



BUZZ POINTS



PM Modi Holds Roadshow in Puducherry as Triangular Contest Heats Up PAGE 08



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'Telangana to Become Textile Capital of South Asia by 2047': Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on Friday unveiled an ambitious vision to transform the state into the textile capital of South Asia by 2047...

The global summit, jointly organized by the Telangana government and the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry, witnessed participation from over 1,200 delegates...

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister highlighted Telangana's roadmap under the "Telangana Rising" vision, aiming to build a one trillion dollar economy by 2034...

Revanth Reddy emphasized that textiles are deeply rooted in Telangana's heritage and economy. He cited renowned handloom products such as Po-champally Ikat, Gadwal sarees...



anpet weaves as symbols of the state's rich tradition. "Textiles are not just an industry but a lifeline for our weaving communities," he said...

Highlighting historical trade links, the Chief Minister noted that Hyderabad has long been a hub for global commerce, attracting traders from across the world during the Nizam era...

He said Telangana possesses both "skill and will" to emerge

as a global textile hub, pointing to infrastructure such as the Kakatiya Mega Textile Park in Warangal and multiple apparel parks across the state...

Integrate fashion sourcing with the film industry. The government, he said, is committed to developing green textile hubs with a strong focus on environmental sustainability...

Revanth Reddy stated that immediately after the formation of the new government, decisive steps were taken to address long-pending recruitment issues. He said the administration promptly issued the Group-1 notification...

Revanth Reddy Welcomes Supreme Court Verdict on Group-1 Recruitment

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has welcomed the verdict of the Supreme Court of India on the Group-1 recruitment process...

In his statement, the Chief Minister said the judgment has brought significant relief to thousands of aspirants who had been waiting for years for government job opportunities...

Revanth Reddy stated that immediately after the formation of the new government, decisive steps were taken to address long-pending recruitment issues. He said the administration promptly issued the Group-1 notification...

The Chief Minister highlighted that the successful completion of the recruitment process marks a new beginning for

Telangana's youth. He described the selected candidates as the first batch of Group-1 officers contributing to the rebuilding and development of the state...

Revanth Reddy also appreciated the efforts of the TGpsc Chairman, officials, and staff for successfully executing the recruitment process in a transparent and time-bound manner...

Reiterating his government's commitment, the Chief Minister assured that more employment opportunities would be created in the future and that recruitment processes would continue to be conducted in a fair, transparent, and efficient manner...

Vote for Congress Candidates, We Are Committed to Deliver Promises: Bhatti Vikramarka

Puducherry, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu urged voters to elect Congress candidates with a massive majority...

He, along with Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and Puducherry PCC President Vaidyanam, campaigned extensively in the Manavelly and M. Balam Assembly constituencies...

Addressing the gathering, Bhatti Vikramarka said that strengthening democracy and protecting the rights and freedoms granted by the Constitution is possible only by electing Congress and DMK alliance candidates...

He said Telangana stands as a strong example for the successful implementation of welfare schemes. Soon after coming to power, the Congress



government began delivering on its promises from the very first Cabinet meeting. Highlighting achievements, he said the government waived farm loans worth 21,000 crore benefiting nearly 25 lakh farmer families...

inders, and the Indiramma housing scheme. These initiatives, he said, are helping reduce the financial burden on families, especially women. Bhatti Vikramarka expressed confidence that Telangana is progressing rapidly under the Vision 2047 plan...

Kishan Reddy Slams CM Revanth Reddy Over 'False Claims' on Welfare Schemes

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy launched a sharp attack on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him of spreading "false claims" about the implementation of welfare schemes during his campaign in Kerala...

Speaking at the BJP state office, Kishan Reddy said the party has no objection to Revanth Reddy campaigning in Kerala. However, he alleged that the Chief Minister is misleading people by claiming that all six guarantees promised by the Congress government in Telangana have been implemented...

He termed such statements as "blatant lies" and said inviting Kerala people to visit Telangana to verify these claims amounts to deception. "Claiming implementation without actually delivering schemes is nothing but a be-



trayal," he said. Kishan Reddy urged the people of Kerala not to believe Congress leaders, alleging that both Congress and Left parties have failed the state in the past. He said Left parties have hindered development in Kerala, while Congress, if voted to power, would lead to

corruption. He further alleged that Revanth Reddy is making exaggerated claims and warned that similar narratives may be repeated in Telangana in the future. Drawing a comparison with a popular film dialogue, he mocked the claims of implementing promises without ac-

tual execution. Targeting BRS leader T. Harish Rao, Kishan Reddy said the party should revisit its own manifesto promises made before the 2014 elections.

On the issue of state bifurcation, he said the allocation of seven mandals to Andhra Pradesh was part of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, and the BJP government only implemented what was mandated by law.

He also reiterated the demand for a thorough investigation into the Kaleshwaram project, including the role of Larsen & Toubro. Accusing the Chief Minister of deflecting responsibility, he said Revanth Reddy is trying to shift blame onto the BJP instead of addressing governance failures.

The BJP leader's remarks come amid intensifying political exchanges between major parties ahead of upcoming elections.

Crackdown on Artificially Ripened Mangoes: Sajjanar Issues Warning

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Senior IPS officer VC Sajjanar has issued a strong warning against the sale and consumption of artificially ripened mangoes, cautioning traders and the public about serious health risks. With the mango season picking up pace, authorities have observed an increase in the use of harmful chemicals like calcium carbide to ripen fruits for market sale...

Sajjanar emphasized that consuming such chemically ripened mangoes can lead to various health issues, including headaches, dizziness, vom-

iting, and even long-term complications. He urged fruit vendors to strictly follow food safety norms and avoid using banned substances for ripening. Highlighting enforcement measures, he stated that special teams will conduct inspections across markets to identify violations. Strict legal action will be taken against those found using hazardous methods. He also appealed to the public to remain cautious while purchasing mangoes and to prefer naturally ripened fruits.

Consumers have been advised to look for signs such as overly bright color, uniform

ripening, and lack of natural aroma, which may indicate artificial ripening. Washing fruits thoroughly before consumption was also recommended as a precautionary measure. Authorities reiterated their commitment to ensuring food safety and protecting public health. The initiative aims not only to curb illegal practices but also to raise awareness among traders and consumers about the dangers of chemical ripening.

As summer demand surges, officials are intensifying vigilance to ensure that only safe and healthy produce reaches consumers across Telangana.

Kerala CM Hits Back at Revanth Reddy Over Remarks

Thiruvananthapuram, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched a sharp attack on Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over his recent comments during election campaigning in Kerala, triggering a political war of words between the two leaders.

Responding strongly, Pinarayi Vijayan questioned how a leader accused of demolishing houses of the poor in his own state could lecture Kerala on development and social progress. He alleged that bulldozers were being used against poor families in Telangana while the Chief Minister was making critical remarks about Kerala's governance.

The Kerala Chief Minister pointed out that the state has one of the lowest poverty rates in the country and advised Revanth Reddy to focus on improving conditions in Telangana instead of targeting other



states. He further alleged that large sums of money were being spent on election campaigning in Kerala, suggesting that such funds would be better utilized for the development of

Telangana. Vijayan also dismissed the criticism of Kerala's governance model, stating that the state has made significant progress in areas like social wel-

fare and digital land records. He remarked that Telangana officials had earlier drawn lessons from Kerala's digital land record systems, highlighting the state's administrative strengths.

Taking another dig, Vijayan accused the Telangana government of delays in salaries and pensions, saying such a government was in no position to advise others. He further criticized the Congress party, alleging that its silence on rising central debt effectively makes it a "B-team" of the BJP.

The remarks came after Revanth Reddy made controversial statements about Kerala during his campaign, which Vijayan described as baseless and disrespectful. He asserted that attempts to mislead voters with false narratives would not succeed.

The exchange has intensified political tensions, with both sides engaging in sharp rhetoric ahead of the ongoing election campaigns.

Tourism Officials Meet Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, Discuss Development Plans

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Senior officials from the Tourism and Culture Department met Telangana Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat on Friday and assured their commitment to strengthening the state's tourism sector.

Vani Prasad, who was recently appointed as Special Chief Secretary for Tourism and Culture, along with P. Gauthami, who has taken charge as Managing Director of the Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation, called on the minister and presented him with a bouquet as a courtesy gesture.

During the meeting, Minister Jupally Krishna Rao congratulated both officials on assuming their new responsibilities and conveyed his best wishes for their tenure. He expressed confidence that their leadership would



play a crucial role in accelerating the growth of tourism in Telangana. The minister emphasized

the need to take the tourism sector to the next level by focusing on comprehensive development strategies. He di-

rected the officials to prioritize the development of key tourist destinations across the state and ensure the creation of

world-class infrastructure to attract more visitors.

He also stressed the importance of launching new tourism projects that can boost economic activity, generate employment, and enhance Telangana's image as a preferred travel destination. The minister underlined that improving amenities, connectivity, and visitor experience should be key focus areas for the department.

Officials assured the minister that they would work in line with the government's vision and take proactive measures to promote tourism, preserve cultural heritage, and develop sustainable tourism models across the state.

The meeting marks an important step in strengthening coordination between the government and tourism authorities, as Telangana looks to expand its tourism footprint and unlock new opportunities for growth in the sector.



BRS Leaders Pay Tributes to Doddi Komaraya at Telangana Bhavan

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Leaders of the BRS paid rich tributes to freedom fighter Doddi Komaraya on the occasion of his birth anniversary at Telangana Bhavan on Friday. Floral tributes were offered to his portrait by Legislative Council Opposition Leader Madhusudhana Chary, former MP Ravula Chandrasekhara Reddy, and other party leaders. Speaking on the occasion, Madhusudhana Chary described Doddi Komaraya as a martyr and a symbol of self-respect, calling him one of the finest sons of Telangana. He recalled Komaraya's courageous resistance against feudal oppression in the erstwhile Warangal region, particularly his fight against injustices under local landlords.

He said Komaraya's sacrifice for dignity and justice remains an inspiration for generations. "He was a fearless warrior who laid down his life for self-respect and freedom," Chary noted, adding that leaders like Sammakka Sarakka and Chakali Ailamma also

played historic roles in securing justice and dignity for the people.

Reflecting on Telangana's political journey, he said that during the united Andhra Pradesh era, the region faced injustice, which led to the formation of a separate state movement under the leadership of K. Chandrashekar Rao in 2001. He stated that Telangana was achieved through sustained struggle and was governed with stability for a decade.

Chary criticized the present Congress government, alleging that it has failed to fulfill its promises and has misled people in the name of guarantees. He claimed that people of Telangana would not tolerate any attack on their self-respect and are once again looking towards KCR's leadership.

Calling the day a moment of inspiration, he urged people to follow the path shown by Doddi Komaraya and work towards empowering society. He emphasized the need to draw inspiration from such leaders and create awareness among the public to uphold the values of justice, equality, and self-respect.



'New Swadeshi Vision' Unveiled at ATEXCON 2026, Says Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu outlined an ambitious roadmap for the textile sector while addressing the inaugural session of the 13th Asian Textile Conference (ATEXCON 2026) held at HICC Novotel in Hyderabad.

Drawing inspiration from Mahatma Gandhi, the minister recalled how the 'charkha' symbolized not just economic self-reliance but also India's freedom movement through the Swadeshi ideology. He emphasized that history should not be forgotten but transformed into a driving force for future growth, stating that Telangana is moving in that direction under the current government.

Sridhar Babu said the textile sector is not merely a business but a tool of social justice, especially for weavers at the grassroots level. He stressed that the government's vision is to empower weavers to evolve from laborers into entrepreneurs within the global supply chain. Announcing a "New Swadeshi Vision," the minister said Telangana aims to integrate traditional textile practices with modern technology to build a globally recognized "Made in Telangana" brand. He highlighted efforts to connect the state with global fashion corridors and circular

hubs, ensuring international exposure for local talent.

The minister said the government is working on a focused strategy to showcase Telangana's weaving skills on global platforms such as Milan and New York through digital design and enhanced connectivity. He added that the state aims to transform the textile sector into not just a manufacturing hub but also a center for innovation and intellectual growth.

Emphasizing quality over low-cost production, Sridhar Babu said advanced technologies like blockchain, Internet of Things (IoT), and artificial intelligence (AI) are being integrated to ensure transparency in the supply chain. He noted that Telangana is building an ecosystem that promotes innovation alongside production, aligned with its long-term Vision 2047. Quoting Gandhi, he said development that leaves people hungry or dissatisfied is meaningless. The minister stressed the importance of creating an inclusive industrial system where farmers, weavers, workers, and investors share the benefits of growth.

Inviting global investors and industry experts, he assured that Telangana would treat them not just as investors but as key partners in achieving the goal of a "Rising Telangana," offering full support for collaborative growth and innovation.

Revanth Reddy Attends Asian Textile Conference, Ministers Highlight Sector's Importance

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy participated in the Asian Textile Conference at Novotel Hotel, Hyderabad, along with Agriculture and Handlooms & Textiles Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao and IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao said the textile sector is not just an industry but a vital source of livelihood and a reflection of Telangana's rich tradition. He said the sector is closely linked to the future of thousands of families across the state.

The minister highlighted that textiles provide large-scale employment opportunities, especially for women, youth, and rural households. "This sector is not just about fabrics; it represents the aspirations and livelihoods of countless families," he said.

Tummala also appreciated the innovation and enthusiasm displayed in various exhibition stalls at the conference, stating that such initiatives reflect the growing strength of Telangana's textile ecosystem.

