reflected a larger pattern of arrogance and disregard for democratic norms.

During the protest, local Congress figures, including

district officials and village presidents, spoke out against the MLA's conduct. They urged the state assembly's presiding officers to act swiftly and impartially to uphold the dignity of legislative proceedings. Some leaders also called on the BRS leadership to expel Kaushik Reddy from the party for his alleged behaviour.

District Congress leaders warned that if the Speaker and legislative authorities failed to respond to their demands, the party would escalate its agitation with further protests and demonstrations. They stressed that peaceful protests were being held to uphold respect for democratic institutions and public figures.

The protest drew participation from various local Congress leaders and grassroots

workers, emphasising growing tensions between the ruling party and opposition at the district level. The incident highlights the increasingly charged political atmosphere in Telangana, with parties sharply attacking each other over behaviour in legislative forums.

As the rasta roko continued, officials sought to maintain law and order while commuters and local residents were affected by the road blockade. The Congress has pledged to continue its agitation until its demands for disciplinary action and accountability are addressed by the Assembly authorities.

The MLA at the centre of the controversy has not yet formally responded to the protest or the specific allegations raised by the Congress workers.

Iran-Israel Conflict Enters Its Most Deceptive Phase as Diplomacy Masks Rising Tensions

The ongoing conflict between Iran and Israel has entered what analysts describe as its most deceptive phase yet. While diplomatic activity appears to be increasing and discussions around negotiations are becoming more frequent, the reality on the ground suggests that tensions are continuing to build. This period is marked by a paradox — the more the world hears about talks and potential solutions, the more complex and dangerous the situation seems to become.

At first glance, the conflict may appear to be stabilising. Statements about possible negotiations, temporary pauses in attacks, and diplomatic outreach give the impression that de-escalation is underway. However, beneath this surface calm, military deployments are intensifying, strategic alliances are shifting, and economic pressures are mounting. Rather than moving toward peace, both sides appear to be strengthening their positions before any meaningful negotiation takes place.

The Illusion of De-Escalation

One of the key features of this phase is the appearance of restraint without any real reduction in conflict. Temporary pauses in certain military actions are being interpreted as signs of progress. However, these pauses often apply only to specific targets or regions, while activity continues elsewhere. This selective restraint creates a misleading impression that tensions are easing.

At the same time, troop movements and military preparations continue across the region. Reinforcements are being deployed, surveillance operations are expanding, and defence systems are

being strengthened. These actions suggest that both sides are preparing for prolonged confrontation rather than a swift resolution.

This dual strategy — talking about peace while preparing for escalation — is what makes the current phase particularly deceptive. It creates uncertainty not only for the region but also for global markets and international observers trying to assess the direction of the conflict.

A Wide Diplomatic Divide

Despite growing diplomatic engagement, the gap between opposing positions remains wide. The United States, a key player in the situation, is pushing for strict limitations on Iran's nuclear programme, missile development, and regional influence. Washington is also seeking assurances regarding maritime security and stability in critical shipping routes.

Iran, however, has its own set of demands. Tehran is seeking guarantees against future attacks, recognition of its strategic interests, and compensation for damage caused by military actions. It is also unwilling to give up capabilities that it considers essential for deterrence and national security.

These competing demands make negotiations extremely difficult. While communication channels remain open, neither side appears willing to compromise significantly. As a result, diplomatic engagement continues without meaningful breakthroughs.

Regional Divisions Complicate Efforts

The conflict is also exposing divisions among regional powers. Some countries in the Gulf region are calling for immediate de-escalation, fearing economic fallout and instability. Others believe that tensions should continue until Iran's military capabilities



ties are reduced.

Israel, meanwhile, remains cautious about any agreement that might limit its ability to act militarily in the future. This stance reflects concerns that any temporary agreement could allow Iran to regroup and strengthen its position.

These differing priorities make coordinated diplomatic efforts more difficult. Without a unified regional approach, negotiations become more complicated, and the likelihood of prolonged conflict increases.

Expanding Fronts Raise Concerns

The conflict is no longer limited to direct tensions between Iran and Israel. Lebanon has emerged as a potential flashpoint, raising fears of a broader regional confrontation. Increased activity along borders and discussions about security zones indicate that the conflict could spread further.

The involvement of addi-

tional actors raises the stakes significantly. As more parties become involved, controlling escalation becomes increasingly difficult. The risk of miscalculation grows, and even minor incidents could trigger larger confrontations.

This expansion of the conflict also complicates diplomatic efforts. Negotiations become more complex as additional stakeholders enter the equation, each with their own interests and demands.

Economic Fallout Intensifies

Beyond the battlefield, the economic consequences of the conflict are becoming increasingly visible. Rising tensions have pushed up oil prices, disrupted shipping routes, and created uncertainty in global energy markets. These developments are affecting economies far beyond the Middle East.

Higher fuel prices are increasing transportation costs, which in turn affect

food prices and consumer goods. Shipping disruptions are slowing supply chains, while rising insurance costs for vessels in the region are adding further pressure.

These economic impacts are not limited to energy markets. Fertiliser prices are also rising, raising concerns about agricultural production and food security. As costs increase globally, pressure is mounting on all sides to reduce tensions.

However, economic pressure alone may not be enough to resolve the conflict. Strategic considerations and security concerns continue to dominate decision-making.

Implications for India

India is among the countries closely watching developments in the region. The country depends heavily on energy imports from the Middle East, making it vulnerable to rising oil prices and supply disruptions.

Shipping routes through the region are also critical for

India's trade. Any disruption could affect imports, exports, and overall economic stability. Additionally, millions of Indian workers living in Gulf countries could be impacted if tensions escalate further.

For India, de-escalation is not just a diplomatic priority but an economic necessity. Rising fuel prices can lead to inflation, affecting everything from transportation to food costs. This makes stability in the region particularly important for India's economic outlook.

Strategic Calculation Over Immediate Conflict

The current phase of the conflict reflects a shift from immediate confrontation to strategic positioning. Both sides appear to be trying to strengthen their leverage before entering serious negotiations.

This approach often leads to prolonged standoffs. Each side attempts to gain advantages through military, political, and economic means

while keeping diplomatic channels open. The result is a situation where negotiations occur alongside ongoing tensions.

This form of “coercive diplomacy” can be particularly dangerous. It increases the risk of escalation while maintaining the illusion of progress. As both sides push for stronger positions, the chances of miscalculation rise.

A Fragile and Uncertain Future

Despite increased diplomatic activity, the conflict shows little sign of ending soon. Military preparations continue, regional tensions remain high, and economic pressures are growing.

Temporary pauses or limited agreements may occur, but a comprehensive resolution appears unlikely in the near future. Instead, the region seems to be entering a prolonged phase of strategic competition.

This deceptive calm — where diplomacy appears active but conflict continues — makes the current phase particularly dangerous. The absence of clear progress, combined with rising tensions, creates uncertainty for the entire region.

Not Peace, But Preparation

Ultimately, the current phase of the Iran-Israel conflict is not a step toward peace but a period of preparation. Both sides are strengthening their positions, building alliances, and increasing leverage. While negotiations may continue, meaningful compromise remains elusive. The battlefield remains active, and the risk of escalation persists. For now, the world is witnessing a deceptive calm — a period where diplomacy and conflict coexist. Beneath the surface, tensions are rising, and the path to resolution remains uncertain.

India At WTO: Balancing Principles And Pragmatism On Investment Facilitation

India's position at the World Trade Organization has once again come into focus as debates intensify over the proposed Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement (IFDA). While many countries support the agreement as a step toward modernising global trade rules, India has chosen a more cautious approach — one that reflects a delicate balance between defending long-standing principles and adapting to evolving global realities.

This balancing act highlights a broader challenge facing India today: how to protect the multilateral foundations of global trade while remaining pragmatic in a rapidly changing economic environment.

The Core Of The Debate

At the heart of the discussion is the question of how new agreements should be incorporated into the WTO framework. The IFDA is a plurilateral agreement, meaning it applies only to countries that choose to join it. Unlike multilateral agreements, which require consensus from all WTO members, plurilateral deals allow smaller groups of countries to move forward independently.

India's primary concern lies in this procedural shift. New Delhi believes that allowing plurilateral agreements to become part of the WTO's rulebook without full consensus could weaken the multilateral system. Over time, this could create a fragmented trading environment where smaller groups set rules that others may later feel compelled to accept.

India argues that such fragmentation risks marginalising developing countries that may not have the capacity to par-

ticipate in every new initiative. It also raises concerns about fairness, inclusivity, and the long-term credibility of the WTO as a consensus-based institution.

Why IFDA Matters

The Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement aims to streamline administrative procedures, improve transparency, and make it easier for investors to operate across borders. Supporters argue that these measures could boost foreign direct investment, particularly in developing and least-developed countries.

Many countries view the agreement as a practical step toward modernising global investment rules. With global trade negotiations often moving slowly, plurilateral agreements are increasingly seen as a way to achieve progress when consensus proves difficult.

Supporters also argue that participation in such agreements remains voluntary. Countries that choose not to join are not legally bound by the rules. This flexibility, according to proponents, makes plurilateral agreements compatible with the WTO's broader framework.

However, India remains cautious. The concern is not only about the specific provisions of IFDA but also about the precedent it could set. If such agreements become common, the WTO could gradually shift from a multilateral institution to a collection of smaller negotiating groups.

The Multilateral Principle

The multilateral principle India has historically supported a multilateral trading system that ensures equal participation for all members. This approach reflects the interests of developing coun-



tries, which often rely on collective bargaining to protect their economic priorities.

India's stance is rooted in the belief that consensus-based negotiations provide a fairer platform. While consensus can slow decision-making, it also ensures that smaller economies are not sidelined.

From this perspective, India's opposition to the IFDA is not simply about investment rules but about preserving the foundational principles of the WTO. These principles include inclusivity, transparency, and equal representation.