He added that under the leadership of the Chief Minister, Telangana is moving forward with a clear roadmap under Vision 2047, aiming to strengthen

traditional industries while embracing modern advancements.

Emphasizing the state's balanced approach, the minister said Telangana is integrating tradition with technology in the textile sector. "From handlooms to global textiles, Telangana is ready to emerge as a key player on the international stage," he remarked.

The conference is witnessing participation from industry leaders, innovators, and stakeholders, showcasing the latest developments and opportunities in the textile sector, further positioning Telangana as a hub for textile growth and innovation.



NDDDB Chairman Meets CM Revanth Reddy, Discusses Dairy Sector Development

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) Chairman Dr. Meenesh Shah and Mother Dairy Delhi Chairman Jayatirtha Chari met Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy at his Jubilee Hills residence on Friday.

The meeting focused on the development of the dairy sector in Telangana, with discussions centered on strengthening milk production, improving infrastructure, and expanding cooperative networks across the state.

During the interaction, officials explored opportunities to enhance dairy-based livelihoods and boost the income of

farmers through better market linkages and institutional support.

The meeting was attended by Bhuvanagiri MP Chamalla Kiran Kumar Reddy, Aleru MLA and Government Whip Beerla Ilaiah, Telangana Dairy Development Cooperative Federation Chairman Gutta Amit Reddy, Principal Secretary Ilambarthi, and Mother Dairy Chairman Madhusudan Reddy.

Officials expressed optimism that collaboration with NDDDB and Mother Dairy would accelerate the growth of the dairy sector in Telangana and create new opportunities for farmers and rural communities.



Jaggareddy Urges Govt to Revoke Excise Transfer Rule Affecting Staff

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) Working President Jaggareddy has appealed to the state government to withdraw a recently introduced rule restricting Prohibition and Excise Department constables and head constables from working in their home districts.

In a media statement, Jaggareddy urged Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to reconsider Clause 8(f), which was included in the new transfer guidelines issued five days ago as part of general transfers in the department.

He said the rule is unfair, especially for lower-level employees, and would cause significant hardship to their families. According to him, around 150 constables in Sangareddy district and nearly 3,000 families across the state would be affected by the decision.

Jaggareddy pointed out that even head constables nearing retirement within the next two years would face difficulties due to the rule. He emphasized that being posted away from their home districts would not



only separate employees from their families but also adversely impact their children's education and overall well-being.

He said a group of around 150 excise constables and head constables from Sangareddy district met him and brought the issue to his attention, requesting him to take it up with the government.

Calling for a humanitarian approach, Jaggareddy urged the government to immediately review and revoke the clause, ensuring that transfers are carried out without causing inconvenience to employees.

He appealed to the authorities to act swiftly, considering the urgency of the matter, and to ensure that no employee or family is adversely affected by the transfer policy.

Seethakka Campaigns for Congress in Assam's Naharkatia Constituency

Dibrugarh (Assam), April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Seethakka carried out an extensive campaign for the Congress party in the Naharkatia constituency of Dibrugarh district in Assam, appealing to voters to support Congress candidate Pranati Phukan.

Along with local party leaders, she went door-to-door, meeting voters and urging them to elect the Congress candidate to a huge majority. The campaign witnessed active participation from local leaders and party workers.

Speaking on the occasion, Seethakka said that the Congress party is committed to the development of the Naharkatia region. She stated that Pranati Phukan, an experienced leader who has previously served the people, would bring further development to the constituency if elected.

She emphasized that only the Congress party has the ca-



ability to resolve public issues effectively and called upon youth and women to extend strong support to the party.

Seethakka also highlighted the importance of inclusive development and welfare, stating that the party aims to address the concerns of all sections of society.

A large number of local Congress leaders and activists participated in the campaign, expressing confidence in the party's victory in the constituency.

Harish Rao Slams Telangana Govt Over Tribal Welfare, Irrigation Projects

Kodangal, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Former minister T. Harish Rao launched a sharp attack on the Telangana government, accusing Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of failing to deliver on key promises, particularly those concerning Scheduled Tribes (STs), farmers, and youth.

Addressing a media gathering in Kodangal, Harish Rao alleged that the government has neglected tribal welfare and failed to implement assurances made during elections. He questioned the status of the promised farm loan waiver, challenging the Chief Minister to identify even a single village in Kodangal where the scheme has been fully implemented.

He further criticized the government for not fulfilling its commitment to provide two lakh jobs, stating that even official figures presented in the Assembly contradict the promise. According to him, the Congress government has also failed to deliver on welfare



schemes for SC and ST communities, with funds allocated to corporations remaining largely unutilized.

Highlighting the previous administration's initiatives, Harish Rao credited former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao for introducing landmark measures such as in-

creasing ST reservations from 6% to 10%, distributing land titles for podu lands, and converting tribal habitations into gram panchayats. He said these steps significantly enhanced tribal self-respect and development.

The BRS leader also accused the current government of

stalling major irrigation projects, particularly the Palamuru-Rangareddy project. He alleged that despite substantial progress made earlier, the remaining work has been deliberately delayed. Instead, he claimed, new projects like the Kodangal lift scheme are being prioritized for "commission-

driven motives," offering limited benefits compared to the original project.

Harish Rao further alleged that farmers have been denied key benefits such as Rythu Bandhu and seasonal bonuses, adding that welfare schemes introduced by the previous government have either been discontinued or poorly implemented. He also criticized the lack of fee reimbursement for ST students and the failure to release funds to welfare corporations. Taking a dig at the Chief Minister, he accused the government of misrepresenting achievements in other states while failing to address ground realities in Telangana. He asserted that people, particularly farmers and tribal communities, are facing hardships due to what he described as policy failures. Calling for immediate corrective measures, Harish Rao urged the government to complete pending irrigation projects on a priority basis and ensure that welfare schemes reach the intended beneficiaries without delay.



BRS Alleges Misleading Sand Revenue Data by Congress Govt

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

BRS spokesperson Dr. Manne Krishank has accused the Congress government in Telangana of presenting "misleading and distorted" statistics regarding revenue from sand mining, demanding immediate clarification from the Chief Minister's office.

In a press statement, he alleged that the figures being released by the current government do not reflect the ground reality and are aimed at undermining the achievements of the previous BRS administration led by K. Chandrashekar Rao. Highlighting comparative data, Krishank stated that prior to the formation of Telangana in 2014, when Congress was in power, sand mining revenue stood at just 39 crore. However, under the BRS government, reforms in the sector significantly boosted revenues, reportedly reaching 886 crore in a single year.

He further claimed that during the BRS regime, sand prices were kept affordable at 645 per tonne, ensuring accessibility for the public. In contrast, he alleged that the present Congress government has increased prices to 1,600 per tonne under the "Sand Bazaar" system, along with additional transportation costs, thereby

placing a heavy financial burden on citizens.

The BRS leader also questioned the increase in service charges from 3 to 100 per tonne under the current regime, stating that despite higher charges and extended operational hours for sand mining and transportation, revenues have not proportionately increased. This, he said, raises concerns about possible irregularities.

Krishank alleged that the current system allows mining from 6 am to 9 pm and 24-hour transportation, in violation of environmental norms, yet fails to show corresponding growth in revenue. He suggested that such a scenario strengthens suspicions of sand revenue being diverted into the hands of a "sand mafia."

He also pointed out that Gurram Malsur, currently serving as the Chief Public Relations Officer in the Chief Minister's Office, had earlier worked as Managing Director of TSMDC during the BRS regime and is well aware of the actual figures. Demanding transparency, Krishank urged the government to disclose complete details of sand mining revenue and clarify why it is allegedly misrepresenting past achievements. He said the people of Telangana deserve accurate information and accountability from the government.



Jagga Reddy Assures Restoration of Temple, Support for Displaced Vendors

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Senior Congress leader T. Jagga Reddy has announced that the Bhulakshamma temple, which was removed during National Highway expansion works, will be re-established at its original location along the roadside in the future.

In a statement, Jagga Reddy said that the temple, which holds religious significance for local residents, will be rebuilt once the road expansion works are completed. He assured that necessary steps would be taken to restore it at the same spot where it previously existed.

Addressing concerns of small vendors affected by the highway expansion, he stated that those who lost their livelihoods—including fruit sellers, pan shop owners, and tiffin stall operators—will be sup-

ported. He promised that once the works are completed, arrangements will be made to help them re-establish their stalls along the roadside.

Jagga Reddy urged all affected vendors to come forward and submit their details to party leaders, including Ananta Kishan, Sangareddy Municipal Chairman Kuna Santosh, Vice Chairman Shafi Hafeez, and town president George.

He said that collecting accurate details would help ensure that all affected individuals are properly identified and provided assistance in resuming their businesses.

The announcement comes amid concerns from local traders and residents over displacement caused by infrastructure development works, with the leader assuring that both religious sentiments and livelihoods will be safeguarded.

Kavitha Slams Private School Fee Hike, Demands Immediate Regulation Law

Hyderabad (Banjara Hills), April 3 | TPN Bureau

Kalvakuntla Kavitha, President of Telangana Jagruthi, strongly criticized private schools for steep fee hikes, alleging that parents are being financially exploited. Addressing a press conference at the Jagruthi office in Banjara Hills on Friday, she demanded that the government immediately bring in a fee regulation law.

Kavitha stated that several private schools have increased fees by 30 to 40 percent at one time, putting a heavy burden on poor and middle-class families. She said that even before the academic year begins, many schools are forcing parents to pay up to 60 percent of the total fee in advance, triggering protests at several institutions across Hyderabad.

Providing an overview of the education sector, she said Telangana has around 39,641 schools with nearly 62 lakh students. Out of these, about 27,581 are government schools with 24 lakh students, while 12,061 are private schools with 38 lakh students. She added that around 1,200 corporate schools, including Narayana Educational Institutions and Sri Chaitanya Educational Institutions, cater to nearly 5 lakh students. She demanded that the government convene a



special Assembly session and pass a fee regulation bill. According to her, annual fee hikes should not exceed 8 percent, and strict action must be taken against schools that violate this rule.

Kavitha also highlighted issues faced by private school teachers, stating that despite high fees collected from students, teachers are paid low salaries and are often denied provident fund benefits. She alleged that food quality in many corporate schools is poor and called for food safety inspections and raids. She further pointed out that the government has pending dues of 42,000 per student for SC and

ST categories, amounting to 212 crore, and overall fee reimbursement dues of about 11,000 crore. She said delays in payments are causing colleges to withhold students' certificates despite court directions.

Kavitha also demanded that private schools must provide employment opportunities to local Telangana youth. She warned that institutions not following this policy should not be granted permissions. Concluding her remarks, she said Telangana Jagruthi will launch protests in front of private schools if the government fails to act on these demands, intensifying the movement for education reforms in the state.

BRS MLA KP Vivekananda Alleges Irregularities in Metro Decisions, Targets CM Revanth

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

BRS Legislative Party (LP) Whip and MLA K. P. Vivekananda on Friday launched a strong attack on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy over the handling of the Hyderabad Metro Rail project, alleging "wrong decisions" and lack of experience. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Vivekananda claimed that the Chief Minister has been taking misguided decisions on the metro project from the beginning. He alleged that the government is prioritizing real estate interests over public infrastructure. He further accused the government of attempting to acquire large tracts of land under the guise of projects like Musi riverfront development and other policies, alleging that valuable public assets are being diverted. The BRS leader also alleged that there were attempts to pressure Larsen & Toubro (L&T), the company associated with the Hyderabad Metro, and claimed that around 250 acres of land linked to the project were being targeted. Vivekananda said that if the BRS were in power, metro expansion from Raidurg to Shamshabad Airport and to-

wards Medchal would have been completed. He criticized the Chief Minister for making unilateral statements on metro-related decisions during Assembly budget sessions without detailed discussions.

He also pointed out that despite multiple visits to Delhi, the Chief Minister allegedly failed to effectively pursue metro-related issues with the Centre. He cited a response by Union Minister Asaduddin Owaisi raising concerns on the project, stating that decisions should be taken only after proper study. Targeting Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy and BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Vivekananda alleged that central leaders from Telangana have failed to secure key projects for the state. He further criticized both the Congress and BJP, alleging that Telangana's interests are being ignored. He also took aim at the Chief Minister's remarks made during campaigning in Kerala, stating that leaders from Left parties should question whether the six guarantees in Telangana are actually being implemented. The BRS leader alleged that Telangana is being used as a financial base for the Congress party's activities in other states, intensifying political rhetoric ahead of future elections.

Congress Will Continue to Lead Telangana: TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud

Mancherial, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President Mahesh Kumar Goud launched a sharp attack on both the BRS and BJP while addressing party workers in Mancherial district on Friday.

He said that during the BRS regime led by K. Chandrashekar Rao, Congress leaders and activists faced severe repression, including police cases and lathi charges. "If we are in power today, it is because of the sacrifices and hard work of our party workers," he said, crediting them for bringing Congress back to power in Telangana.

Mahesh Kumar Goud alleged that the previous BRS government had pushed the state into heavy debt, forcing the current administration to pay nearly 6,000 crore per month as interest. He also claimed that internal conflicts have weakened the BRS, accusing party leaders of fighting over resources and influence.

Targeting the BJP, he criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing the party of politicizing religion during elections. "Is Lord Sri Ram associated with any political par-

ty?" he questioned, alleging that the BJP uses religious sentiments for electoral gains while weakening the public sector.

He also took a dig at BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao, asking whether he had brought significant investments from abroad, and contrasted it with the efforts of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy in attracting investments to the state.

Highlighting agriculture, he said crop diversification is essential for the growth of farmers in Telangana and assured that the Congress government is committed to strengthening the farming sector.

Expressing confidence in the party's future, Mahesh Kumar Goud predicted that Congress would win over 100 seats in the next Assembly elections in Telangana. He also asserted that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi would emerge as the next Prime Minister after the upcoming parliamentary elections.

The TPCC chief's remarks reflect the Congress party's aggressive political stance as it prepares for future electoral battles in the state and at the national level.

Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha Pays Tribute to Doddi Komarayya in Sangareddy

Sangareddy, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Medical and Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha paid rich tributes to Doddi Komarayya on the occasion of his 99th birth anniversary at the district headquarters in Sangareddy on Friday.

The minister, along with public representatives and officials, garlanded the statue of Komarayya and remembered his sacrifices and inspiration as the first martyr of the Telangana armed peasant strug-

gle. Speaking on the occasion, Rajanarsimha said Komarayya's legacy continues to inspire generations to fight for justice, equality, and self-respect.

He stated that the Telangana government is committed to the welfare of all sections of society, particularly the marginalized communities, and is working with a focus on inclusive development.

Among those present at the event were local MLA Chinta Prabhakar, District Collector P. Praveenya, Sangareddy Municipal Chairperson Kuna Vani-

tha Santosh, District Library Chairman Anjaiah, RC Puram Corporator Pushpa Nagesh, BC Welfare Department Officer Jagadeesh, and District Gola Kuruma Association President Mallayya Yadav.

Leaders of various public organizations, association members, and local representatives also participated in the program, paying homage to the freedom fighter and reaffirming their commitment to his ideals.



BJP Protests Against Uppal MLA, Burns Effigy in Nacharam

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Tensions flared in Nacharam on Thursday as BJP leaders staged a protest and burned the effigy of Uppal MLA Bandari Lakshma Reddy at the HMT Junction. The demonstration was organized in response to alleged inappropriate remarks made by the MLA against former BJP MLA NVVS Prabhakar.

The protest was led by Medchal district BJP spokesperson Potagani Gopal Goud, along with local party workers. Raising slogans against the MLA, the protesters expressed strong displeasure over his comments, terming

them unacceptable and disrespectful.

Speaking on the occasion, BJP leaders questioned the MLA's statements and demanded an immediate apology. They said making allegations of corruption against Prabhakar without evidence was inappropriate and politically motivated. The leaders warned that if the remarks were not withdrawn, the MLA would face intensified protests across the Uppal constituency.

The protesters also raised objections regarding the naming of the Uppal Corridor. They questioned how a person with no direct connection to the project could be considered for such recogni-

tion. Instead, they demanded that the corridor be named after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, citing his contributions to the nation.

The situation remained tense for some time as BJP workers continued their demonstration at the busy HMT Junction, drawing attention from passersby and commuters. However, no untoward incidents were reported, and the protest concluded peacefully after police intervention.

The incident has added to the growing political friction in the region, with both parties expected to continue their war of words in the coming days.



Broker Nexus Alleged at Medchal RTO Office, Motorists Demand Probe

Quthbullapur, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Serious allegations of an entrenched broker network have surfaced at the Medchal Regional Transport Office (RTO), with motorists claiming that middlemen are dominating services despite the availability of an online system meant to ensure transparency.

According to vehicle owners visiting the RTO under the Pet Basheerabad limits, digital services introduced by the government to curb corruption are allegedly being reduced to mere formality. While online systems exist on paper, the actual processing of applications is said to be heavily influenced by intermediaries operating both inside and outside the office premises.

Motorists allege that those who approach the office directly face significant delays, with files remaining pending for days and applicants being forced to move from one desk to another. In contrast, brokers



reportedly offer "fast-track" services by charging fixed, unofficial rates for each task and ensuring quick completion.

Services such as ownership transfer, fitness certificates, driving licences, and transport and non-transport permits are allegedly being handled at predetermined rates by these intermediaries. "If we go directly, our file gets stuck. But if we approach a broker, the same work gets done within hours," said a vehicle owner, highlighting the stark difference in ser-

vice delivery.

What has raised further concern is the allegation that this broker system is operating openly within the RTO office premises. Middlemen are reportedly seen interacting with applicants, negotiating deals, and collecting money without any apparent restriction, suggesting a lack of effective oversight.

Motorists argue that the current situation defeats the very purpose of digitization, which was introduced to eliminate

corruption and provide hassle-free services. Instead, they claim the system has become more complicated, indirectly increasing dependence on brokers. The financial burden on the public has also increased, as applicants are forced to pay not only official government fees but also hefty commissions to middlemen, often amounting to thousands of rupees per service. In light of these allegations, motorists have urged higher authorities to take immediate action. They have called for increased surveillance and intervention by anti-corruption and vigilance agencies to investigate the functioning of the Medchal RTO office.

Citizens are demanding strict enforcement of transparent procedures and the complete elimination of broker interference, warning that government offices meant for public service risk turning into centers of exploitation if the issue is not addressed promptly.

Telangana Govt's Legal Protection Law Praised by Advocate Rajasekhar Naik

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

High Court advocate Rajasekhar Naik has expressed gratitude to Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for introducing a landmark law aimed at safeguarding the interests and dignity of advocates in the state.

Speaking at Osmania University on Friday, Naik said the Congress-led Telangana government has made history by becoming the first in India to introduce a dedicated law in the Assembly to provide protection for lawyers. He noted that since Independence, no other state has taken such a progressive step focused exclusively on the welfare and security of the legal community.

Naik highlighted that the newly introduced legislation not only ensures protection for advocates but also addresses their broader welfare needs. He pointed out that the government has made provisions for healthcare support for lawyers facing medical issues and has also introduced scholarships for junior advocates to support



their early careers. Additionally, a special allocation of 100 crore has been earmarked for the development and welfare of advocates across the state.

Describing the initiative as a "historic and visionary move," Naik said that the law reflects the government's commitment to recognizing the crucial role played by lawyers in upholding justice and strengthening de-

mocracy. He emphasized that such a move has instilled confidence among the legal fraternity and has addressed longstanding concerns regarding their safety and professional dignity. Referring to incidents of attacks on lawyers in different parts of the country, including in the Supreme Court premises in Delhi, Naik said that governments in the past had largely failed to take concrete steps for the protection of advocates. In contrast, he said, the Telangana government has acted decisively and set a benchmark for other states to follow. Naik further urged advocates to actively contribute to the effective implementation of the law and to uphold the integrity of the legal profession. He expressed hope that the legislation would enhance respect for lawyers in society and ensure that they can perform their duties without fear or hindrance.

Reiterating his appreciation, Naik said that this initiative would remain a milestone in the history of legal reforms in India and would bring lasting benefits to the advocate community in Telangana.



Unemployed Youth Meet CPM State Secretary, Seek Job Calendar and Notifications

Hyderabad (OU), April 3 | TPN Bureau

A delegation of unemployed youth met John Wesley on Thursday, raising concerns over delays in job notifications and implementation of employment-related promises by the government.

The meeting was led by Unemployed JAC State Convenor and Osmania University research scholar R.L. Murthy. During the interaction, the group alleged that the government has been neglecting key issues affecting jobless youth, particularly the delay in releasing a comprehensive job calendar and filling vacant posts.

The delegation urged the immediate issuance of notifications for all vacant government jobs and called for the implementation of commitments made under the Youth Declaration. They also demanded that vacancies in universities—both teaching and non-teaching positions—be filled without further delay.

Among their key demands, the unemployed youth sought a monthly unemployment allowance of 4,000 and the prompt disbursement of Rajiv Yuva Vikas loans to all eligible beneficiaries. They further ap-

pealed for the expansion of free coaching centres and requested a monthly stipend of 10,000 for candidates preparing for competitive exams.

The members also brought to notice the alleged restrictions imposed by police during protests and demonstrations organized by unemployed groups. They claimed that despite conducting peaceful programs to demand job notifications, authorities have been resorting to strict measures to curb their activities.

Responding to their concerns, John Wesley assured the delegation of full support from the Communist Party of India (Marxist). He stated that the party would stand by the unemployed youth in their struggle and support future programs organized under the banner of the Unemployed JAC.

The meeting was attended by several leaders, including JAC representatives Venkatesh and Kiran, as well as DYFI state leaders Kota Ramesh, Anaganti Venkatesh, Srinu, and Lakshman, among others.

The interaction underscores growing frustration among unemployed youth in the state, as demands for timely recruitment and welfare measures continue to intensify.

Missing Footpaths Raise Safety Concerns Near Hospital Zone in Quthbullapur

Hyderabad (Quthbullapur), April 3 | TPN Bureau

The absence of proper footpaths in Suraram under Quthbullapur limits has sparked serious safety concerns, especially in a busy hospital zone. Stretching from Malla Reddy Narayana Hospital to Malla Reddy Health City, the lack of pedestrian pathways has reportedly put lives at risk, drawing sharp criticism from locals.

Residents allege that despite repeated reports highlighting the issue, officials of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation have failed to take corrective action. Footpaths in the area are either missing or completely encroached upon, forcing pedestrians to walk on the main road amid heavy



traffic. The situation is particularly alarming given that the stretch falls within a hospital zone,

witnessing hundreds of daily visitors, including patients, elderly individuals, and attendants. With vehicles being

parked on whatever little space is available, pedestrians are left with no option but to navigate through moving traffic, increasing the risk of accidents.

Locals expressed concern that what should be a basic civic facility has turned into a hazard. "If an accident occurs, who will take responsibility?" residents questioned, urging authorities to act before a tragedy unfolds.

Meanwhile, Jeedimetla traffic police initiated enforcement measures on Thursday evening near Suraram Malla Reddy Hospital. Acting against traffic obstructions caused by improperly parked two-wheelers, police registered 41 cases under the CP Act and shifted eight vehicles to the police station using recovery vans. The

drive was carried out under the supervision of Traffic CI Narasimha Rao to ensure smoother traffic flow.

However, residents argue that such actions offer only temporary relief. They stress that unless the root cause—encroachment of footpaths—is addressed, the problem will persist. Regular inspections during peak hours, they suggest, could help deter illegal parking and improve compliance.

Citizens are now demanding immediate intervention from GHMC officials to restore footpaths and clear encroachments. They warn that continued negligence could lead to serious accidents, turning what appears to be a minor civic issue into a major public safety crisis.

BRS Leaders File Complaint Against BJP Workers Amid Tensions in Nacharam

Hyderabad (Nacharam), April 3 | TPN Bureau

Political tensions escalated in Nacharam under the Uppal constituency as BRS leaders lodged a police complaint against BJP functionaries following a protest targeting Uppal MLA Bandari Lakshma Reddy.

According to reports, the protest was held at HMT Nagar Kaman on the directions of former Uppal MLA NVVS Prabhakar. BJP leaders, led by Potagani Gopal Goud, staged a dharna along with around 12 leaders from three divisions and burned an effigy of the sitting MLA. The protesters also raised slogans against the MLA, allegedly issuing warnings that he would not be al-



lowed to move freely in the constituency.

Reacting strongly to the incident, BRS leaders from Nacha-

ram and HMT Nagar divisions, under the leadership of senior leader Sai Jen Shekhar, reached the local police station

in large numbers and filed a formal complaint against BJP leader Gopal Goud. They later staged a sit-in protest outside the police station, demanding immediate action. Addressing the media, Sai Jen Shekhar said that Gopal Goud has been repeatedly creating disturbances and disrupting the peaceful atmosphere in the Nacharam area. He urged the police to initiate strict legal action against those responsible for inciting tensions. The BRS leaders also criticized NVVS Prabhakar, alleging that during his tenure of over four years as MLA, he failed to bring significant development to the constituency, except for the construction of a committee hall in Raghaven-

dra Nagar. They further stated that the actions of BJP leaders are creating unnecessary rifts among political groups at the local level, disturbing harmony in the area. Inspector Dhanunjaya Goud, who received the complaint, assured that the matter would be examined thoroughly. He stated that legal opinion would be sought and appropriate action would be taken in accordance with the law. Several BRS leaders, including Vemula Marayya, Mallikarjun Goud, Ashu, Mutyam Reddy, Narasimha, and Bhanu, were present during the protest, highlighting the growing political friction in the Uppal constituency.

Revanth Reddy Unveils Vision for Integrated Schools and Skill Education

Ibrahimpattanam, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy outlined an ambitious vision for education reform while addressing a gathering at AVN Lakefield Global School in Ibrahimpattanam. Emphasizing the need for quality education and skill development, the Chief Minister said the campus represents a "brainchild" model for future institutions in the state.

He announced that the government plans to establish "Young India Integrated Schools" across 100 constituencies. These schools will be built on 25 acres each, with infrastructure ranging between 5 to

6 lakh square feet, accommodating around 2,500 students per campus. The project, estimated at 20,000 crore, aims to transform public education in Telangana, with additional schools planned in the second phase.

Highlighting the government's focus on education, Revanth Reddy stated that public education is accessible across the country and that the state is spending approximately 1.08 lakh per student annually. However, he expressed concern over the gap between academic qualifications and employable skills, noting that while nearly 1.1 lakh engineering students graduate every year, many lack practical skills.

Addressing the impact of

emerging technologies, the Chief Minister said there is growing concern about job losses due to artificial intelligence. He stressed the need to shift focus from white-collar to blue-collar employment by promoting quality technical education and skill-based learning. He revealed that Telangana has around 26,000 government schools with 18 lakh students, while 11,000 private schools cater to nearly 33 lakh students. He called for introspection on the challenges faced by government education and emphasized that lack of education remains a root cause of poverty.