India's position also reflects broader concerns about the future of global trade governance. If plurilateral agreements become the norm, developing countries may face

increasing pressure to join agreements that they did not help shape.

The Case For Pragmatism

While India's principled stance has strong foundations, the global trading environment is changing rapidly. The WTO's negotiating function has faced significant challenges in recent years, with limited progress on major issues.

In response, many countries have turned to plurilateral agreements as a pragmatic solution. These smaller agreements allow willing participants to move forward while leaving the door open for others to join later.

This approach has gained momentum in areas such as digital trade, environmental goods, and investment facilita-

tion. Supporters argue that such agreements help maintain momentum in global trade cooperation.

For India, the challenge lies in balancing its commitment to multilateralism with the need to remain engaged in evolving trade frameworks. Remaining outside emerging agreements could risk isolation, while joining them without safeguards could undermine long-standing principles.

India's Strategic Approach

India's position reflects a nuanced strategy rather than outright opposition. While resisting the incorporation of IFDA into the WTO framework, India has indicated openness to dialogue and reform.

New Delhi has emphasised the need for clear guardrails

and legal safeguards before integrating any plurilateral agreement into the WTO system. This suggests that India is not rejecting reform altogether but seeking a structured and inclusive approach.

India's strategy also reflects its broader trade policy. The country has consistently advocated for reforms that strengthen the WTO while preserving its core principles. This includes ensuring that developing countries retain adequate policy space for economic growth.

At the same time, India continues to engage actively in bilateral and regional trade negotiations. This demonstrates a pragmatic willingness to pursue economic opportunities while maintaining caution at the multilateral level.

The Global Context

The debate over IFDA highlights broader tensions within the global trading system. Many developed countries favour faster decision-making and flexible agreements. Developing countries, on the other hand, often prioritise inclusivity and fairness.

This divide reflects differing economic priorities and levels of development. While some countries see plurilateral agreements as necessary for progress, others worry about unequal participation and potential marginalisation.

India's position places it at the centre of this debate. As one of the largest developing economies, India's stance carries significant weight in shaping the future of the WTO.

Risks And Opportunities

India's cautious approach carries both risks and opportunities. On one hand, defending multilateral principles strengthens India's credibility

as a champion of developing countries. It also helps preserve a more inclusive global trading system.

On the other hand, staying outside emerging agreements could limit India's influence in shaping new rules. As global trade evolves, participation in new frameworks may become increasingly important.

The challenge, therefore, lies in striking the right balance. India must ensure that it remains engaged in global trade discussions while safeguarding its core principles.

The Road Ahead

The debate over the Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement is unlikely to be resolved quickly. Discussions within the WTO are expected to continue, with countries exploring possible compromises. India's position suggests that it is open to negotiation but unwilling to compromise on fundamental principles. This approach reflects both caution and pragmatism. Ultimately, India's stance highlights a broader reality: global trade governance is undergoing transformation. The WTO is evolving, and countries must adapt while protecting their interests.

India's approach — balancing principles with pragmatism — reflects this complex environment. By defending multilateralism while remaining open to reform, India is attempting to navigate a challenging and uncertain global trade landscape.

As debates continue, India's role will remain crucial. Whether through negotiation, reform, or compromise, the outcome will shape not only India's trade policy but also the future direction of the global trading system.

Bastar Emerging from Red Terror, Development Picks Up Pace: Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed Parliament that the long-standing impact of Maoist or Naxal violence in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh is steadily diminishing, signaling a major shift in the fight against left-wing extremism.

He stated that Bastar, once known as the stronghold of Maoist activity, is now witnessing a gradual return to peace, improved governance, and accelerated development. The Union government's consistent efforts, combining security measures with welfare initiatives, have significantly weakened the influence of extremist groups in the region. According to the Home

Minister, a dual strategy has been effectively implemented—intensive security operations along with infrastructure and social development. This approach has not only reduced incidents of violence but has also encouraged many Maoists to surrender and reintegrate into mainstream society. In recent years, a considerable number of insurgents have laid down arms, indicating a decline in their operational strength.

Shah further highlighted that several remote and previously inaccessible areas of Bastar are now connected through improved road networks and communication systems. Government institutions, including schools and

healthcare facilities that had remained closed for decades due to insurgency, are being revived. These developments are bringing essential services closer to the people and improving their quality of life.

The government has also introduced rehabilitation schemes for surrendered Maoists, providing financial support, housing, and employment opportunities. These initiatives aim to ensure long-term peace by addressing the socio-economic challenges that once fueled the insurgency.

Expressing confidence in the progress made so far, Amit Shah said that Naxalism in Chhattisgarh is on the verge of complete eradica-

tion. He reiterated the Centre's commitment to eliminating left-wing extremism entirely and emphasized that sustained efforts would continue until the goal is achieved.

The transformation of Bastar is now being viewed as a significant milestone in India's internal security landscape. With violence declining and development gaining momentum, the region is gradually moving away from decades of conflict towards stability and growth.

Shah concluded that the era of "red terror" is nearing its end, and Bastar is firmly on the path to a peaceful and prosperous future.



Lok Sabha Clears IBC Amendment Bill 2025, Focus on Faster Resolutions

The Lok Sabha has passed the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Amendment Bill, 2025, marking a significant step toward strengthening India's insolvency framework and improving the efficiency of debt resolution processes. Introducing and replying to the debate on the Bill, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman emphasized that the IBC was never intended to function merely as a debt recovery mechanism. Instead, it was designed to preserve viable businesses, resolve financial stress, and maximize value for all stakeholders. The amendment Bill incorporates a total of 12 changes, most of which were recommended by a Select Committee that reviewed the legislation. These changes aim to address long-standing procedural delays, remove ambiguities in interpretation, and align the law with evolving economic needs and global practices. One of the key highlights of the reform is the push for faster admission and resolution of insolvency cases. The government has intro-



duced stricter timelines, including provisions to ensure that insolvency applications are admitted within a fixed period once a default is established. This is expected to significantly reduce delays that have long plagued the system. The Bill also aims to prevent misuse of the insolvency process by introducing safeguards and penalties. Additionally, it promotes a more structured and trust-based system, shift-

ing away from excessive litigation and procedural bottlenecks. Sitharaman highlighted that over the past decade, the IBC has played a crucial role in improving the health of India's banking sector by enabling the resolution of stressed assets and recovery of bad loans. The new amendments are expected to build on this success by further strengthening the insolvency ecosystem and boosting investor confidence. The re-

forms also focus on enhancing ease of doing business by streamlining processes, encouraging quicker turnaround for distressed companies, and ensuring better outcomes for creditors and stakeholders. With the passage of the Bill, the government aims to create a more efficient, transparent, and time-bound insolvency framework, reinforcing India's financial stability and supporting economic growth.

“False Narrative by Opposition”: Rijiju Defends FCRA Amendment Bill

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju has strongly countered criticism from the Congress and Left parties over the proposed amendments to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), stating that the opposition is spreading a “false narrative” regarding the intent of the legislation.

The row over the FCRA Amendment Bill has emerged as a major political flashpoint, with opposition parties alleging that the proposed changes could target minority institutions and restrict the functioning of NGOs. However, Rijiju dismissed these claims, asserting that the government's objective is solely to ensure transparency and accountability in the use of foreign funds.

He emphasized that the amendments are designed to prevent misuse of foreign contributions and to safeguard national interests. According to the government, stricter regulations are necessary to ensure that funds received from abroad are not diverted for unlawful activities or personal



gains.

Rijiju further clarified that the provisions in the Bill are not aimed at any particular community or organization. Instead, they seek to establish a robust framework for monitoring and regulating foreign funding, which has long been a sensitive issue in India's governance and security landscape.

A key feature of the proposed amendment is the creation of a mechanism that allows authorities to manage assets of organizations whose FCRA licences are cancelled. This step, according to the government, will ensure that such assets are not misused and are

utilized in the public interest.

Opposition parties, however, have voiced strong concerns, arguing that the Bill grants excessive powers to the government and could adversely impact civil society organizations. They have also questioned the timing and intent of the amendments, suggesting that it could lead to undue interference in the functioning of NGOs and institutions receiving foreign aid.

Despite the criticism, Rijiju maintained that the opposition's objections are politically motivated and not based on facts. He reiterated that the government remains committed to ensuring that foreign contributions are used responsibly and in alignment with national priorities.

The FCRA Amendment Bill is expected to witness intense debate in Parliament, as both the government and opposition continue to clash over its implications. With strong views on both sides, the legislation is likely to remain a key issue in the ongoing political discourse.



BJP's Assam Manifesto Likely to Focus on Jobs, Youth Support and Land Reforms

Ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections in Assam, the Bharatiya Janata Party is expected to unveil a manifesto centered on employment generation, youth empowerment, education reforms, and land policy changes.

One of the key focus areas is job creation, particularly targeting the state's large youth population. The party is likely to promise new employment opportunities through skill development initiatives and expansion of industrial and service sectors. Strengthening employability and creating sustainable livelihoods are expected to be major highlights of the poll document.

In a significant move aimed at empowering young people, the manifesto may include financial assistance schemes for youth. These could involve funding support for startups, entrepreneurship initiatives, and self-employment ventures, helping young individuals become job creators rather than job seekers.

Education is another critical pillar of the proposed manifesto. The BJP is expected to promise free education and improved access to academic institutions across the state. Additionally, there may be provisions to support teachers in private institutions, addressing long-standing con-

cerns related to salaries and job security in the sector.

Land policy reforms are also likely to feature prominently. The party may introduce measures to regulate land use, protect indigenous land rights, and streamline land ownership systems. These steps are expected to balance development needs with the preservation of local identity—an issue that holds strong political and social significance in Assam.