The government is also planning to establish Telangana Public Schools offering quality

education from nursery to Class 12. Additionally, students in government schools will be provided with breakfast, mid-day meals, and transport facilities to improve access and retention. Looking beyond academics, the Chief Minister announced plans to set up a Telangana Sports University with the aim of producing Olympic gold medalists by 2034. He cited examples like boxer Nikhat Zareen and cricketer Mohammed Siraj, who have been supported with DSP-level positions.

He also mentioned the establishment of the Young India Skills University, chaired by Anand Mahindra, to further strengthen skill development initiatives in the state.



Vivekananda Youth Association Elects New Leadership in Bansilalpet

Secunderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

A new committee of the Vivekananda Youth Association in Bansilalpet "D" Class area under Sanath Nagar constituency was unanimously elected, with Pothuru Nagaraju appointed as President and Boddu Abhilash (Akhil) as Secretary.

The selection process was conducted in the presence of local elders and residents after extensive discussions over the past month. Locals felt that the previous committee had completed its tenure and that development activities in the area were progressing slowly. Emphasizing the need to encourage youth participation, the community decided to form a new leadership team with fresh energy and focus.

An election committee comprising senior members, including Trishul Ramaswamy, K.G. Srinivasulu, Dasari Balaram, Boddu Yadagiri, P. Yadagiri, along with former presi-



dent Boddu Srinivas and former secretary Victor Borton, was constituted to oversee the process. Guidelines were issued, and nominations were invited between March 29 and April 1.

For the president post, Poth-

uru Nagaraju filed his nomination, while Boddu Abhilash (Akhil) contested for the secretary position. As no other nominations were received within the stipulated deadline, both candidates were declared elected unanimously by the election

committee.

Following the announcement, the newly elected representatives met Talasani Srinivas Yadav, who congratulated them and honored them with shawls. He appreciated the initiative taken by the youth to actively engage in addressing local issues and contributing to community development.

The MLA encouraged the new committee to work towards resolving public grievances and ensuring the overall development of the locality. He assured them of his full support in addressing civic issues and improving infrastructure in the area. Several local leaders and residents, including former association members and youth representatives, attended the event, expressing optimism that the new leadership would bring positive change and accelerated development in the Bansilalpet area. Interested participants can register for free visiting passes through the official website of the summit.

Telangana Chief Secretary Launches Logo for YES 2026 Business Expo

Hyderabad, April 1 | TPN Bureau

K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Secretary to the Government of Telangana, officially unveiled the logo of the Young Entrepreneurs Summit (YES) 2026 - Telangana Business Expo at his chamber on Wednesday evening, marking the formal announcement of the upcoming national-level entrepreneurship event. The logo was launched in the presence of social entrepreneur Varaprasad Singireddy, Founder and CEO of the Joy of Aspirations & Innovation Foundation, along with his organizing team. Scheduled to be held from June 26 to 28, 2026, at the HITECH Exhibition Centre, the three-day summit aims to promote entrepreneurship, MSME growth, and enterprise development across the country. The event is expected to attract over 300 exhibitors, including industry leaders, financial institutions, startups, and aspiring entrepreneurs. YES 2026 is designed as a comprehensive platform featuring a multi-sec-



tor business expo, a national-level entrepreneurship conference, and a series of knowledge sessions focused on business development, market access, and scaling opportunities. Organizers highlighted that the summit will provide a unique opportunity for networking, partnerships, and collaboration among stakeholders from diverse sectors. A key highlight of the event will be the dedicated Women Entrepreneurs Pavilion, aimed at encouraging

greater participation of women-led enterprises and promoting inclusive growth. The initiative is expected to support grassroots entrepreneurship, particularly in district and semi-urban regions, by enabling access to institutional support and business ecosystems. Officials stated that YES 2026 will play a significant role in fostering self-employment, enterprise creation, and sustainable economic growth in Telangana and beyond.

Jupally Visits Basara IIT, Interacts with Students

Basara, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Jupally Krishna Rao visited the Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (IIIT Basara) campus on Friday and held direct interactions with students to understand their concerns and improve campus conditions.

During his visit, the minister shared a meal with students in the hostel mess, symbolizing solidarity and a hands-on approach to governance. Following the meal, he conducted an open interaction session, encouraging students to freely express their issues and suggestions.



Addressing the gathering, Jupally Krishna Rao said his visit aimed at gaining first-

hand knowledge of students' problems. He inquired about the quality of teaching, avail-

ability of basic amenities, and overall campus environment. Assuring students that their concerns would be addressed, he urged them to speak without fear and share their experiences openly.

The minister stated that he had come to personally assess the prevailing situation on campus and take necessary steps to resolve existing issues. Students highlighted concerns related to drinking water, hostel maintenance, and academic standards during the interaction.

Later, the minister held a detailed review meeting with senior officials, focusing on improving infrastructure and

ensuring better living and learning conditions. Key issues such as safe drinking water, proper upkeep of hostel rooms, and enhancement of academic quality were discussed at length.

In a significant move, the minister decided to stay overnight on the campus to closely observe the conditions and ensure immediate follow-up on the issues raised. His decision was seen as a proactive step towards addressing long-standing concerns of the students.

Students expressed optimism following the minister's visit, hoping that their problems would now receive timely attention and resolution.

Light to Moderate Rains Likely Across Telangana for Three Days

Hyderabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

Light to moderate rainfall is expected across several parts of Telangana over the next three days, bringing some relief from the prevailing heat conditions in the state. According to weather officials, changing atmospheric conditions are likely to trigger scattered showers accompanied by cloudy skies and occasional gusty winds. The forecast indicates that districts in north and central Telangana may experience relatively higher rainfall activity, while other regions could witness isolated showers. Hyderabad and its surrounding areas are also expected to receive light rains, which may lead to a slight dip in daytime temperatures.

Meteorologists attribute the weather change to the influence of troughs and moisture incursion from nearby regions,



creating favorable conditions for precipitation. While no severe weather warnings have been issued, authorities have advised residents to remain cautious, especially during sudden showers and

thunderstorms. Farmers across the state are expected to benefit from the rainfall, particularly those preparing for the upcoming agricultural season. The showers could help improve soil mois-

ture levels and ease irrigation requirements in some areas. However, experts suggest that farmers should also stay alert to any abrupt weather changes that may impact standing crops or field activities.

In urban areas, civic authorities are on alert to manage any waterlogging or traffic disruptions that may arise due to the rains. Commuters are advised to plan their travel accordingly, especially during peak hours, as intermittent rainfall could slow down traffic movement.

The temperatures, which have been rising steadily over the past few weeks, are likely to come down slightly due to increased cloud cover and rainfall activity. Night temperatures may also see a marginal drop, offering more comfortable weather conditions.

Overall, the upcoming spell of rainfall is expected to provide temporary respite from the heat while improving environmental conditions across Telangana. Weather officials continue to monitor the situation and have urged the public to stay updated with daily forecasts and advisories.



Women SHGs to Lead Solar Power Project in Jankampet

Nizamabad, April 3 | TPN Bureau

In a major push towards women empowerment and renewable energy, a solar power plant led by women self-help groups (SHGs) is set to come up in Jankampet village of Nizamabad district. The project, planned under a state-supported initiative, aims to promote decentralized solar power generation while creating sustainable income opportunities for rural women. The proposed plant will have a capacity of 2 MW and will be established on about eight acres of land identified in the village.

With an estimated cost of around 3 crore, the project will be largely financed through bank loans, while the remaining share will be contributed by SHG members. The repayment structure is designed to be manageable, ensuring long-term financial sustainability for the participating women groups. The electricity generated from the solar plant will be purchased by the power distribution company at a fixed tariff, ensuring

a steady revenue stream. This is expected to significantly improve the economic condition of SHG members and strengthen their role in the local economy.

Officials said the initiative is part of a broader plan to set up similar solar units across multiple districts in Telangana, encouraging women to actively participate in the renewable energy sector. The project also aligns with the state's focus on increasing green energy capacity and reducing dependence on conventional power sources.

Beyond economic benefits, the initiative is expected to enhance technical exposure and leadership skills among women in rural areas. It will also serve as a model for community-driven development, combining sustainability with inclusive growth.

Once operational, the Jankampet solar plant is likely to stand as an example of how grassroots-level participation can contribute to both energy security and women's empowerment in the state.

YSRCP Slams TDP, Defends Jagan's 'Growth Engine' Vision

Amaravathi, April 03, 2026 | TPN Bureau

YSR Congress Party State General Secretary Gadikota Srikanth Reddy launched a strong attack on the ruling coalition and TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu, while defending former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and his vision of developing Andhra Pradesh as a "growth engine" through the "Mavignan" concept.

Addressing the media at the YSRCP office in Kadapa, Srikanth Reddy warned that the party would not tolerate any derogatory remarks against Jagan Mohan Reddy. He alleged that attempts are being made to distort Jagan's vision, which, he said, aims at ensuring balanced development across all regions of the state.

The YSRCP leader accused Chandrababu Naidu of encouraging divisive politics by fueling caste and regional tensions for political gains. Referring to remarks made in the Rajya Sabha by Renuka Chowdhury, he claimed they were made at the behest of the TDP leadership, and criticized coalition leaders for not condemning those statements.



YSRCP leader accused Chandrababu Naidu of encouraging divisive politics by fueling caste and regional tensions for political gains.

Srikanth Reddy further alleged that the Amaravati capital project has become a hub of corruption under Naidu's leadership. He accused the TDP of indulging in insider trading earlier and now resorting to financial irregularities in the name of mobilization advances. He claimed that despite years of promises, even 10 percent of Amaravati's construction has not been completed, raising doubts about the government's intentions.

He expressed concern over what he described as neglect of backward regions like Rayalaseema and North Andhra, questioning whether the sentiments of people in these regions are being ignored in favor of Amaravati. He criticized the removal of Rayachoti district and alleged that such decisions have hurt regional sentiments.

On the Polavaram project, Srikanth Reddy blamed Chandrababu Naidu for delays and mismanagement, stating that the project, initiated during the late Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy's tenure, lost momentum due to alleged irregularities during TDP rule.

He also accused the government of failing to maintain law and order, alleging that incidents of violence and atrocities are increasing without strict action against the accused. He said the administration has lost control over its own legislators and governance systems.

Reiterating YSRCP's stand, Srikanth Reddy said the party is committed to safeguarding public interest and ensuring equitable development. However, he warned that any attempts to provoke divisions among people for political gain would be strongly opposed.

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MVGR College Conducts Comprehensive Disaster Management Awareness Program

Vizianagaram, April 03, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The NSS Unit of MVGR College, in collaboration with the 5th Battalion of the Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), organized an extensive Awareness Program on Disaster Management on Friday at the college campus.

The initiative was designed to equip students with critical knowledge, practical skills, and a sense of responsibility for responding effectively to various emergencies. The program commenced with an address by Inspector S. Chandra Sekhar, the chief resource person, who highlighted the increasing importance of disaster management in today's dynamic world.

He elaborated on the roles and responsibilities of the SDRF and emphasized the need for youth participation in acquiring skills that could prove vital in saving lives during emergencies. He urged students to become proactive members of their communities, capable of responding swiftly and responsibly when disasters strike.

A 25-member disaster response team conducted live demonstrations and practical training sessions, showcasing the use of modern rescue equipment and techniques applicable in cyclones, floods, and river or sea rescues. The demonstrations included hands-on practice in emergency scenarios, such as rescuing stranded individuals, administering first aid, and ensuring safety during thunderstorms, lightning, fire accidents, earthquakes, and train-related emergencies. Students

were also trained in the use of early warning systems, CPR, and basic physical examination techniques, providing them with foundational life-saving skills. To contextualize the importance of these measures, the team shared real-life incidents from Andhra Pradesh, illustrating the unpredictability and severity of natural and man-made disasters. An exhibition on disaster response equipment and resources was set up on campus, allowing students to familiarize themselves with essential tools used in rescue and relief operations. The exhibition drew significant attention and encouraged students to engage actively with the training materials. The program was attended by senior officials and faculty members, including G. Siva Prasad, RSI, K. Bhaskara Rao, RSI, MVGR-NSS Programme Officer N. Shanmukha Rao, and Dr. G. Anjaneyulu, ECE Professor and Boys Hostel Warden. NSS volunteers, faculty, and a large number of students actively participated in the event, ensuring a lively and engaging learning environment. The disaster management awareness program at MVGR College successfully highlighted the importance of preparedness, community involvement, and proactive learning. By combining theoretical knowledge with practical demonstrations and hands-on training, the program empowered students with the skills and confidence needed to respond effectively during emergencies, reinforcing a culture of safety, resilience, and civic responsibility among the youth.

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Alleged Attack on Harshaveena Sparks Controversy in Railway Koduru

Railway Koduru, April 03, 2026 | TPN Bureau

A shocking incident in Railways Koduru has stirred political and public outrage as Harshaveena, a woman who recently accused YSRCP MLA Arav Sridhar of serious misconduct, was allegedly attacked by local Jana Sena Party workers. The assault reportedly took place at the town market while Harshaveena was purchasing flowers, and her accompanying relative, Gopi, was also targeted during the attack.

According to reports, the incident was allegedly led by Jana Sena state secretary Tatam Shetty Nagendra along with other party activists. Eyewitnesses claim the attackers struck Harshaveena with sticks and issued threats, creating panic among locals. The assault took place just after she had participated in a grievance forum organized by the TDP, where she sought justice for previous alleged wrongs by the

MLA. Harshaveena has filed complaints at the local police station, resulting in separate cases being registered against the perpetrators under sections of the SC/ST (Atrocities Prevention) Act. She expressed deep concern over the lack of security in Railways Koduru, stating that even CCTV installations near her residence had not been implemented and that she and her family felt unprotected. Harshaveena emphasized that any harm caused to her or her relatives would be the responsibility of MLA Arav Sridhar, Tatam Shetty Nagendra, and TDP in-charge Mukka Rupananda Reddy. She claimed she was targeted because she raised her voice against the MLA.

The attack drew condemnation from former YSRCP MLA Koramutla Srinivasulu, who criticized the perpetrators and demanded immediate action. He highlighted that such violence against women is unprecedented in the area and questioned the state of law and constitutional protections, noting that despite her persistent calls for justice over the past two months, there had been no adequate response from party leadership, including Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan.

The incident has sparked widespread debate on law enforcement, political accountability, and citizen safety, particularly concerning women who publicly challenge powerful figures. Authorities are investigating the assault, while political leaders from multiple parties have condemned the attack, calling for stringent action against those responsible. Harshaveena's case underscores growing concerns about political intimidation, law and order, and the protection of women exercising their legal and democratic rights. The local community, activists, and legal experts are closely monitoring the developments, demanding justice and stronger safeguards for victims of politically motivated attacks.

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YSRCP Condemns Attack on Harshaveena, Demands Immediate Action Against Jana Sena Leaders

Kadapa, April 03, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The recent assault on Harshaveena, the woman who had publicly accused Railways Koduru MLA Arav Sridhar of serious misconduct, has sparked widespread outrage and criticism from political leaders and activists. YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) State Joint Secretary Kishore Boosipati strongly condemned the attack, calling it an unprecedented violation of law and human rights. Speaking in Kadapa, he questioned why Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, whose party has repeatedly claimed to support women, has remained silent on the matter.

Boosipati detailed the incident, stating that Jana Sena Party leader Tatam Shetty Nagendra and his supporters allegedly attacked Harshaveena in broad daylight while she was purchasing flowers in the Koduru town market. The attack involved verbal abuse targeting her caste, physical assault with sticks, and threats, causing public shock and fear. Her accompanying relative, Gopi, was also assaulted during the incident.

The YSRCP leader demanded immediate legal action against the perpetrators, insisting that Tatam Shetty Nagendra be booked under the SC/ST (Atrocities Prevention) Act and sections relating to attempted murder and other violent offenses, and arrested without delay. Boosipati also criticized the Jana Sena leadership for failing to respond, highlighting that the victim, a Dalit woman, is pursuing justice alone, with no political or administrative support.

Boosipati expressed grave concern over the lack of intervention by the state Home Minister, who is a woman, questioning why protective measures have not been provided for Harshaveena and why authorities have not acted to prevent further threats. He warned that the attack not only endangers the individual but also reflects poorly on governance, law enforcement, and the political accountability of Jana Sena.



The YSRCP assured Harshaveena of continued support, pledging to take the matter to the National SC/ST Commission and even to the President of India if necessary. Party leaders emphasized that they would remain by her side until justice is secured, ensuring her safety and amplifying her call for accountability.

The event was attended by YSRCP SC Cell President Singamala Venkateshwar and members of the party's doctors' wing, including Dr. Penchalayya, who underscored the need for immediate action against the attackers and voiced solidarity with the victim. This incident has reignited debates over political intimidation, protection of women and Dalit citizens, and the responsibilities of political parties to prevent acts of violence. The attack on Harshaveena stands as a stark reminder of the challenges faced by individuals seeking justice against powerful figures and highlights the need for strict law enforcement and vigilant political accountability.

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Nellore Rural MLA Office Conducts Weekly Prajadarbar to Address Public Grievances

Nellore Rural, April 03, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Nellore Rural MLA office has reinforced its commitment to public service by conducting its weekly Prajadarbar (public grievance session), providing a direct platform for residents to present issues and seek solutions from the authorities. This initiative, implemented under the guidance of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Youth Leader & Minister Nara Lokesh, ensures that citizens' concerns are heard, prioritized, and acted upon efficiently.

The Prajadarbar, led by TDP leader Kotam Reddy Giridhar Reddy, was held from 10 AM to 12 PM on Friday, as part of the office's ongoing daily availability to the public from 7 AM to 8 PM. Residents of Nellore Rural can approach the MLA office to discuss development-related issues, civic concerns, and welfare initiatives. Officials and party leaders work in close coordination to resolve grievances, monitor the progress of pending issues, and provide timely feedback to citizens.

During the recent session, citizens submitted several requests related to local infrastructure, public amenities,

and social welfare schemes. In response, the MLA office announced the initiation of 240 development works across the constituency, funded with a total investment of Rs. 27 crore. These projects include road construction, water supply improvements, drainage systems, and other essential civic services. The office assured residents that future development works will continue based on fund availability and the importance of the submitted requests. Key officials and TDP leaders participated in the Prajadarbar, including AMC Chairman Manubolu Sridhar Reddy, Cluster In-Charges

Jaladanki Sudhakar and Sabir Khan, Co-Cluster In-Charge Rapuru Shekhar, 23rd Division TDP President Mekala Madhu, 28th Division TDP President Chekka Sai Sunil, and other party leaders such as Gaus, Vanaja Reddy, and Meghnath Singh. Their presence ensured that citizens' grievances were recorded accurately, reviewed promptly, and directed to the concerned departments for effective resolution. The initiative highlights the MLA office's dedication to transparent, accessible, and responsive governance, strengthening grassroots democracy by bringing officials closer to the people. By

offering a consistent forum for dialogue and problem-solving, the weekly Prajadarbar fosters community participation, encourages accountability, and ensures that development priorities align with citizens' needs. Residents have welcomed the initiative, emphasizing that regular interactions with officials enhance trust in governance and ensure that public resources and schemes are utilized effectively. The Nellore Rural MLA office's Prajadarbar exemplifies citizen-centric governance and the TDP's commitment to inclusive and sustainable development in the region.



Rotary Human Milk Bank in Tirupati: Lifeline for Vulnerable Infants

Tirupati, April 3, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Rotary Human Milk Bank in Tirupati has emerged as a crucial initiative to support infants who lack access to maternal milk, providing them with essential nutrition and improving their chances of healthy growth and survival. Established at the Government Maternity Hospital under the efforts of the Rotary Club of Tirupati, the milk bank collects donated breast milk, pasteurizes it, stores it safely, and distributes it to infants in need, free of cost. On Friday, the facility celebrated the completion of its

second year, with District Collector Dr. S. Venkateswar visiting the milk bank to observe its operations. He highlighted the bank's role in filling a critical gap for infants who cannot receive maternal milk and praised the Rotary Club and hospital staff for their dedication. The collected milk undergoes rigorous pasteurization and quality checks to prevent infections, ensuring that it is safe and highly nutritious. This process provides newborns with the energy, hydration, and essential nutrients required for optimal growth, particularly benefiting preterm and low-birth-weight babies. The milk bank has already

benefited over 8,288 infants, contributing significantly to reducing neonatal mortality and promoting infant health. Mothers who donate milk are recognized with certificates, mementos, and public appreciation from the District Collector, fostering community participation. The bank operates under strict safety protocols, and milk distribution is conducted based on doctors' recommendations, ensuring the infants receive proper care and nutrition.

Equipped with an analyzer, the Tirupati Human Milk Bank is capable of accurately collecting, storing, and monitoring milk quality. It stands out as a model facility

in Andhra Pradesh, demonstrating the importance of well-managed milk banks in enhancing neonatal care. Officials including Medical Superintendent Dr. Prameela Devi, AP Medical Council Chairman Dr. Srihari, and senior doctors from the hospital and nearby medical colleges participated in the program, lauding the services provided by the bank.

Speaking at the event, Rotary Club President Rajendra Shetty noted that the bank was established through support from Rotary Global Grants and collaborations with Rotary Club of Green Tin, Malaysia. He emphasized that the project not only ensures that vulnerable

infants receive life-sustaining maternal nutrition but also strengthens community involvement in healthcare initiatives.

Through continuous efforts, the Tirupati Human Milk Bank is transforming infant care by providing life-saving nutrition, promoting healthy development, and offering hope to thousands of newborns across Andhra Pradesh who otherwise might be deprived of proper maternal nourishment.

This program exemplifies how local leadership, medical guidance, and community participation can come together to protect the most vulnerable members of society.



Tiruchanur and Affiliated Temples – April 2026 Special Festivities

Tirupati, April 3, 2026 | TPN Bureau:

The month of April at Tiruchanur Sri Padmavathi Ammavari Temple and affiliated temples is set to witness a series of special religious events and celebrations, attracting devotees from across the region.

Tiruchanur Sri Padmavathi Ammavari Temple

- April 10, 17, 24 (Fridays): Evening Tiruchchi Utsavam at 6:00 PM.
- April 11 (Uttarashada Nakshatra): At 6:45 PM, the deity will proceed on a Gaja Vahanam procession through the temple streets, offering blessings to devotees.
- April 30 – May 2: Annual Vasanthotsavam festival. Key events include April 28 – Koyil Alwar Tirumanjanam, and April 29 – Ankurarpanam (sacred sowing ceremony).

Sri Sundararaja Swamy Temple

- April 16 (Uttarabhadra Nakshatra): Evening Tiruchchi procession at 7:00 PM for the deity.

Sri Balaramakrishna Swamy Temple

- April 21 (Rohini Nakshatra): Evening Tiruchchi Utsavam at 7:00 PM in honor of Lord Krishna Swamy.

Sri Suryanarayana Swamy Temple

- April 29 (Hasta Nakshatra): Tiruchchi Utsavam at 5:00 PM for Lord Suryanarayana Swamy.

Sri Srinivasa Swamy Temple

- April 4, 11, 18, 25 (Saturdays): Morning Abhishekam at 8:00 AM.

Appalayagunta Sri Prasanna Venkateswara Swamy Temple

- April 7 (Tuesday): Morning Ashtadala Padmapradarshanam at 8:00 AM.
- April 10, 17, 24 (Fridays): Morning Vastra Alankarana and Abhishekam at 7:00 AM.
- April 8: Morning Ashtottara Shata Kalasha Abhishekam at 8:00 AM.
- April 12: Morning Kalyanotsavam at 10:30 AM.
- April 5, 12, 19, 26: Morning Abhishekam to Lord Anjaneya Swamy.

These carefully planned rituals and festive events are designed to enhance devotion and community participation, providing devotees with multiple opportunities to seek blessings and partake in traditional



ceremonies.

The April calendar demonstrates a seamless blend of processions, abhishekams, special Nakshatra observances, and annual festivals, reinforcing Tiruchanur's significance as a spiritual hub in Andhra Pradesh. Devotees are encouraged to plan their visits in accordance with the timings of the Tiruchchi Utsavams, Vasanthotsavam, and other ceremonial events to experience the temple's sacred ambiance in full glory.

Grand Opening of Sunrise Hospitals in Renigunta

Renigunta, April 3, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The newly established Sunrise Hospitals in Renigunta celebrated its grand inauguration on Friday morning at the Old Check Post Circle, marking a significant milestone in healthcare accessibility for the region. The event was attended by medical professionals, local dignitaries, and residents, reflecting the community's enthusiasm for improved healthcare services.

The chief guest for the occasion was Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Chairman and ex-officio Member of Parliament, Dolars Divakar Reddy, who also serves as the principal secretary of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) Tirupati Parliament unit. Chairman Reddy formally inaugurated the hospital by cutting the ceremonial ribbon, officially opening its doors to patients.

Addressing the gathering, Chairman Reddy emphasized the importance of providing quality healthcare to meet the needs of the growing population in Renigunta. He praised the management of Sunrise Hospitals for introducing modern medical infrastructure and



state-of-the-art equipment, which will enhance patient care and improve access to advanced medical services. He also underscored the need for affordable healthcare, urging the hospital to focus on delivering cost-effective treatments while maintaining high standards, ensuring that even economically weaker sections can access professional medical care.

The inauguration highlighted

ed the hospital's commitment to comprehensive healthcare services, including general medicine, specialized diagnostics, emergency care, and preventive healthcare programs. Chairman Reddy appreciated the hospital for its initiative to cater to the community with modern facilities while maintaining a patient-centric approach. He expressed hope that Sunrise Hospitals would gain recognition for excellence in

medical service delivery and contribute meaningfully to the overall health and well-being of the local population.

The ceremony also included the participation of Dr. Sandeep Reddy and the hospital's medical team, staff, and several prominent local personalities. The event showcased the hospital's infrastructure, medical equipment, and readiness to serve the public efficiently.

Sunrise Hospitals aims to be a center of medical excellence in Renigunta, combining advanced technology with compassionate patient care. With its inauguration, the hospital is expected to significantly improve healthcare access and services in the region, supporting preventive care, early diagnosis, and treatment for various medical conditions. The hospital management expressed commitment to building long-term trust with patients by ensuring high-quality, reliable, and accessible healthcare services. This opening marks a major step toward strengthening the healthcare network in Renigunta, offering residents a modern facility that meets the growing medical needs of the community while prioritizing affordability, efficiency, and quality care.



Ashok Leyland Donates Mini Truck to TTD

Tirumala, April 3, 2026:

In a gesture of support to temple operations, Ashok Leyland donated a Dost Plus XL mini truck worth Rs 8.75 lakhs to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) on Friday morning.