The manifesto is expected to reflect a broader strategy combining economic development with social welfare. Alongside jobs and education, the BJP is likely to emphasize infrastructure growth, investment promotion, and governance reforms to strengthen the state's economy.

Political observers note that the party's campaign in Assam is built around themes of development and safeguarding regional identity. The upcoming manifesto is expected to align with these priorities, offering a mix of welfare schemes and structural reforms aimed at securing voter support.

With elections approaching, the BJP's promises on jobs, youth funding, and land reforms are set to play a crucial role in shaping the political narrative in Assam, as the party aims to retain power for another term.

BJP Seeks EC Action Against Mamata Banerjee Over Poll Code Violations

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has approached the Election Commission of India, demanding strict action against West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for alleged violations of the Model Code of Conduct during the ongoing election period.

A BJP delegation, including senior Union ministers Piyush Goyal and Kiren Rijiju, submitted a memorandum to the poll body accusing Banerjee of “malicious and repeated violations” of electoral rules and laws. The party urged the Election Commission to use its constitutional powers to ensure free and fair elections in West Bengal.

In its complaint, the BJP specifically sought Banerjee's debarment from campaigning, alleging that her statements



during public rallies amounted to voter intimidation and incitement. The party also re-

quested increased deployment of central forces in sensitive areas, claiming that the state

police machinery is ineffective and biased.

The BJP cited several instances to support its allegations. According to the complaint, Banerjee allegedly made remarks suggesting that people would be compelled to publicly declare their political preferences after the elections, which the party described as a threat to voter freedom. It also pointed to statements where she reportedly urged supporters to “come out with whatever you have at home,” interpreting it as an indirect call for confrontation.

Additionally, the BJP claimed that such statements were followed by incidents of violence against its workers, alleging that party members engaged in peaceful campaigning were attacked. The memorandum described a “pattern

of provocation and intimidation” that could undermine the integrity of the electoral process.

The party further demanded legal action against Trinamool Congress leaders under relevant laws and called for closer monitoring of polling and counting processes to ensure transparency and fairness.

The issue comes amid heightened political tensions ahead of the 2026 West Bengal Legislative Assembly election, where both the BJP and Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress are engaged in an intense electoral battle. The Election Commission has acknowledged the complaint and is expected to review the allegations. The matter is likely to add to the already charged political atmosphere in the state as campaigning continues.

Stalin, Vijay File Nominations; High-Stakes Battle Begins in Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin and actor-turned-politician Vijay formally filed their nominations for the upcoming Assembly elections, setting the stage for a high-voltage political contest in the state.

Stalin submitted his nomination from the Kolathur constituency, a seat he has represented multiple times, reinforcing his stronghold in Chennai. Shortly after filing his papers, he conducted a roadshow, greeting supporters and expressing confidence about a decisive victory in the elections.

On the other hand, Vijay, making a significant electoral debut through his party Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK), filed his nomination from Perambur. His entry into active politics has added a new dimension to the Tamil Nadu electoral landscape, turning



the contest into a direct and closely watched battle between the ruling DMK and the emerging TVK.

The simultaneous filing of nominations by both leaders

has intensified the political atmosphere, particularly in Chennai, which is emerging as a key battleground. Massive crowds, energetic campaigns, and strong messaging from

both sides indicate the importance of this election for the future political direction of the state.

Vijay has positioned himself as an alternative voice, focus-

ing on governance issues such as law and order, while also attempting to connect with younger voters and first-time participants in the electoral process. His campaign launch has been marked by sharp criticism of the ruling government and a call for change.

Meanwhile, Stalin is relying on his government's track record, welfare schemes, and established political network to retain power. The DMK is aiming to consolidate its voter base while countering the challenge posed by Vijay's growing popularity.

With both leaders entering the fray, the Tamil Nadu elections are shaping up as a high-stakes political showdown. The contest is expected to be closely fought, with Chennai at the center of attention as voters prepare to decide the state's next government.

US Deploys 57,000 Troops To Middle East, Raising Fears Of Ground War With Iran

The United States has significantly increased its military presence in the Middle East, fuelling concerns about a possible ground war with Iran as tensions continue to escalate. Reports indicate that American troop deployment in the region has crossed 57,000, marking one of the largest military buildups in recent years. The latest deployment includes thousands of additional troops, including Marines and airborne forces. Among them are around 3,500 Marines aboard the USS Tripoli, along with personnel from the 82nd Airborne Division. These forces are being positioned as part of contingency planning for potential ground operations if the conflict escalates further. Growing Military Presence Across Region American forces are already stationed across multiple bases in the Gulf region, including locations in Qatar, Kuwait, and Bahrain. Additional air and naval assets have also been deployed, signalling Washington's readiness to respond to any further escalation.



The troop movement comes amid rising tensions and ongoing hostilities in the region. Military analysts note that the positioning of Marine Expeditionary Units and airborne forces closer to potential conflict zones increases the possibility of ground operations. Strategic Targets Under Watch One of the key locations reportedly under consideration is Kharg Island, a major hub for Iran's oil exports. Any at-

tempt to seize or neutralise this facility could significantly impact Iran's economy but also risks triggering a broader conflict. Other potential targets include military installations, coastal defence systems, and strategic infrastructure that could influence shipping routes through the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important oil transit corridors. No Decision On Ground In-

vasion YetDespite the growing military presence, officials have not confirmed any final decision regarding a ground invasion. The deployments are being described as precautionary measures aimed at maintaining strategic flexibility. However, analysts warn that large-scale troop deployments often increase the chances of escalation. Once forces are positioned in the region, even minor incidents can trigger a wider conflict.

Rising Regional Tensions Iran has responded strongly to the buildup, warning that any ground invasion would lead to retaliation across the region. The situation has also raised concerns among regional allies and global powers, increasing fears of a wider Middle East conflict. The developments have also impacted global markets, particularly oil prices, as investors worry about potential supply disruptions and instability in the region.

A Dangerous Phase Experts say the current situation represents one of the most volatile phases of the ongoing tensions. While airstrikes and naval deployments allow limited engagement, the introduction of ground forces significantly raises the stakes. With tens of thousands of US troops now positioned across the Middle East and additional forces on standby, the possibility of American "boots on the ground" appears closer than at any point in recent months.



How Donald Trump's Iran War Could Trigger A Global Nuclear Race

The ongoing conflict between the United States and Iran under President Donald Trump has raised serious concerns among experts, who warn that the war could push more countries to acquire nuclear weapons. The growing tensions, uncertainty, and breakdown of diplomatic norms risk accelerating nuclear proliferation worldwide. **War Increasing Global Nuclear Anxiety** The conflict has intensified fears among countries that rely on security guarantees from larger powers. When military conflict escalates between major players, smaller nations often feel vulnerable and begin considering nuclear weapons as a deterrent. Experts warn that such anxieties could lead to more countries pursuing nuclear capabilities, increasing the risk of catastrophic miscalculations. The war has also weakened trust in diplomatic agreements and international institutions designed to prevent nuclear proliferation. When countries see military force used instead of negotiations, they may conclude that nuclear weapons are the only reliable means of protection.

Iran's Nuclear Ambitions Could Accelerate Another concern is that military strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities may actually strengthen Tehran's determination to pursue nuclear weapons. Historically, countries facing external threats often accelerate their nuclear programs as a form of deterrence. Iran has long maintained that its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes. However, continued military pressure may push Iranian leadership to reconsider its stance. If Iran moves closer to acquiring nuclear weapons, it could trigger a domino effect across the region. **Regional Nuclear Domino Effect** A nuclear-armed Iran could lead to a cascade of nuclear ambitions in the Middle East. Countries such as Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Egypt may seek their own nuclear capabilities to maintain strategic balance. Such a development would dramatically increase global nuclear risks. The Middle East is already a volatile region, and adding nuclear weapons into the mix would significantly raise the stakes of any future conflict. **Allies Losing Faith In Security Guarantees** The conflict may also affect countries outside the Middle

Hezbollah Seeks India's Help To Stop Israel's War In Lebanon

The Hezbollah has urged India to play a diplomatic role in stopping Israel's ongoing military operations in Lebanon, as the conflict in the Middle East continues to escalate. In an exclusive interaction, a senior Hezbollah leader called on India to use its diplomatic influence to help bring an end to the fighting. The appeal comes as violence intensifies in Lebanon following the broader regional conflict linked to the war involving Iran, Israel, and the United States. **Why Hezbollah Wants India's Role** Hezbollah leaders said India has historically maintained balanced relations across the Middle East and therefore could play a constructive role in reducing tensions. They emphasised that India's diplomatic outreach and global standing could help initiate dialogue and push for a ceasefire. The group claimed that Israel had continued military operations despite earlier ceasefire efforts and accused Israeli forces of carrying out strikes and occupying territories. Hezbollah also alleged that hundreds of people were killed and thousands injured during this period, along with damage to homes and villages. **How Lebanon Was Drawn Into The Conflict** Lebanon was pulled into the wider regional conflict earlier this month after Hezbollah fired rockets at Israel. The group said the move was in response to developments in the broader Iran-Israel confrontation, which triggered escalating hostilities across the region.

Since then, cross-border attacks and airstrikes have intensified, raising fears of a wider war. The fighting has also increased humanitarian concerns, with civilians caught in the crossfire and infrastructure suffering heavy damage. **India's Strategic Position** India maintains diplomatic ties with Israel, Iran, and several Arab nations, placing it in a unique position to potentially mediate tensions. India has also been involved in peacekeeping efforts in Lebanon through United Nations missions, strengthening its diplomatic credibility in the region. Hezbollah's appeal reflects growing international pressure for diplomatic intervention as the conflict risks expanding beyond Lebanon. With tensions already rising across the Middle East, experts warn that continued escalation could trigger a broader regional crisis. **Rising Regional Tensions** The conflict between Israel and Hezbollah has intensified alongside wider Middle East tensions. Military activity has increased, and fears of ground operations continue to grow. The situation has also impacted global markets and raised concerns about regional stability. As violence continues, calls for diplomatic intervention are increasing. Hezbollah's appeal to India highlights the urgency of finding a political solution before the conflict escalates further. With tensions mounting, India's potential role as a diplomatic bridge is gaining attention, even as the region faces one of its most volatile phases in recent months.