The donation ceremony commenced at the Srivari Temple, where the company's Area Manager, Sri Mohammed Nazeeruddin, performed special prayers for the vehicle to ensure its safe and auspicious use in temple services. Following the rituals, the vehicle keys were formally handed over to TTD Additional Executive Officer, Sri Ch. Venkaiah Chowdary.

The mini truck is expected to aid in the smooth functioning of TTD's operations, including transport of materials, supplies, and other logistical requirements across the Tiruma-

la complex. This initiative reflects Ashok Leyland's commitment to corporate social responsibility and support for religious institutions.

The donation was warmly appreciated by TTD officials, who expressed gratitude to the company for contributing a valuable asset that would enhance operational efficiency. Such contributions are expected to benefit devotees and staff alike, ensuring better service and management at the temple. This event further strengthens the partnership between corporate entities and spiritual institutions, highlighting the role of private organizations in supporting public and religious services. The mini truck donation adds to TTD's fleet, reinforcing its ability to manage the increasing footfall of devotees, particularly during festivals and peak pilgrimage seasons.

SWIMS Tirupati Hosts Joint Workshop on Physiotherapy and Psychiatry

Tirupati, April 3, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS), Tirupati, organized a two-day joint workshop under the Physiotherapy and Psychiatry departments, aiming to enhance students' practical skills and theoretical knowledge in these fields. The inaugural session of the workshop was held on April 3, 2026, at the Smt. Padmavati Auditorium, commencing at 11:00 AM, according to Medical Superintendent Dr. Ram.

The workshop began with a ceremonial lighting of the lamp by SVIMS Director and Vice-Chancellor Dr. R.V. Kumar, Organizing Secretary Dr. Srikumari, Head of Psychiatry Dr. Ganesh Kumar, and Resource Person Dr. Sanjeev Gupta, marking the formal start of the program. Dr. R.V. Kumar highlighted the significance of such workshops, noting that



they provide students with opportunities to improve both their academic knowledge and practical expertise, which are critical for future clinical practice. The sessions included a detailed presentation by Dr. Sanjeev Gupta, Research and De-

velopment Dean from Gurugram University, Delhi, focusing on the fundamentals of nerve-muscle physiotherapy and surface electromyography in psychiatric disorders. Using PowerPoint presentations, he guided students

through theoretical concepts as well as practical applications, emphasizing the integration of physiotherapy techniques in managing mental health conditions.

Organizing Secretary Dr. Srikumari expressed gratitude to the SVIMS administration, including Dean Alok Sachan, Registrar Aparna R. Bitla, and Physiotherapy Principal Dr. Madhavi, for their support in facilitating the workshop. She also acknowledged the cooperation of Head of Psychiatry Dr. Ganesh Kumar, who played a pivotal role in coordinating the interdisciplinary initiative.

Dr. Ganesh Kumar highlighted the value of joint workshops in improving clinical practice, especially in managing tension headaches, stress-related disorders, and other psychiatric conditions. The program allowed students to gain hands-on experience and interact directly with faculty and experts,

enhancing their understanding of patient care across disciplines.

Participants included faculty members from the Physiotherapy department, such as Dr. K. Senthil Kumar, Dr. G. Kameshwari, Dr. S. Raghavakrishna, and Dr. Mude Govinda Nayak, along with students from SVIMS Physiotherapy College, JEMS College, Sriakulam Physiotherapy College, and SVIMS alumni pursuing postgraduate studies in Psychiatry. The collaborative approach of the workshop fostered knowledge sharing, interdisciplinary learning, and strengthened clinical skills, benefiting both students and faculty.

The two-day workshop is expected to significantly enhance students' competence in integrating physiotherapy and psychiatric care, reinforcing SVIMS Tirupati's commitment to advanced medical education and patient-centered training.

Free Power Scheme Brings Relief and Boosts Handloom Sector in Andhra Pradesh

Tirupati, April 3, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh coalition government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, has taken a significant step to support the handloom sector, which sustains the livelihoods of thousands of low-income families across the state. Recognizing the challenges faced by weavers and power loom operators, the government has introduced a free power scheme, aimed at reducing operational costs and ensuring that artisan families can continue their craft without financial stress.

As revealed by APSPDCL CMD Siva Sankar Lotheti, the scheme came into effect on April 1, 2026, and provides 200 units of free electricity per month to handloom weavers and up to 500 units per month to power loom operators. This

initiative will benefit 41,046 weavers across APSPDCL's jurisdiction, which covers districts including Nellore, Tirupati, Chittoor, Annamayya, Kadapa, Kurnool, Nandyal, Anantapur, and Sri Sathya Sai. The state government is bearing an annual subsidy of Rs. 25.56 crores toward electricity bills under this program.

Within the scheme's framework, APSPDCL is committed to ensuring uninterrupted and reliable power supply. Measures include upgrading transformer capacity in high-demand areas, installing capacitors to stabilize electricity supply, and promptly addressing power-related complaints from weaver communities. These efforts aim to improve productivity, reduce downtime, and enhance the overall efficiency of the weaving and power loom operations.



The scheme is already creating a positive impact on the ground. With the reduction in electricity expenses, families dependent on handloom and power loom weaving are experiencing tangible relief, enabling them to invest more in raw materials and expand pro-

duction. The initiative also promotes sustainable development by allowing artisans to operate efficiently without compromising on the quality of their craft.

Across the APSPDCL jurisdiction, the scheme covers 29,075 handloom services and 11,971 power loom services, en-

sureing that a large section of the state's artisan community benefits directly. The government's intervention reflects its commitment to supporting traditional sectors that provide significant employment opportunities and contribute to rural economic development.

The free power initiative not only strengthens the handloom sector but also encourages youth participation, preserves cultural heritage, and enhances the financial stability of artisan families. By alleviating one of the major operational costs, the government is helping the sector move toward growth, modernization, and sustainability. Weaver families have welcomed the move, seeing it as a government-backed step toward better livelihoods, higher productivity, and long-term development of the handloom industry in Andhra Pradesh.

PM Modi Holds Roadshow in Puducherry as Triangular Contest Heats Up

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a major roadshow in Puducherry, intensifying campaigning ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections. The visit comes at a crucial time, as the political battle in the Union Territory is shaping into a closely watched triangular contest.

Massive Roadshow Ahead of Polls

The Prime Minister's roadshow witnessed large crowds lining the streets, with supporters gathering along the route to welcome him. The event was part of the Bharatiya Janata Party's campaign push ahead of polling, which is scheduled to take place soon. The roadshow stretched across key areas of Puducherry, with party workers and supporters participating in large numbers.

During the visit, Narendra Modi also interacted with party workers and encouraged them to strengthen grassroots outreach and convert public support into votes. The roadshow is seen as a significant effort to energise the party's cadre and boost momentum ahead of the elections.

Triangular Contest Takes Shape
The election in Puducherry is turning into a three-way contest involving the ruling alliance, opposition parties, and a new entrant. Actor-politician Vijay's party, TamilagaVetriKazhagam, is making its electoral debut, adding a

fresh dimension to the political landscape.

The emergence of the new political force has made the election more competitive, with traditional players now facing an additional challenge. Political analysts believe that this could influence vote shares and reshape the contest in several constituencies.

High Stakes Election

The Puducherry Assembly election is scheduled to be held on April 9, 2026, with all 30 seats going to polls. The results are expected to play a key role in determining the political direction of the Union Territory for the next five years. Major parties and alliances have stepped up their campaigning efforts, with top

leaders conducting rallies, roadshows, and public meetings across constituencies. The intense campaigning reflects the high stakes involved in the election.

Campaign Momentum Builds

With the triangular contest gaining momentum, all parties are focusing on voter outreach and strengthening their ground presence. Narendra Modi's roadshow marks one of the biggest campaign events so far, highlighting the importance of the Puducherry election in the broader political landscape.

As polling day approaches, political activity in Puducherry is expected to intensify further, with leaders from various parties continuing to campaign aggressively.



BJP vs Congress Face-Off Over Extended Budget Session, Women's Quota And Delimitation

A political confrontation has erupted between the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Indian National Congress over the Centre's decision to extend the Budget Session of Parliament to discuss key issues related to women's reservation and delimitation. The move has sparked sharp reactions from opposition parties, setting the stage for an intense political debate.

Why The Budget Session Is Being Extended

The government has decided to reconvene Parliament for a short three-day session beginning April 16. The session is expected to focus on legislative measures required to implement women's reservation and restructure parliamentary representation.

The proposed legislation is aimed at operationalising the long-pending 33 percent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. The government is also considering expanding the strength of the Lok Sabha to accommodate the women's quota while ensuring broader representation across the country.

Officials believe these changes could fast-track the implementation of the women's reservation framework, which currently depends on census data and delimitation of constituencies. The move is being seen as a major structural reform in India's electoral system.

Congress Raises Concerns

The Indian National Congress and several opposition parties have raised objections over the timing of the extended session. They argue that introducing major constitutional reforms during ongoing political campaigns could be politically motivated.

Opposition leaders said they support women's reservation



in principle but questioned the urgency and the process being followed. They also expressed concern about linking women's reservation with delimitation, which could significantly alter political representation across states. Some opposition leaders have also demanded wider consultation and an all-party discussion before implementing such sweeping reforms. According to them, consensus is essential for major constitutional changes that could reshape the political landscape.

BJP Defends The Decision

The Bharatiya Janata Party defended the move, stating that the government is committed to implementing women's reservation and strengthening democratic representation. Party leaders said extending the session is necessary to move forward with reforms that benefit women and improve governance. Government representatives also dismissed allegations of political motives, saying Parliament has the authority to convene sessions when required to pass important legislation. They emphasised that the decision reflects the government's in-

tervention to deliver long-pending reforms.

Delimitation Adds To Political Tension

The proposed delimitation exercise has added another layer of complexity to the debate. Delimitation involves drawing constituency boundaries and could potentially increase the number of parliamentary seats. Since women's reservation is expected to be implemented after delimitation, the issue has become politically sensitive. Different states may see changes in representation, making the debate even more intense.

High-Stakes Parliamentary Debate Ahead

With Parliament set to reconvene soon, the issue is expected to trigger heated discussions between the ruling party and opposition leaders. The clash highlights the high political stakes involved, as the proposed reforms could reshape India's electoral structure.

As the debate unfolds, the extended Budget Session is likely to become one of the most closely watched political developments, with both sides preparing for a strong showdown in Parliament.

Rajnath Singh Commissions Indian Navy's Stealth Frigate INS Taragiri

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned the Indian Navy's stealth frigate INS Taragiri, marking a major boost to India's maritime defence capabilities. The commissioning ceremony was held with senior naval officials and defence personnel in attendance, highlighting India's growing naval strength and focus on indigenous defence manufacturing.

Major Boost To Naval Power

During the ceremony, Rajnath Singh described INS Taragiri as a significant addition to India's naval fleet. He said the warship would enhance the country's ability to safeguard maritime borders and strengthen operational readiness. The Defence Minister emphasised that the induction reflects India's increasing capability to design and build advanced warships domestically.

The newly commissioned warship is equipped with advanced weapons, including missile systems and modern



surveillance technology. The Defence Minister noted that the vessel will help track enemy movements, ensure coastal security, and support humanitarian missions when required.

Indigenous Warship With Advanced Features

INS Taragiri is a 7,000-tonne stealth frigate with sophisticated combat capabilities. Built with around 75 percent indigenous components, the warship represents India's push toward self-reliance in defence production. The ship is designed to operate with reduced radar visibility, making

it difficult for adversaries to detect.

The vessel is also capable of multi-role operations, including anti-surface warfare, anti-air defence, and maritime surveillance. Its advanced systems enable it to operate effectively in high-threat environments, strengthening India's maritime security framework.

Part Of Project 17A Programme

INS Taragiri is part of Project 17A, which involves the construction of advanced stealth frigates for the Indian Navy. These warships are designed as successors to earlier

classes and incorporate modern technology, improved stealth features, and enhanced combat systems.

The project aims to modernise India's naval fleet and improve operational efficiency. With multiple ships under construction, the programme is expected to significantly strengthen India's maritime presence in the Indian Ocean region. Strengthening Maritime SecurityRajnath Singh said the commissioning sends a message of peace and stability while reinforcing India's defence preparedness. He highlighted the importance of a strong navy in protecting national interests and ensuring secure sea routes. The addition of INS Taragiri comes at a time when India is focusing on expanding its naval capabilities and enhancing indigenous defence manufacturing. The new stealth frigate is expected to play a crucial role in boosting India's maritime security and operational readiness in the coming years.

Before Tamil Nadu Poll, MK Stalin Writes To PM Over Foreign Funding Bill

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi raising concerns over the proposed amendments to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act ahead of the upcoming Tamil Nadu Assembly Elections 2026. The letter comes at a politically sensitive time, with campaigning intensifying across the state.

Stalin Flags Concerns Over Proposed Amendments

In his letter, Stalin expressed serious concerns about the proposed foreign funding bill, saying the changes could negatively impact non-governmental organisations, charitable institutions and civil society groups that rely on foreign contributions. He warned that expanding regulatory powers

and increasing scrutiny may discourage individuals and organisations from engaging in charitable activities.

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister also highlighted provisions that could widen the scope of liability to include key functionaries of organisations. According to him, such provisions may create an "implicit presumption of guilt" and discourage participation in social and humanitarian work.

Timing Of Bill Raises Political Questions

Stalin also pointed to reports that the bill had been temporarily held back due to concerns over electoral repercussions in states like Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Assam. He warned that there is apprehension the

proposal may be revived after elections, raising concerns among stakeholders.