Donald Trump Hints At Seizing Iran's Oil Hub Kharg Island Amid War



Donald Trump has hinted at seizing Iran's key oil export hub, Kharg Island, saying his "favourite thing" would be to take oil in Iran. The remarks have raised concerns about a major escalation in the ongoing conflict between the United States and Iran. Trump suggested that capturing Kharg Island could give the United States strategic leverage over Iran. He also claimed that Tehran was witnessing signs of "regime change," while signalling that military options were being considered as part of broader war planning. Experts have warned that any attempt to seize the island could expose US troops to significant risk and potentially prolong the conflict. **Why Kharg Island Matters** Kharg Island is one of the most strategically important locations in Iran's energy infrastructure. The island serves as the country's main oil export terminal, with the majority of Iranian crude shipments passing through it. Control of the island would significantly

impact Iran's economy and global oil supply. Analysts say seizing the island could disrupt Iranian oil exports and increase pressure on Tehran. However, they also caution that such a move could trigger retaliation and escalate the war further. The island's proximity to mainland Iran also makes it difficult to defend if foreign troops attempt to occupy it. **Military And Strategic Risks** Military experts have warned that a ground operation to seize Kharg Island would be extremely risky. The island lies within range of Iranian missiles, drones, and artillery, making any occupying force vulnerable to attacks. In addition, a ground operation could drag the United States into a prolonged conflict, especially if Iran decides to defend the island aggressively. Analysts also warn that damage to oil infrastructure could push global crude prices sharply higher. **Rising Tensions In The Region** Trump's remarks come amid escalating hostilities and

increasing military deployments in the Middle East. Reports indicate that US military planning includes multiple scenarios, including potential ground operations and efforts to secure strategic energy infrastructure. The situation has heightened fears of a wider regional conflict, with oil markets reacting to the uncertainty and geopolitical tensions. Experts warn that targeting key oil infrastructure could disrupt global energy supplies and worsen economic volatility. **A High-Stakes Strategy** While seizing Kharg Island could provide leverage over Iran, it also carries significant risks. A ground operation would mark a major escalation and could draw in additional regional players. As tensions continue to rise, Trump's remarks have added to uncertainty about the next phase of the conflict. Analysts say the coming days will be crucial in determining whether the situation moves toward negotiation or further escalation.

Donald Trump Plans Ground Operation To Extract Iran's Uranium, Risks Escalation

The United States is reportedly considering a high-risk ground operation in Iran to extract nearly 400 kilograms of highly enriched uranium, a move that could significantly escalate the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. According to reports, the proposed mission aims to seize nuclear material believed to be close to weapons-grade quality. The uranium, estimated at about 400 kg, is considered enough to potentially support the development of nuclear weapons. The plan is being discussed even as diplomatic efforts continue to de-escalate tensions between the two countries. **Why The Uranium Matters** Before recent airstrikes, Iran was believed to possess more than 400 kilograms of uranium enriched to about 60 percent purity, along with additional fissile material enriched to lower lev-

els. Experts say this level of enrichment is close to weapons-grade uranium and could be further processed for nuclear weapons. The uranium is reportedly stored at underground facilities, some of which were previously targeted by US strikes. Extracting the material would likely require ground forces to enter hostile territory, secure the facilities, and transport the radioactive material safely — a complex and risky operation. **Trump's Hardline Strategy** Trump has reportedly told advisers that Iran should surrender the nuclear material as a condition for ending the war. He has also indicated that the United States could seize the uranium by force if diplomatic negotiations fail. Despite the aggressive stance, Trump also suggested that indirect negotiations between the two sides are ongoing and that a

deal could still be reached quickly. However, the possibility of military action remains on the table. **Troop Deployment Raises Concerns** Reports indicate that the Pentagon is considering sending additional ground troops to the Gulf region as part of contingency planning. Thousands of American troops, including Marines and special forces, have already been deployed across the Middle East, raising fears of a broader conflict. Military experts warn that any ground operation inside Iran would be extremely dangerous. The mission could take days, expose troops to missile and drone attacks, and risk dragging the United States into a prolonged war. **High-Risk Military Move** Analysts say extracting uranium from fortified underground sites would require care-

ful planning and specialised equipment. The operation could involve securing nuclear facilities, transporting hazardous materials, and defending troops against potential Iranian retaliation. Such a move would mark a significant escalation in the conflict and could trigger wider regional tensions, involving other Middle Eastern countries. **A Critical Moment In The Conflict** The potential ground operation highlights how the conflict is entering a more dangerous phase. While negotiations continue, the consideration of boots-on-the-ground operations signals that military escalation remains a real possibility. With uranium extraction now part of the discussion, the coming days could prove crucial in determining whether the conflict moves toward diplomacy or deeper confrontation.



Bears Tighten Grip As Sensex Slides 1,636 Points, Nifty 50 Falls Below 22,350

Indian equity markets ended sharply lower on Monday, with heavy selling pressure dragging benchmark indices deep into the red. Weak global cues, rising crude oil prices, and regulatory developments weighed on investor sentiment, leading to broad-based declines across sectors. The Bombay Stock Exchange benchmark Sensex plunged 1,635.67 points, or 2.22 percent, to close at 71,947.55. Meanwhile, the National Stock Exchange Nifty 50 dropped 488.20 points, or 2.14 percent, to settle at 22,331.40, slipping below the crucial 22,350 level. The Nifty also touched an intraday low of 22,283.85, reflecting sustained selling throughout the session.

Broad-Based Selling Across Sectors

The decline was widespread, with almost all sectoral indices ending lower. Auto, FMCG, consumer durables, capital goods, telecom, realty, and banking stocks were among the biggest losers, falling between 2 and 4 percent. The across-the-board decline indicated strong bearish sentiment rather than selective profit booking. Banking and financial stocks faced significant pressure after tighter dollar position limits announced by the Reserve Bank of India. The move triggered selling in financial stocks, which contributed heavily to the overall market decline.

Broader markets also mirrored the weakness. Midcap and smallcap indices fell around 2.6 percent each, showing increased risk aversion among investors.

Global Cues Weigh On Markets

Weak global signals also impacted domestic markets. Rising crude oil prices and ongoing geopolitical tensions increased concerns about inflation and economic growth. These factors prompted investors to reduce exposure, leading to continued selling pressure.

Market participants also remained cautious ahead of key global and domestic developments. The uncertainty encouraged traders to book profits and shift to safer assets.

Weak End To Financial Year

The fall came on the final trading day of the financial year, adding to the cautious sentiment. March witnessed heightened volatility, with markets experiencing sharp swings. The recent decline reflects growing concerns over global uncertainties and domestic economic factors.

Market Outlook

Analysts believe volatility may continue in the near term, with investors closely tracking global cues, crude oil prices, and policy developments. The broad-based sell-off and weak closing suggest that bearish sentiment currently dominates the market. With indices ending near the day's lows and selling seen across sectors, bears appear to have tightened their grip. Investors are likely to remain cautious as markets head into the new financial year amid ongoing global and domestic uncertainties.



Reserve Bank of India Data Shows Credit To Industry Rises 13.5% In February

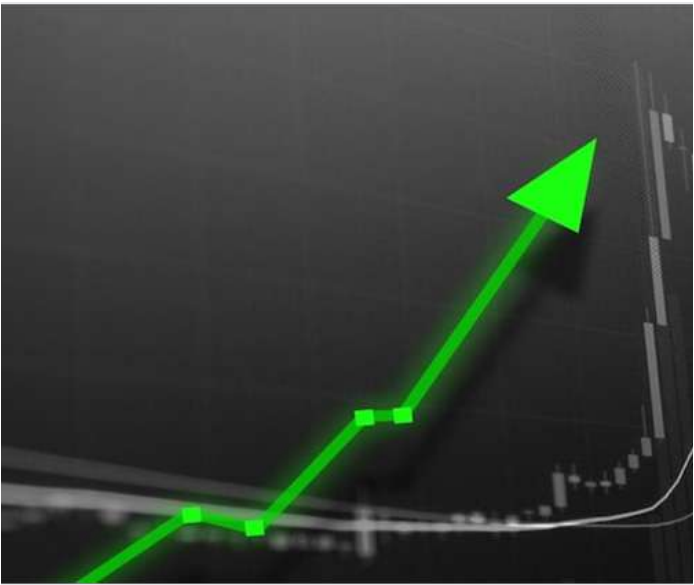
Bank credit to industry recorded a strong growth of 13.5 percent in February, reflecting improving demand for loans across industrial segments, according to data released by the Reserve Bank of India. The growth marks a significant increase compared with 7.5 percent recorded during the same period last year.

The central bank's sectoral deployment data, based on information from 41 select scheduled commercial banks accounting for nearly 95 percent of total non-food credit, showed that lending to industries gathered pace during the month. The data also indicated that credit growth remained broad-based across different industrial categories.

Loans to micro and small industries as well as medium-sized enterprises continued to show double-digit growth. Credit to large industries also recorded an improvement, suggesting strengthening business activity and higher borrowing demand from corporates.

Overall non-food bank credit also expanded at a faster pace. On a year-on-year basis, non-food credit grew by 14.3 percent as of the fortnight ending February 28, compared with 11.1 percent during the corresponding period last year. This indicates sustained momentum in lending activity across sectors of the economy.

The increase in industrial credit comes amid signs of improving economic activity and stronger investment demand.



Rising credit flow to micro, small and medium enterprises is particularly significant, as these sectors are often seen as key drivers of employment and industrial growth.

Higher lending to large industries also points to renewed capital expenditure plans and business expansion efforts. Increased borrowing by companies typically reflects improving confidence in economic conditions and demand outlook.

The data also suggests that banks are gradually increasing their exposure to industrial sectors, supported by stable asset quality and improved balance sheets. In recent months, credit growth has remained steady, driven by demand from industries, services, and retail borrowers.

The steady expansion in credit to industry is expected to support manufacturing activity, infrastructure development, and overall economic growth. Economists often view rising industrial credit as a positive signal for future investment and production.

However, analysts remain cautious about global uncertainties, interest rate movements, and inflation trends, which could influence borrowing costs and credit demand going forward. Overall, the RBI data indicates that industrial credit growth remained strong in February, with lending expanding across segments. The continued rise in credit to industry suggests improving business sentiment and strengthening economic momentum.

Rupee Breaches 95 Per Dollar Despite RBI Move To Curb Volatility

The Indian rupee fell to a fresh record low on March 30, breaching the psychologically significant 95-per-dollar mark despite regulatory measures by the Reserve Bank of India aimed at stabilising the currency. The decline highlights continued pressure on the domestic currency amid global uncertainties and persistent dollar demand.

The rupee touched an intraday low of 95.23 against the US dollar before recovering slightly to close at 94.83. The fall came even after the Reserve Bank of India capped banks' net open foreign exchange positions at \$100 million per day, a move intended to reduce speculation and limit excessive volatility in the currency market. However, the impact of the central bank's intervention appeared short-lived, with the rupee weakening again during the session.

The currency initially opened stronger following the RBI's directive, but quickly erased gains as demand for dollars from importers increased. Market participants rushed to cover their positions, leading to renewed pressure on the rupee. The move by banks to unwind their currency bets also added to market volatility.

The depreciation comes amid broader global concerns, including rising crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions, which have weighed on emerging market currencies.



India is a major importer of crude oil, higher oil prices tend to increase dollar demand, putting downward pressure on the rupee. The RBI's decision to cap banks' foreign exchange exposure was introduced after the rupee hit previous record lows earlier in the week. The central bank's directive requires banks to limit their currency exposure and unwind large positions, which may also result in losses for some lenders. Despite these measures, the rupee's weakness persisted, reflecting underlying

macroeconomic pressures.

Currency markets also remained cautious due to foreign capital outflows and a stronger US dollar globally. These factors have continued to weigh on investor sentiment, leading to increased volatility in the domestic currency. The decline also came on the final trading day of the financial year, when demand for dollars typically rises due to import payments and balance sheet adjustments by companies. This seasonal demand further contributed to the rupee's fall.

Analysts believe that while

the RBI's intervention may help limit sharp fluctuations, the broader direction of the rupee will depend on global developments, oil prices, and capital flows. If external pressures persist, the domestic currency may continue to face volatility in the near term. The rupee's fall below the 95 mark marks a significant milestone and underscores the challenges facing emerging market currencies amid global uncertainty. Market participants are now closely watching policy measures and global trends for further direction.

PC Jeweller Stock In Focus After MoU With National Skill Development Corporation

Shares of smallcap jewellery company PC Jeweller remained in focus after the firm announced signing a memorandum of understanding with the National Skill Development Corporation, a subsidiary of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

The company said it has been selected as an industry and franchise partner for the gems and jewellery sector under the agreement. As part of the initiative, PC Jeweller plans to develop and onboard up to two lakh micro-entrepreneurs across India over the next five years. The programme aims to promote entrepreneurship, generate employment, and strengthen local economic development.

The initiative is part of a broader entrepreneurship programme covering multiple sectors, with one lead industry partner identified for each segment. Under this framework, PC Jeweller will help build a network of entrepreneurs in the gems and jewellery space while expanding skill development opportunities across the country.

Stock Movement

Following the announcement, the stock saw volatility during the trading session. The shares opened slightly lower compared to the previous close but later moved higher before witnessing profit booking. The



stock also touched its 52-week low during the session, reflecting continued fluctuations in investor sentiment.

The counter has remained under pressure in recent months, with investors closely tracking company developments and broader market trends.

Additional Corporate Development

In a separate update, the company announced that its board allotted more than 20 crore equity shares following the conversion of warrants to select investors. The move is expected to strengthen the company's capital base and support future expansion plans.

Growth Outlook

The partnership with the National Skill Development Corporation is expected to support employment generation and entrepreneurship development across India. By onboarding micro-entrepreneurs, PC Jeweller aims to expand its reach and create new business opportunities in the gems and jewellery segment. The development has kept the smallcap jewellery stock on investors' radar, with market participants watching for further updates regarding the rollout of the initiative and its potential impact on the company's long-term growth strategy.

Railway and metro equipment manufacturer Pioneer Fil Med has filed draft papers with the Securities and Exchange Board of India to raise 500 crore through an initial public offering (IPO). The move marks the company's plan to expand its manufacturing capacity and strengthen its presence in the growing railway and metro infrastructure sector. The proposed IPO comprises a fresh issue of shares worth 250 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of 250 crore by existing promoters and shareholders. Promoter entities Pioneer Factor IT Infra developers and Aztech India are expected to sell shares worth 125 crore each under the offer-for-sale component.

The company may also consider a pre-IPO placement of up to 50 crore before filing the red herring prospectus. If completed, this amount will be deducted from the fresh issue portion of the IPO.

Expansion And Utilisation Of Funds

Pioneer Fil-Med plans to use the proceeds from the fresh issue to expand its manufacturing capabilities. A significant portion of the funds will be allocated to setting up a new gearbox manufacturing facility. The company also intends to invest in establishing a wind generator components manufacturing unit in Salarpur. The remaining funds will be used for general corporate purposes.



The expansion is aimed at strengthening the company's product portfolio and tapping into growing opportunities in railway, metro, and renewable energy segments.

Company Background

Founded in 2001, Pioneer Fil-Med initially started with manufacturing filters for railway and automotive applications. Over the years, the company diversified its offerings to include traction motors, alternators, brake discs, gangways, stators and rotors for locomotives, and platform screen doors for metro systems. It also manufactures components for wind energy equipment.

The company supplies equip-

ment for railway and metro infrastructure projects, sectors that have seen strong growth due to increasing investments in transportation infrastructure across India.

Growth Strategy

The IPO is expected to help the company scale operations and strengthen its market position. With rising investments in railway modernisation and metro rail expansion, demand for specialised equipment is expected to grow steadily.

The capital raised will also help improve the company's financial position, enhance operational capacity, and support long-term growth plans.

Sector Outlook

India's railway and metro infrastructure sectors continue to expand, driven by urbanisation, government initiatives, and increasing demand for efficient public transport systems. Companies operating in this space are witnessing strong growth opportunities.

Pioneer Fil-Med's decision to tap the capital markets comes at a time when engineering and manufacturing firms are seeking funds to expand operations and capture infrastructure-led growth. With its diversified product range and expansion plans, the company aims to strengthen its footprint in the railway and metro equipment segment.

“Inform Family Twice”: Woman’s Joke About Bengaluru Airport Distance Goes Viral

A humorous social media post about Bengaluru’s airport distance has gone viral, leaving many travellers amused and nodding in agreement. The post, shared by a woman named Megha, highlighted the long journey passengers often face after landing at Bengaluru’s airport. Her witty remark suggested that travellers in Bengaluru should inform their families twice — once after landing and again after finally reaching home. Megha shared a photo from the airport along with her light-hearted observation. She joked that Bengaluru might be the only place where landing at the airport doesn’t really mean you’re close to home. According to her, it often takes around two hours to reach different parts of the city, depending on traffic conditions and distance. Her relatable comment quickly caught attention online and sparked a wave of reactions. Social media users found the remark both funny and accurate. Many shared their own experiences of long airport commutes, agreeing that the journey from the airport can sometimes feel longer than the flight itself. Some users mentioned that during peak traffic hours, the travel time can extend even further, occasionally reaching three to four hours. Others added that they often plan their airport pickups carefully because of the unpredictable traffic. While many agreed with the observation, a few users pointed out that Bengaluru is not alone in this situation. They noted that several major cities around the world also have airports located far from the main urban areas. However, most commenters still felt that Bengaluru’s traffic congestion makes the journey particularly challenging. Bengaluru’s airport is situated on the outskirts of the city, which contributes to the extended travel time. With the city’s rapid growth and increasing traffic, commuting from the airport has become a common concern for both residents and visitors. Although infrastructure improvements and connectivity options continue to develop, the journey remains time-consuming for many travellers. Despite being a simple joke, Megha’s post struck a chord with countless people who have experienced the same situation. Her humorous take turned a daily travel frustration into an entertaining conversation online. The viral post not only brought laughter but also highlighted a shared reality faced by those travelling to and from Bengaluru.



Bengaluru Woman Alleges Phone Theft at Chinnaswamy Stadium, Calls It “Organised Crime”

A Bengaluru woman has alleged that her mobile phone was stolen during a cricket match at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, claiming the incident appeared to be part of an organised operation. Her post on social media quickly gained attention, sparking concerns about security arrangements at the venue. According to the woman, the incident took place while she was attending a match at the stadium. She claimed that her phone was stolen amid heavy crowd movement and later suggested that the theft did not appear to be an isolated incident. In her post, she described the situation as “organised crime,” raising concerns about the presence of coordinated groups targeting spectators. The woman further alleged that the individuals involved were wearing Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) jerseys and were carrying complimentary match tickets. This detail led her to suspect that the thefts may have been carried out by a group working together inside the stadium. Her claims quickly gained traction online, with many users sharing similar experiences and concerns about security during crowded events. Her post triggered widespread reactions on social media. Several users supported her claims, stating that large gatherings at stadiums often create opportunities for pickpocketing and theft. Others urged authorities to strengthen security measures and improve crowd monitoring during matches. The allegations come at a time when multiple fans have reported losing their phones during a recent match at the same venue. Around a dozen phones were reportedly lost during a game, with several complaints filed with police. Authorities have since begun reviewing CCTV footage to determine whether the phones were misplaced or stolen. While the woman’s claims have not been officially confirmed, the incident has raised concerns about spectator safety and security at major sporting events. Large crowds, limited movement space, and excitement during matches often create conditions where theft incidents can occur unnoticed. The viral post has also sparked a broader discussion about the need for improved security protocols, including better surveillance, crowd management, and quicker response systems for reporting lost items. As the conversation continues online, many fans are calling for stricter measures to ensure a safer match-day experience at the stadium.