He urged the Centre to clarify its position and reconsider the proposed amendments, arguing that such changes could affect educational institutions, NGOs and welfare organisations across the country.

Demand For Wider Consultation

Stalin called for broader consultation with state governments and stakeholders before moving forward with any changes to foreign funding regulations. He emphasised that decisions affecting civil society organisations should be taken with consensus and transparency.

The Chief Minister also stressed that many organisa-

tions play an important role in social welfare, education, healthcare and disaster relief, and any restrictive measures could hamper their functioning.

Political Heat Ahead Of Elections

The letter has added to the political debate ahead of the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections. With campaigning gaining momentum, the issue of foreign funding regulations is likely to become another point of contention between the Centre and opposition parties.

As the election campaign intensifies, the debate over the proposed bill is expected to continue, with political leaders raising concerns over its implications and timing.

BJP Names 27 Candidates For Tamil Nadu Polls, L Murugan Among Key Nominees

The Bharatiya Janata Party has released its first list of 27 candidates for the upcoming Tamil Nadu Assembly Elections 2026, fielding several prominent leaders including Union Minister L. Murugan. The announcement marks a key step in the party's preparations as campaigning intensifies ahead of polling later this month.

Key Leaders In BJP's Candidate List

The party has fielded L. Murugan from the Avanashi constituency, while former Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan has been nominated from Myslapore. National president of the BJP Mahila Morcha Vanathi Srinivasan will contest from Coimbatore North.

Other candidates announced include Kirthika Shivkumar from Modakkurichi, S. Vijayadharani from Vilavancode, and Nagesh Kumar from Thalvi. The list reflects a mix of experienced leaders and new faces as the party looks to



strengthen its presence in the state.

BJP Contesting 27 Seats

The BJP is contesting 27 seats in Tamil Nadu as part of the National Democratic Alliance arrangement. The party's candidate selection has taken into account regional representation, caste equations and local political dynamics.

Party leaders expressed confidence that the candidates will help expand the BJP's footprint in Tamil Nadu, where the party has traditionally had

limited electoral success. The selection also reflects the party's focus on promoting leaders with strong grassroots connections.

Polling Date Announced

Polling for the 234-member Tamil Nadu Assembly is scheduled for April 23, while counting of votes will take place on May 4. Political parties have intensified campaigning across the state, with senior leaders expected to hold rallies and roadshows in the coming days.

Alliance Strategy

The candidate announcement comes after the NDA finalised seat-sharing arrangements in Tamil Nadu. The BJP's list signals the beginning of an aggressive campaign strategy, with the party hoping to improve its performance in key constituencies.

With major parties announcing candidates and stepping up campaigning, the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections are shaping up to be a closely watched contest.

"Will Bring Uniform Civil Code, Infiltrators Won't Be Able To Marry 4 Times": Amit Shah In Assam Poll Pitch

Union Home Minister Amit Shah intensified campaigning for the Assam Assembly Elections 2026, promising implementation of a Uniform Civil Code and stronger action against illegal infiltration if the Bharatiya Janata Party returns to power in the state.

UCC Promise At Election Rally

Addressing a rally in Dudhnoi in Goalpara district, Amit Shah said that the Uniform Civil Code would ensure uniform laws for all citizens. He added that once implemented, infiltrators would not be able to marry multiple times, stressing that the move would bring equality and transparency in personal laws.

He also assured voters that the BJP government would take strict action against illegal infiltration, an issue that has remained central to Assam's political landscape. According to Shah, protecting the identity and rights of indige-



nous communities would remain a priority.

Focus On Tribal Development

During his address, Amit Shah highlighted development initiatives aimed at tribal communities. He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Himanta Biswa Sarma have prepared a comprehensive roadmap for tribal develop-

ment in Assam.

He emphasised that continued development would depend on the BJP returning to power in the state. Shah urged voters to support the party to ensure sustained growth and improved infrastructure across Assam.

Infiltration A Key Election Issue

Illegal infiltration has

emerged as a major election issue in Assam. BJP leaders have repeatedly highlighted the need for stricter border control and measures to protect indigenous communities.

The party has also emphasised implementing the Uniform Civil Code as part of its broader governance reforms. These issues have dominated campaign speeches and political debates ahead of polling.

High-Stakes Assam Polls

The Assam Assembly elections are shaping up to be a closely watched contest, with major political parties intensifying their campaign efforts. Senior leaders from different parties have been holding rallies across the state to gain voter support.

With Amit Shah's latest remarks, the political temperature in Assam has risen further. Campaigning is expected to intensify in the coming days as parties compete to secure voter backing ahead of the elections.

Inside the Fallout That Cost US Army Chief Randy George His Job

A major leadership shake-up hit the United States Army after Chief of Staff Randy George was asked to step down following a growing dispute with Pete Hegseth. The disagreement reportedly revolved around military promotions, leadership authority, and broader policy direction, ultimately leading to George's removal.

Dispute Over Military Promotions

The conflict between George and Hegseth reportedly began over senior officer promotions. Sources indicated that Hegseth attempted to block or delay promotions of certain officers, while George pushed back, insisting that promotions should follow established military procedures and merit-based evaluations.

This disagreement created friction between civilian leadership and military command. As tensions escalated, communication between the two reportedly deteriorated, making it increasingly difficult to maintain a functional working relationship. The dispute eventually reached a breaking point, resulting in George being asked to step down from his role.

Removal During a Sensitive Period

George's departure comes at a particularly sensitive time



for the U.S. military. The United States is currently navigating multiple global security challenges, making leadership stability crucial. Changes at the top of military leadership during such periods are uncommon and often raise concerns about continuity and strategic planning.

The move also reflects broader shifts within the defense es-

tablishment, where leadership alignment with policy priorities has become increasingly important. Analysts suggest that the decision signals a stronger push by civilian leadership to shape military direction and decision-making.

Broader Pentagon Restructuring

George's exit is part of a wider reshuffle within the United

States Department of Defense. Several senior officials have either stepped down or been replaced in recent months, indicating ongoing restructuring efforts within the defense leadership.

These changes are seen as part of an attempt to bring in leadership that aligns more closely with evolving strategic priorities. The reshuffle has

drawn attention because leadership changes at this level are relatively rare and can influence long-term defense planning.

Who Is Randy George?

Randy George served as the 41st Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. A career infantry officer, he held multiple senior roles during his military service. He also served in major conflict zones, including deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan.

George took over as Army Chief in 2023, and his tenure was expected to continue for several years. His sudden departure therefore surprised many observers and highlighted the seriousness of the internal disagreement.

What Happens Next

Following George's exit, interim leadership is expected to take charge while the administration considers a permanent replacement. The leadership change may influence policy decisions, operational priorities, and future military strategy. The episode underscores growing tensions within the defense establishment and highlights the delicate balance between civilian oversight and military leadership. As the U.S. military navigates global challenges, the impact of this leadership change will be closely watched in the coming weeks.



Iran Claims Two Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II Jets Shot Down in 24 Hours, But Grok AI Questions Narrative

Iran has claimed that it shot down two advanced Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II aircraft belonging to the United States within a span of 24 hours, escalating tensions in the ongoing conflict. However, these claims have been met with skepticism, including from Grok AI, which pointed to inconsistencies and lack of verifiable evidence.

Iran's Claims of Shootdowns

Iranian authorities, including officials linked to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, stated that their air defence systems successfully intercepted and destroyed two stealth fighter jets over Iranian territory. According to the claims, one aircraft was reportedly shot down near Qeshm Island in the Persian Gulf, while the second was allegedly downed over central Iran within the following 24 hours.

Iranian media also circulated images and videos that were said to show debris from the aircraft. Reports suggested that the pilots were unlikely to have survived, though no independent verification of the claims has emerged. The incidents, if confirmed, would represent a significant development, as the F-35 is widely considered one of the most advanced fighter jets in the world.

No Confirmation from the United States

Despite the claims, officials from the United States have not confirmed the loss of any aircraft. Typically, the U.S. military provides updates regarding aircraft losses or incidents, especially involving high-value assets such as stealth fighters. The absence of official confirmation has led analysts to question the accuracy of Iran's statements.

Military experts also note that during conflicts,

competing narratives often emerge, with both sides attempting to shape public perception. This makes it difficult to verify claims in real time, particularly when access to independent sources is limited.

Grok AI Raises Doubts

Grok AI reportedly analyzed the circulating images and claims, suggesting that the available evidence does not conclusively prove that F-35 aircraft were shot down. The AI highlighted that the debris shown in images could not be definitively identified as belonging to the stealth fighter. The AI also noted the absence of supporting satellite imagery, official confirmations, or credible independent reports, further casting doubt on the claims. This has fueled debate about whether the incidents actually occurred or whether they represent part of an information battle.

Why the Claims Matter

The Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II is designed with advanced stealth capabilities intended to evade radar and air defence systems. If Iran successfully shot down two such aircraft, it would represent a major military achievement and could significantly alter perceptions of air superiority in the region. However, without independent verification, analysts remain cautious. The situation highlights the growing role of information warfare alongside military operations, where claims and counterclaims can influence public opinion and geopolitical narratives. For now, the claims remain unverified, and the situation continues to evolve as tensions between Iran and the United States remain high.

US Ex-Soldiers Accused of Running UAE's Secret Assassination Squad

Former American soldiers have been accused of running a covert assassination programme for the United Arab Emirates during the conflict in Yemen, according to reports based on court filings and testimonies. The allegations have raised serious concerns about the role of private military contractors and the legality of targeted killings carried out outside official military structures.

Covert Operation Led by Former US Soldier

The accusations centre around Abraham Golan, who reportedly headed a private military firm called Spear Operations Group. The company, based in San Diego, allegedly recruited former U.S. special forces personnel to conduct covert missions.

According to the allegations, the group signed a contract with authorities in the United Arab Emirates to carry out targeted operations against individuals viewed as threats. These operations reportedly took place in Yemen, where ongoing conflict and political instability created conditions for covert activities.

The team allegedly included former members of elite military units such as US Navy SEALs and US Army Special Forces. Reports suggest the contractors were offered significant financial compensation, including monthly payments and bonuses linked to mission outcomes.

Alleged Assassination Attempt

One of the key allegations



involves Anssaf Ali Mayo, a Yemeni political figure who claims he was targeted in an assassination attempt in 2015. According to the complaint, explosives were planted outside his office in Aden.

Mayo reportedly escaped the attack shortly before the explosion and later fled the country due to safety concerns. He has since filed a lawsuit accusing the contractors of attempted extrajudicial killing, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.

Former Contractors' Statements

Reports indicate that some individuals allegedly involved in the operation, including Isaac Gilmore and Dale Comstock, acknowledged participation in the campaign. Statements attributed to members of the group suggested that the operations were carried out as part of broader counterterrorism objectives during the Yemen conflict.

These claims have intensified scrutiny around the use of private military contractors in sensitive geopolitical conflicts.

UAE Response

Authorities in the United Arab Emirates have denied allegations that political leaders or civilians were targeted. Officials maintain that their involvement in Yemen focused on counterterrorism operations and efforts to stabilise the region.

Legal and Global Implications

The case is being pursued under legal provisions that allow foreign nationals to file lawsuits for alleged violations of international law. Legal experts believe the outcome could set an important precedent regarding accountability for private military contractors operating overseas.

The controversy also highlights broader concerns about the growing role of private military companies, the blurred lines between official military operations and contractor-led missions, and the challenges of ensuring accountability in conflict zones.

As legal proceedings continue, the case is expected to draw international attention, particularly due to its potential diplomatic and security implications.



Iran Issues 'Hit List' of Gulf Bridges After Strike Near Tehran Escalates Tensions

Tensions in the Middle East have intensified after Iran reportedly released a list of key bridges across Gulf nations that could become potential targets, following a major strike that damaged one of Iran's tallest bridges near Tehran. The development marks a sharp escalation in the ongoing confrontation involving the United States and its regional allies.

Strike on Major Iranian Bridge

The escalation began after airstrikes reportedly hit a large bridge project near Karaj, located southwest of Tehran. The structure, believed to be among the tallest bridges in the region and still under construction, sustained significant damage. Reports indicated casualties and injuries following the strike, with sections of the bridge collapsing after the attack.

The strike added to growing tensions in the region, which have already been heightened by weeks of military exchanges and rising geopolitical uncertainty. The attack was seen as a major escalation, given the scale of infrastructure targeted and its strategic significance.

Rising Regional Concerns

The growing confrontation has raised concerns about the possibility of a broader regional conflict. Targeting major bridges and infrastructure could disrupt transportation networks, trade routes, and economic activity across the Gulf region. It may also impact global energy markets, especially if key logistics routes are affected. Geopolitical tensions have already led to increased volatility in oil prices and global financial markets. Investors and governments worldwide are closely monitor-

Iran's 'Hit List' of Bridges

Following the strike, Iranian media reportedly published a list of eight bridges across multiple countries that could potentially be targeted in retaliation. These included major infrastructure links in Gulf countries and neighboring regions:

- Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah Sea Bridge in Kuwait
- Sheikh Zayed Bridge
- Al Maqta Bridge
- Sheikh Khalifa Bridge
- King Fahd Causeway connecting Saudi Arabia and Bahrain
- King Hussein Bridge in Jordan
- Abdoun Bridge in Jordan

The publication of these locations is widely viewed as a warning rather than an immediate operational plan. However, analysts warn that highlighting critical infrastructure increases the risk of wider regional escalation.

ing developments, as any further escalation could have far-reaching consequences.