Mother’s Tribute: Chinese Woman Makes Shoe Pads for Soldiers for 20 Years After Son’s Heroic Death

A grieving mother in China has spent more than two decades honouring her late son in a deeply moving way — by handcrafting shoe pads for soldiers serving in difficult conditions. Her story of love, loss and dedication has touched many, turning personal tragedy into a lifelong mission of compassion. Zhang Xinghui from Chongqing lost her son, Gu Nu, in 2005. The 19-year-old soldier died during a rescue operation in Tibet after a landslide struck. While trying to save a fellow soldier, he sacrificed his life — a moment that left his family devastated. Before receiving the tragic news, Zhang had already prepared 20 pairs of handmade shoe pads and planned to visit her son. When she later travelled to meet his fellow soldiers, she was deeply moved by their challenging working conditions. Many of them had to patrol long distances on rugged mountain paths in harsh weather, often for extended periods. Zhang distributed the shoe pads she had made and decided to continue supporting soldiers in memory of her son. What began as a small gesture soon turned into a long-term commitment. Over the past 20 years, she has hand-stitched more than 1,000 pairs of shoe pads, each carefully crafted with patience and care. She believes the long threads she uses while sewing represent her love and memories of her son. Despite growing older and facing health concerns, Zhang continues her work, saying she will keep making shoe pads as long as she is physically able. Over the years, Zhang has travelled to Tibet multiple times to personally deliver the shoe pads. During her visits, she also brings local specialties from her hometown and offers encouragement to soldiers, reminding them to stay safe while performing their duties. Her dedication has helped her form close bonds with many soldiers, especially those who served alongside her son. Many now call her “Mother” and remain in touch with her. She also attends family gatherings and celebrations with them, treating their children like her own. Though she lost one son, Zhang says she feels she has gained many more through her continued support for soldiers. Her heartfelt tribute stands as a powerful reminder of how grief can be transformed into kindness, and how one mother’s love can continue to inspire even after loss.



Viral Yellow Plastic Bag Isn’t Balenciaga Trash Bag – Here’s The Real Story

A simple yellow plastic bag recently went viral online after many social media users mistakenly believed it was an expensive designer item from Balenciaga. However, the truth behind the buzz turned out to be far more meaningful than a high-fashion accessory. The confusion began when Chinese actress Zhang Jingyi appeared at the Beijing International Film Festival carrying what looked like an ordinary yellow plastic bag. The unexpected accessory quickly caught attention, with many social media users joking that it resembled one of Balenciaga’s unconventional fashion pieces. Given the brand’s reputation for launching unusual and sometimes controversial designs, many assumed the bag was a luxury item. The speculation gained momentum, with several users claiming the plastic bag could be an expensive designer product similar to the brand’s previously discussed “trash bag”-style accessories. However, the viral claims were soon clarified. The yellow plastic bag was not a designer item at all. Instead, it was a simple prop connected to Zhang Jingyi’s film, The One. In the movie, the yellow plastic bag carries emotional significance and plays an important role in the storyline. According to reports, the bag is used by Zhang Jingyi’s character as a communication tool with her hearing-impaired parents. The object becomes a symbol of love, connection, and understanding within the film’s narrative. By carrying the bag at the film festival, the actress appeared to be paying tribute to her character and the story’s emotional theme. Once the real reason behind the bag became known, reactions online quickly shifted. Many users who initially joked about the “designer trash bag” appreciated the deeper meaning behind the simple accessory. Others praised Zhang Jingyi for using a modest object to highlight the emotional essence of her film. The incident also sparked broader conversations about how quickly assumptions can spread on social media, particularly when luxury brands are involved. A simple plastic bag, initially mistaken for a high-end fashion statement, ultimately turned out to represent a heartfelt story. In the end, what began as a viral fashion mystery became a touching reminder that sometimes the simplest items carry the most powerful meaning.

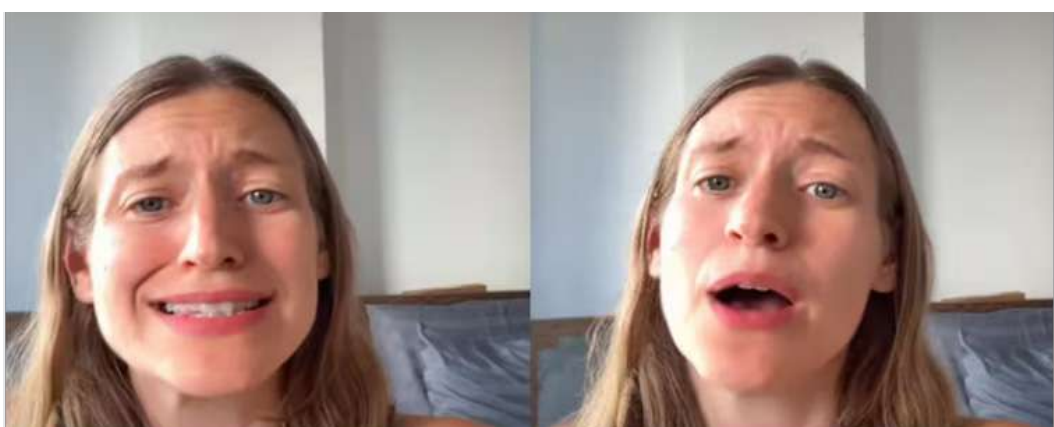
Michael Vaughan Shares Mumbai Gully Cricket Moment, Wins Hearts Online

Former England captain Michael Vaughan has delighted cricket fans after sharing a heartwarming glimpse of gully cricket from the streets of Mumbai. The video, posted on X, showed children playing cricket in a narrow lane — a familiar and nostalgic sight for millions across India. Vaughan captioned the clip as a “Monday morning in Mumbai,” but what truly caught his attention was a young boy patiently waiting for his turn to bat. Highlighting the moment, Vaughan wrote, “Check out the young lad waiting to bat,” a simple observation that quickly resonated with cricket lovers online. The short video captured children enthusiastically playing cricket in a cramped street, turning the narrow lane into their playground. Despite limited space, the excitement and passion of the young players were evident. The boy waiting eagerly for his chance became the highlight of the video, symbolising the dreams many youngsters carry while playing gully cricket. The post quickly gained traction, especially amid the excitement surrounding the Indian Premier League season. Many users praised the innocence and simplicity of the moment, saying it reminded them of their own childhood memories of playing cricket in neighbourhood streets. Social media users flooded the comments section with warm reactions. Some described the video as capturing the true spirit of Mumbai, while others said the children could be future cricket stars. A few even mentioned that such street games often produce legends like Sachin Tendulkar or Rohit Sharma. The viral clip once again highlighted India’s deep-rooted love for cricket, where the sport thrives not only in stadiums but also in small streets and neighbourhoods. For many young players, gully cricket is where their journey begins, and Vaughan’s post served as a reminder of how the game connects people across cultures. The charming moment quickly became a talking point online, with fans celebrating the enthusiasm of young cricketers and the universal appeal of the sport.



US Woman Praises India’s Fast, Affordable Healthcare, Internet Reacts

A woman from the United States has gone viral after praising India’s healthcare system, calling it fast, accessible, and surprisingly affordable. The woman, identified as Liz, shared her experience in a video posted on Instagram, which quickly caught the attention of users online. In the video, Liz initially described Indian healthcare as “really annoying,” but soon clarified that she was being sarcastic. She explained that what she actually found surprising was how quick and easy it was to receive medical care. According to her, she could walk into a hospital, consult a doctor on the same day, and receive treatment without long waiting times. Comparing her experience with healthcare in the United States, Liz pointed out that getting a doctor’s appointment there often involves contacting multiple clinics, waiting for weeks, and paying significantly higher costs. She jokingly remarked that India makes healthcare “too easy,” highlighting the stark difference between the two systems. Her video quickly drew widespread reactions online. Many users agreed with her observations and shared their own experiences. Some said they were able to get blood tests, scans, and medical reports within hours in India. Others noted that many services are available at relatively low costs, making healthcare more accessible to a larger population. The viral post also sparked broader discussions about healthcare accessibility in different countries. Several users praised India’s system for its speed and affordability, while others pointed out that experiences can vary depending on location and facility. Liz’s video resonated with viewers, especially those who have experienced healthcare systems in multiple countries. Her light-hearted yet meaningful comparison highlighted how everyday services like healthcare can differ greatly across the world. The clip quickly became a talking point online, with many people appreciating India’s healthcare accessibility and sharing their own positive experiences.



Sachin Tendulkar Hails Rohit Sharma, Shardul Thakur As Mumbai Indians Break 13-Year-Old Jinx

Sachin Tendulkar praised Rohit Sharma and Shardul Thakur after Mumbai Indians secured a thrilling victory over Kolkata Knight Riders to break a 13-year jinx in their opening match of the Indian Premier League 2026 season.

Playing at the Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai Indians chased down a massive 221-run target with six wickets in hand and five balls to spare, registering their first opening-match victory since 2012. Rohit Sharma and Ryan Rickelton laid the foundation with a brilliant 148-run opening partnership that put the team firmly in control of the chase.

Following the win, Tendulkar took to social media to praise the performances, applauding Rohit's attacking approach and Shardul Thakur's crucial contribution with the ball. His message celebrated



Mumbai Indians' strong start and highlighted the importance of the team effort in

achieving the milestone victory. Rohit Sharma's aggressive

knock set the tone early in the chase, while Shardul Thakur played a key role in restricting

Kolkata Knight Riders earlier in the innings. Their combined efforts helped Mumbai Indians overcome the long-standing opening-game jinx.

The victory marked a significant morale boost for Mumbai Indians as they began their IPL 2026 campaign on a positive note. Breaking the 13-year drought also raised expectations among fans, with the team aiming for a strong season ahead.

Mumbai Indians, five-time IPL champions, had struggled in their opening matches for more than a decade. The emphatic win not only ended that run but also showcased the team's strong batting depth and improved bowling performance.

With momentum on their side, Mumbai Indians will now look to build on this impressive start as the tournament progresses.



"Want You Here For Rest Of Your Career": Hardik Pandya's Gesture For MI Star Wins Hearts

Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya won hearts with a warm gesture for teammate Shardul Thakur after the team's impressive victory over Kolkata Knight Riders in their IPL 2026 opener.

Following Mumbai Indians' six-wicket win, Pandya heaped praise on Shardul Thakur for his crucial performance with the ball. The captain highlighted how the all-rounder played an important role in helping the team restrict the opposition and maintain control of the game.

Speaking after the match, Pandya revealed that he had a heartfelt message for Thakur. He said he wanted the all-rounder to remain with Mumbai Indians for the rest of his career, jokingly referring to Thakur's history of moving between multiple IPL franchises. The comment quickly gained attention and was widely appreciated by fans for its warmth and team spirit.

Shardul Thakur delivered a strong performance during the match, using his variations effectively and troubling the Kolkata Knight Riders batters. His contribution helped Mumbai Indians put pressure on the opposition and set up the victory.

Pandya acknowledged Thakur's ability to outsmart batters and praised his bowling intelligence.

The match also saw Mumbai Indians produce a strong batting display while chasing a challenging total. The team's solid start and composed middle-order effort ensured that they crossed the finish line comfortably, marking a positive beginning to their IPL 2026 campaign.

Pandya's comments reflected the growing camaraderie within the Mumbai Indians squad. His public praise for Thakur highlighted the importance of team unity and confidence early in the tournament.

Fans on social media appreciated the captain's gesture, calling it a sign of strong leadership and a supportive team environment. Many also pointed out that such encouragement could boost player morale and help Mumbai Indians maintain momentum in the tournament.

With the win, Mumbai Indians began their IPL 2026 campaign on a high note. The performance, along with Pandya's heartfelt gesture, added to the positive atmosphere within the squad as they look ahead to the rest of the season.



Hardik Pandya Gifts Girlfriend Mahika Sharma 1.7 Crore Luxury Car, Internet In Awe

India all-rounder Hardik Pandya once again grabbed headlines, this time for a grand romantic gesture. The Mumbai Indians captain gifted his girlfriend Mahika Sharma a luxury car worth approximately 1.7 crore, leaving fans impressed and social media buzzing. Pandya reportedly presented Sharma with India's first Mercedes-Benz V-Class, one of the most premium and spacious luxury vehicles currently available in the country. The gesture came amid the ongoing IPL 2026 season, adding to the buzz around the star cricketer both on and off the field. Pictures of the couple posing with the luxury vehicle quickly went viral online. Fans flooded social media with reactions, with many praising Pandya's romantic gesture and extravagant lifestyle. Several users described the gift as "grand" and "heart-winning," while others admired the cricketer's fondness for luxury cars.

The gift also comes shortly after Pandya treated himself to an ultra-luxury Ferrari reportedly worth around 12 crore,

highlighting his growing collection of high-end vehicles. The Indian star has often made headlines for his lavish purchases, expensive watches, and premium lifestyle choices.

Pandya has frequently been spotted with Mahika Sharma in recent months. The cricketer has also credited her for providing support and positivity during key moments in his career. Their public appearances and social media moments have attracted significant attention from fans. On the cricketing front, Pandya recently led Mumbai Indians to a strong start in IPL 2026 with a convincing victory over Kolkata Knight Riders. While his leadership and performance drew praise, his latest off-field gesture quickly became another talking point among fans.

The luxury gift has once again highlighted Pandya's flair for grand gestures and his high-profile lifestyle. As photos continue to circulate online, fans remain in awe of the cricketer's romantic move and his ever-growing collection of luxury vehicles.

No IPL 2026 Broadcast In Bangladesh Even If Government Lifts Ban – Here's Why

Cricket fans in Bangladesh are set to miss the Indian Premier League 2026 season, even if the government lifts its broadcast ban. The reason lies in a terminated broadcast agreement that has left the tournament without an official broadcaster in the country. Reports indicate that there will be no official telecast of IPL 2026 in Bangladesh after JioStar ended its broadcasting agreement with local partner T Sports. The termination came after what was described as continued failure to meet payment deadlines under the contract. With the deal cancelled, there is currently no broadcaster available to air the matches in Bangladesh.

Government's U-Turn Not Enough
The Bangladesh govern-

ment had earlier imposed a ban on IPL broadcasts following controversy surrounding Bangladesh fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman. The decision sparked debate among fans and officials, given the IPL's massive popularity in the country. Recently, authorities indicated a softer stance, stating they would not stop any broadcaster from airing the matches if a partner came forward. However, despite this apparent U-turn, the termination of the broadcast deal means no channel currently holds the rights to telecast the tournament.

Impact Beyond IPL
The cancelled agreement also affects the Women's Premier League, which was part of the same sublicensing arrangement covering multiple seasons. With the deal

scrapped, both tournaments now lack official broadcasting partners in Bangladesh.

Fans Left Disappointed
The IPL enjoys a massive following in Bangladesh, with fans closely tracking performances of international stars and local players. The absence of official broadcasts is expected to disappoint millions of viewers who traditionally tune in to the tournament every year.

Uncertain Future
While the Bangladesh government is still reviewing its position, the lack of a broadcasting partner means IPL 2026 will likely remain unavailable on television in the country. Unless a new deal is struck quickly, Bangladeshi fans may have to wait until future seasons to watch the tournament through official channels.



Rohit Sharma's Banter With Umpire After Bat Nearly Fails Test During MI vs KKR

Rohit Sharma grabbed attention during the Indian Premier League 2026 clash between Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders after a light-hearted moment with the umpire during a routine bat inspection.

As Rohit walked out to bat at Wankhede Stadium, his bat was checked using the standard gauge to ensure it complied with size regulations. During the inspection, the bat appeared to get stuck and almost failed the test, prompting a brief discussion between Rohit and the umpire.

However, after a second check, the bat successfully passed the test. Rohit then shared a playful "told you so" expression with the umpire, leading to a moment of banter that quickly went viral on social media.

The light-hearted exchange didn't distract Rohit, who went on to deliver a brilliant performance. The star batter smashed 78 runs off just 38 balls while chasing a daunting 221-run target, helping Mumbai Indians secure a memorable victory.

The knock also saw Rohit achieve a notable milestone. He became the player with the most runs against a single



team in IPL history, surpassing previous records with his consistent performances against Kolkata Knight Riders.

The amusing bat-check moment added to an eventful evening, with fans enjoying both Rohit's batting masterclass and his humorous interaction with the umpire. The clip quickly circulated online, with many praising Rohit's calm attitude and sense of humour.

Mumbai Indians' strong start to IPL 2026, combined with Rohit Sharma's entertaining moment, made the match one of the most talked-about fixtures early in the tournament.

Pakistan Super League Rocked By Ball-Tampering Controversy, Incident Caught On Camera

The Pakistan Super League (PSL) has been hit by a major controversy after an alleged ball-tampering incident during a match between Lahore Qalandars and Karachi Kings. The moment, caught on camera, quickly sparked debate among fans and experts.

The controversy unfolded during the final over of the match when Karachi Kings needed 14 runs to win. Just before the over began, cameras captured a brief discussion between Lahore Qalandars players, including Fakhar Zaman,

Shaheen Shah Afridi and Haris Rauf. Soon after, umpires inspected the ball and concluded that its condition had been deliberately altered.

Following the inspection, the match officials awarded Karachi Kings five penalty runs and replaced the ball. The decision significantly impacted the match, reducing Karachi's target and shifting momentum in their favour. Karachi Kings eventually chased down the revised target and secured victory with balls to spare.

Fakhar Zaman Faces Charges
After the incident, Fakhar

Zaman was charged with ball-tampering. The Pakistan Cricket Board confirmed that the matter had been referred to match referee Roshan Mahanama, and a hearing was conducted. Fakhar denied the allegations during the proceedings, and another hearing is expected before a final decision is taken.

The controversy gained further attention after visuals of the incident circulated widely on social media, prompting strong reactions from fans and former players.

Shaheen Afridi Under Spotlight

Lahore Qalandars captain Shaheen Shah Afridi also came under scrutiny following the incident. During a post-match interaction, former Pakistan captain Ramiz Raja questioned Afridi about the episode. Afridi said he would need to review the footage before making any comments, which further fuelled speculation.

Debate Over Spirit Of Cricket

The incident has reignited discussions about fair play and the spirit of the game. Ball-tampering is considered a serious offence in cricket and can result in penalties, suspen-

sions, or fines depending on the severity.

The controversy has also drawn comparisons with past ball-tampering incidents in international cricket, with critics calling for strict action if wrongdoing is confirmed.

PSL Faces Fresh Controversy

The episode has put the PSL under the spotlight, with fans and analysts calling for clarity and transparency. As investigations continue, the cricketing world now awaits the final verdict, which could have implications for players and the tournament moving forward.



Pradeep Ranganathan-Krithi Shetty's 'LIK' Postponed Again, New Release Date Announced

The much-awaited Tamil film Love Insurance Kompany (LIK), starring Pradeep Ranganathan and Krithi Shetty, has once again been postponed, continuing its long run of release delays.

Initially scheduled to hit theatres on April 3, the makers have now officially pushed the release date to April 10. This marks yet another postponement for the film, which has already faced multiple delays over the past several months.

Directed by Vignesh Shivan, the film has generated significant buzz due to its unique concept and strong cast. However, despite the anticipation, repeated postponements have left fans waiting longer than expected.

According to reports, the film's delays are attributed to various issues, including financial and technical factors. Industry sources suggest that ongoing financial settlements and other pro-

duction-related challenges have contributed to the repeated changes in release schedule. (

The film, produced by Nayanthara along with S.S. Lalit Kumar, features a notable ensemble cast including S. J. Suryah, Yogi Babu, and Gouri Kishan. Music for the film is composed by Anirudh Ravichander, adding to the overall hype.

Despite the delays, the makers have reassured fans that the film will now release on April 10, aiming to finally bring the long-awaited project to theatres.

Love Insurance Kompany is also being dubbed into Telugu and is expected to release simultaneously across multiple languages, expanding its reach among audiences.

With continuous postponements creating uncertainty, fans are hoping that this new date will remain final and that the film will live up to expectations upon release.

'Project Hail Mary' Storms Box Office: 17 Crore India Weekend, \$300M Global in 10 Days

The sci-fi spectacle Project Hail Mary, starring Ryan Gosling, has taken the global box office by storm, emerging as one of the biggest theatrical successes of the year. Within just 10 days of release, the film has crossed an impressive \$300 million worldwide, signaling massive audience acceptance across markets.

In India, the film has delivered a powerful extended opening weekend, collecting 17.28 crore. This marks one of the strongest debuts for a Hollywood science-fiction film in recent times, positioning India as a key contributor to its global success.

A major factor behind this performance is the overwhelming demand for premium viewing formats. IMAX and 4DX screenings have witnessed unprecedented occupancy levels, with shows selling out within hours in major cities. In a rare phenomenon, theatres introduced ultra-early morning shows—at 3:45 AM, 5:00 AM, and 7:00 AM—which also ran housefull, reflecting extraordinary audience enthusiasm. The film, directed by Phil Lord and Christopher Miller, released in India on March 26 and showed consistent growth over the extended weekend. Strong word of mouth and repeat viewership, particularly in premium formats, have driven its steady



rise in collections.

Day-wise India Box Office (Gross):

- Day 1 (Thursday): 2.8 crore
- Day 2 (Friday): 3.33 crore
- Day 3 (Saturday): 5.35 crore
- Day 4 (Sunday): 5.8 crore
- Extended Weekend Total: 17.28 crore

The film has also outperformed several iconic Hollywood sci-fi releases in India. It has recorded significantly higher opening numbers compared to films like Interstellar, Dune: Part Two, The Martian, and Gravity, highlighting its exceptional start.

Further underscoring its success, Project Hail Mary has already surpassed the lifetime collections of all Hollywood releases in India this year. It is also the first international

film since Avatar: Fire & Ash to create such a strong impact at the Indian box office.

The film follows astronaut Ryland Grace, who wakes up alone on a spacecraft with no memory, only to discover he holds the key to saving humanity. Backed by Amazon MGM Studios and distributed by Sony Pictures Releasing International, the movie is currently playing in multiple languages including English, Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu.

With exceptional word of mouth, surging demand for premium formats, and strong global momentum, Project Hail Mary is well on track to become one of the biggest Hollywood blockbusters of the year.

Ram Charan Resumes 'Peddi' Shoot Soon After Minor Eye Surgery

Ram Charan has once again showcased his dedication to work by returning to the sets of his upcoming film Peddi shortly after undergoing a minor eye surgery.

The actor had recently sustained a small injury near his eye while shooting an action sequence for the film. Following the incident, doctors performed a minor surgical procedure to treat the injury. Though the situation initially caused concern among fans and family members, it was later clarified that the injury was not serious and required only minimal medical intervention.

Soon after completing treatment and taking brief rest, Ram Charan made a quick recovery and resumed shooting, highlighting his professionalism and commitment. His swift return to work has impressed both the film's team and fans, especially given the physically demanding nature of his role.

Megastar Chiranjeevi also expressed gratitude to the doctors who treated Charan. He acknowledged their timely care and expertise, stating that the family was relieved after initial concerns and thankful for the successful procedure.



Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, is one of the most anticipated Telugu films. The movie features Ram Charan in a rugged and physically intense role, reportedly that of a wrestler, requiring extensive training and transformation. Actress Janhvi Kapoor plays the female lead in the film.

Despite the temporary setback, the film's production continues without major delays, with Charan actively participating in the shoot again. His quick comeback has reassured fans and reinforced his reputation as a dedicated performer who prioritizes his craft even in challenging situations. With shooting progressing steadily, Peddi remains one of the most awaited releases, and Ram Charan's commitment is expected to add further excitement around the project.

Actress Honey Rose Faces Misbehaviour at Kerala Event, Video Sparks Outrage

Malayalam actress Honey Rose had an unpleasant experience during a public event in Kerala, after some individuals allegedly behaved inappropriately while trying to take selfies with her.

The incident occurred during the inauguration of a jewellery store in Kozhikode, where the actress attended as a chief guest. A large crowd had gathered to catch a glimpse of her, and the situation soon turned chaotic as fans rushed forward for selfies. According to reports, a few individuals crossed the line under the pretext of taking pictures and allegedly touched the actress inappropriately, causing discomfort. Despite being in a crowded public setting, Honey Rose maintained her composure. However, visibly uncomfortable with the situation, she quickly moved away from the crowd and left the spot.

Videos of the incident have since gone viral on social media, drawing widespread criticism. Netizens and members of the film fraternity have

strongly condemned the behaviour, calling for stricter security arrangements at such public events, especially when celebrities are involved.

The episode has once again highlighted concerns over the safety of actresses at crowded promotional and inauguration events. Similar incidents involving female celebrities have been reported in the past, raising questions about crowd control and event management.

As outrage grows online, many are demanding strict action against those responsible and urging organisers to ensure better protection for celebrities in future events.

The incident serves as a reminder that admiration for public figures should not cross boundaries, and maintaining dignity and respect in public spaces is essential.

strongly condemned the behaviour, calling for stricter security arrangements at such public events, especially when celebrities are involved.

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"Chennai Love Story Will Be One of India's Greatest Love Stories" – Kiran Abbavaram

Chennai Love Story is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated romantic dramas, with hero Kiran Abbavaram expressing strong confidence that the film will stand among the greatest love stories in Indian cinema.

Speaking at the grand launch of the song "Gurthundha" in Hyderabad, Kiran said the entire team has poured immense effort into the film, promising an emotional and memorable experience for audiences. He highlighted that the story by Sai Rajesh itself gave him complete confidence to accept the project instantly.

The film stars Sri Gouri Priya as the female lead and is directed by Ravi Namburii. It is produced under Amrutha Productions and Mass Movie Makers by SKN and Sai Rajesh, the makers known for cult hits like Colour Photo and Baby.

Music is composed by Mani Sharma, and the film features seven songs, all expected to be major highlights. Kiran revealed that the film will feel like a "music concert" in theatres, with every song designed to leave a lasting impact.

Director Sai Rajesh shared that the film was made with pure passion rather than commercial pressure. He praised Ravi Namburii for elevating

the story beyond his expectations and said the emotional depth of the film even brought him to tears during editing.

Heroine Sri Gouri Priya expressed happiness over the growing expectations and thanked the makers for trusting her with such an important role, noting that her character holds equal weight to the hero's. Technicians and team members also lauded the film's content and working environment. Lyricist Ananta Sriram emphasized that the team worked without ego, focusing only on delivering a quality film. DOP Vishwas Daniel and choreographer Vijay Polaki highlighted the dedication of the actors and the uniqueness of the film's presentation.

Producer SKN stated that the film is being made with high technical standards, including Dolby sound, and assured audiences that it will offer "double the value" for their money. He also hinted that the initially planned June 26 release date may be rescheduled due to a clash with a major release.

With shooting nearing completion and strong buzz around its music and emotional storytelling, Chennai Love Story is expected to emerge as a memorable romantic film that resonates deeply with audiences.

Murugadoss Faces Trouble After 'Madharaasi' Losses, Producer Seeks Compensation

Tamil filmmaker A. R. Murugadoss has landed in controversy following financial losses related to his film Madharaasi, starring Sivakarthikeyan.

According to reports, the film's producer has filed a complaint against Murugadoss, alleging heavy financial losses due to a significant budget overrun. The project was initially planned with a budget of around 115 crore, but production costs reportedly escalated to nearly 170-180 crore, leading to major losses.

Despite the film's release, it failed to perform up to expectations at the box office, worsening the financial situation for the



producer. As a result, the producer has demanded 10 crore in compensation and approached the Directors' and Producers' Council seeking resolution.

The issue was reviewed by the council, which intervened to settle the dispute. Instead of direct financial compensation, Murugadoss has reportedly agreed to provide the sto-

ry for Ramana 2 free of cost as part of the settlement.

Industry sources also suggest that delays in production and the director simultaneously working on other projects contributed to the budget escalation. These factors reportedly led to poor planning and increased costs during the film's making. This controversy has added to the challenges faced by Murugadoss in recent years, as some of his recent films have not performed as expected commercially. The Madharaasi issue has now become a major talking point in the Tamil film industry. With the settlement in place, attention will now shift to Murugadoss' upcoming projects and whether he can bounce back strongly after this setback.