What Comes Next

With both sides exchanging warnings, the situation remains highly volatile. Military analysts believe that further escalation will depend on diplomatic efforts and whether additional strikes occur.

For now, the release of the bridge list signals rising tensions and growing risks across the Middle East, with global markets and policymakers closely watching how the situation unfolds in the coming days

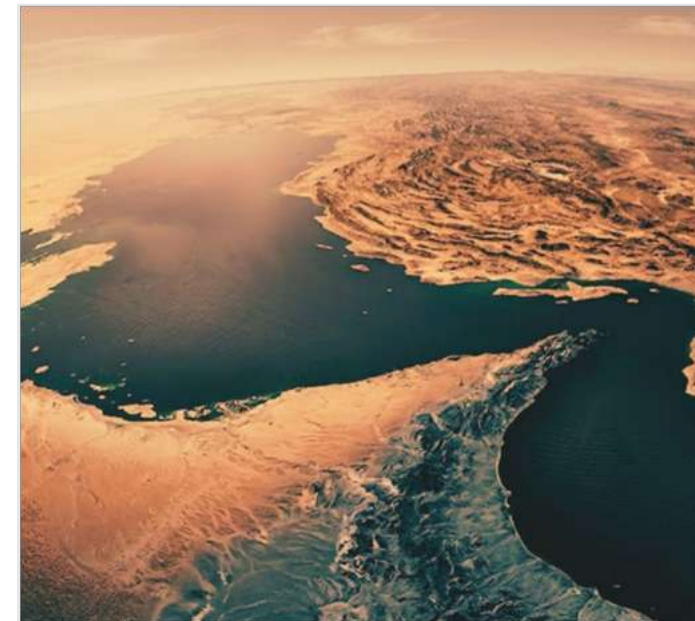
India Says "Only Nation To Lose Mariners" in Strait of Hormuz Amid Iran War Talks

India has highlighted the human cost of the ongoing Iran conflict, stating that it is the only country to have lost mariners in the Strait of Hormuz during the crisis. The statement came during a multilateral meeting focused on de-escalating tensions and restoring safe navigation in the strategic waterway.

India Raises Concern Over Loss of Sailors

According to officials, at least three Indian seafarers working aboard foreign-flagged vessels have been killed, while another has been injured after ships were caught in the conflict-hit Strait of Hormuz. These incidents occurred as vessels remained stranded in the volatile region amid escalating tensions.

India stressed that these casualties highlight the growing risks faced by commercial shipping and maritime workers in the region. The country also emphasised the urgent need to ensure safe and uninterrupted passage through in-



ternational waterways.

Call for Reopening Strait of Hormuz

During the talks, India called for reopening the Strait of Hormuz, which has been severely disrupted since the conflict es-

calated. The waterway is one of the world's most important energy routes, carrying a significant portion of global oil shipments.

India's delegation stressed that freedom of navigation is

essential not only for global trade but also for energy security, particularly for countries dependent on oil imports. The disruption has already raised concerns over fuel supply chains and shipping costs.

Diplomatic Push by India

Vikram Misri, representing India at the meeting, emphasised the importance of diplomacy and dialogue to reduce tensions. He urged all parties to avoid further escalation and focus on restoring stability in the region.

India also pointed out that millions of its citizens live and work across Gulf countries, making the situation particularly sensitive for New Delhi. Ensuring their safety and protecting maritime trade routes remains a top priority.

Strategic Importance for India

The Strait of Hormuz is crucial for India's energy imports, as a large portion of crude oil shipments passes through the narrow waterway. Any disruption in shipping can impact

fuel prices, inflation, and economic stability.

India has been actively engaging with multiple countries to address the crisis and secure safe passage for ships carrying cargo and crew members. The government has also been monitoring Indian vessels and seafarers operating in the region.

Rising Global Concern

The ongoing conflict has increased risks for shipping companies and maritime workers. Several ships have been stranded, and security concerns remain high as tensions continue. India's statement at the talks underscores the growing humanitarian and economic risks associated with the conflict. With diplomatic efforts underway, the focus remains on reopening the Strait of Hormuz and preventing further casualties. The situation remains fluid, and India continues to push for peaceful resolution while prioritizing the safety of its citizens and maritime workers in the region.

Asian Equities Likely to Rise Following U.S. Market Rebound

Asian equity markets are expected to open on a positive note after U.S. stocks staged a late recovery, lifting investor sentiment globally. Despite ongoing geopolitical uncertainties and fluctuations in oil prices, optimism returned to markets after Wall Street rebounded from earlier losses, signaling improved risk appetite among investors.

U.S. markets experienced a volatile trading session before closing slightly higher. Major indices recovered toward the end of the session, supported by easing concerns about geopolitical tensions and hopes that diplomatic efforts may help stabilize the situation. The rebound helped offset earlier declines that were triggered by rising oil prices and concerns about global economic stability.

Oil prices remained a central focus for investors, as they initially surged amid fears of supply disruptions. Rising crude prices often increase inflation risks and create uncertainty for global markets, particularly for countries heavily dependent on energy imports. However, prices later moderated after reports suggested potential diplomatic efforts to ease tensions and ensure stability in key energy supply routes. This development improved market sentiment and contributed to the recovery in equities.

Asian markets are expected to reflect this improved mood, with futures indicating gains in several regional indices. However, overall trading activity may remain subdued, as several markets across Asia are closed for holidays. Reduced participation from key financial centers

could lead to lower volumes and potentially limited price movements, even if the broader sentiment remains positive.

Investors are also closely monitoring economic indicators from the United States, which could influence global market direction. Economic data releases, particularly those related to employment and growth, are being watched carefully for signs of resilience in the world's largest economy. Strong economic figures could support equities, while weaker data may renew concerns about economic slowdown.

Meanwhile, geopolitical developments continue to pose risks to global markets. Any escalation in tensions could trigger renewed volatility in oil prices and equities. Conversely, signs of diplomatic progress or stability

could further strengthen investor confidence and support market gains.

Currency markets also reflected cautious optimism, with movements remaining relatively stable as investors assessed global developments. Bond markets showed mixed signals, indicating that traders remain uncertain about the long-term outlook. This cautious positioning highlights the fragile nature of current market sentiment. Overall, Asian equities appear set for a modestly positive start, supported by Wall Street's rebound and easing oil price pressures. However, uncertainty remains high due to geopolitical risks, economic data expectations, and holiday-related thin trading. Investors are likely to remain cautious, focusing on upcoming developments and maintaining a balanced approach in the near term.



RBI Likely to Take Calibrated Approach in April Policy Amid West Asia Uncertainty

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is expected to adopt a cautious and calibrated approach in its April monetary policy meeting, as policymakers balance emerging inflation risks with the need to sustain economic growth. The central bank faces a challenging environment shaped by geopolitical tensions in West Asia, rising crude oil prices, and evolving domestic economic conditions.



At its previous policy meeting, the RBI maintained status quo on interest rates while keeping its stance neutral. At that time, inflation remained largely under control and economic growth continued to show resilience. However, global developments since then have introduced fresh uncertainties. Escalating geopolitical tensions in West Asia have driven up crude oil prices, creating potential inflationary pressures for oil-importing economies like India.

Higher crude oil prices remain one of the biggest concerns for policymakers. Rising fuel costs can push up transportation expenses, increase production costs for businesses, and eventually lead to higher consumer prices. This could complicate the RBI's efforts to maintain inflation within its target range. Additionally, elevated oil prices may also affect inflation expectations, which play a critical role in shaping long-term price stability.

Recent inflation trends suggest that price pressures may gradually build up. While inflation has remained within the central bank's comfort zone, the upward movement raises concerns, especially if global commodity prices continue to rise. Policymakers are therefore likely to remain cautious and avoid any aggressive monetary moves until there is greater clarity on inflation trends.

At the same time, India's economic growth remains relatively strong compared to many global economies. Domestic demand, infrastructure spending, and investment activity have continued to support growth momentum. However, sustained high energy prices could weaken consumption and increase costs for businesses, potentially slowing economic expansion. Rural demand could also face

pressure if fuel and fertilizer prices rise further.

Financial markets have also reacted to global uncertainty. The Indian rupee has shown some weakness amid rising geopolitical risks and cautious foreign investor sentiment. Capital flows into emerging markets have become more volatile, which could affect currency stability and increase pressure on India's current account balance.

Liquidity conditions in the banking system remain comfortable, providing support to credit growth and economic activity. The RBI has managed liquidity effectively, helping maintain stability in money markets. However, global uncertainties and potential capital outflows continue to pose risks.

Bond markets have reflected growing caution, with government bond yields witnessing some upward movement. Market participants are closely monitoring inflation risks and policy signals from the RBI. Despite this, many analysts believe that the central bank may prefer to wait and watch rather than take immediate action.

Given the current backdrop, the RBI is widely expected to maintain policy rates in April while continuing with a neutral stance. Such an approach would allow the central bank to monitor global developments, inflation trends, and domestic growth indicators before making any major policy shifts.

Overall, the upcoming policy meeting is likely to focus on balancing inflation risks with growth momentum. With uncertainties largely driven by external factors, the RBI is expected to remain cautious, flexible, and data-dependent in its policy decisions, ensuring stability while supporting India's economic recovery.

Rupee Rebounds After Sharp Fall as RBI Steps In to Stabilise Currency

The Indian Rupee witnessed a strong rebound after a sharp fall earlier in the week, following decisive intervention by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The rupee, which had weakened significantly against the US Dollar, recovered after the central bank implemented measures to curb excessive volatility and speculative trading in currency markets.

The domestic currency had earlier slipped sharply, raising concerns among investors and policymakers. A weaker rupee typically increases the cost of imports, particularly crude oil, and may contribute to inflationary pressures. The decline also reflected broader global uncertainties, including rising crude oil prices and persistent foreign investor outflows from emerging markets. These factors combined to create pressure on the currency and

heightened volatility in the foreign exchange market.

In response, the RBI took swift action to stabilise the situation. The central bank introduced measures aimed at limiting speculative positions and tightening certain derivative trades. By restricting excessive betting against the rupee, the RBI sought to restore stability and prevent further depreciation. These steps helped reduce volatility and encouraged market participants to unwind aggressive dollar positions.

The RBI's move had an immediate impact on currency markets. As traders and financial institutions began reducing their dollar holdings, the supply of dollars increased, supporting the rupee's recovery. The rebound also improved overall market sentiment, as currency stability is often viewed as a sign of financial strength and policy



credibility.

However, analysts believe that while the recovery is encouraging, challenges remain. Rising crude oil prices continue to pose a major risk for India, which relies heavily on energy imports. Higher oil prices increase demand for dollars and can exert pressure on the rupee. Additionally, global geo-

political tensions and uncertainty in international markets may continue to influence currency movements.

Foreign institutional investor outflows also remain a concern. Continued selling by overseas investors can lead to increased demand for dollars, weakening the rupee. Market participants are closely moni-

toring global interest rate trends, geopolitical developments, and capital flows, all of which can affect currency stability.

Despite these uncertainties, the RBI's proactive intervention has helped restore confidence in the currency market. The central bank's actions signal its commitment to maintaining orderly market conditions and preventing excessive volatility. Investors now expect the rupee to trade within a relatively stable range, although movements will continue to depend on global economic developments and domestic fundamentals.

Overall, the rupee's rebound highlights the importance of timely policy intervention. While risks remain due to global factors, the RBI's decisive steps have helped calm markets and stabilise the currency, at least in the near term.

Key Business Events to Watch Next Week

The upcoming week is expected to be crucial for financial markets, with several major domestic and global developments likely to influence investor sentiment. Market participants will closely track the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy decision, key global economic data, and services sector indicators to determine the near-term direction for equities, currencies, and bonds.

RBI Monetary Policy Takes Centre Stage

The biggest event in the coming week will be the monetary policy announcement by the Reserve Bank of India. The Monetary Policy Committee is scheduled to meet from April 6 to April 8, and investors will be watching closely for any signals on interest rates, inflation outlook, and growth projections.

The policy comes at a time when global uncertainties remain elevated, particularly due to geopolitical tensions and rising crude oil prices. While inflation has remained within manageable levels,

higher energy costs and currency volatility could influence the central bank's outlook. Market participants will also focus on commentary regarding liquidity conditions, inflation expectations, and growth momentum.

Interest rate guidance from the RBI will likely influence banking stocks, bond yields, and the broader market sentiment. A cautious or neutral stance may provide stability, while any change in tone could trigger volatility.

Services PMI Data to Offer Growth Signals

Another key indicator investors will monitor is the services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI). This data provides insights into business activity across sectors such as banking, IT services, hospitality, and transportation. Strong PMI numbers would indicate sustained economic momentum, while weaker figures may raise concerns about slowing growth.

The services sector remains a critical driver of India's economic expansion, and any



shift in activity levels could influence investor confidence and sector-specific stocks.

Global Data to Shape Market Direction

Global economic data from the United States will also play a major role in guiding markets. Investors will keep an eye on U.S. growth figures, inflation data, and labour market indicators. These numbers often influence global risk sentiment, foreign investment

flows, and currency movements.

Stronger U.S. economic data could strengthen the dollar and impact emerging market currencies, including the Indian rupee. On the other hand, weaker data may improve risk appetite and support equities.

Geopolitical Developments Remain in Focus

Apart from economic data, global geopolitical developments are expected to remain

a key driver. Rising tensions in energy-producing regions have already influenced crude oil prices and currency movements. Any escalation or easing of tensions could impact global markets, including India.

Higher crude prices typically increase inflation risks for India and widen the current account deficit. As a result, investors will closely track oil price movements throughout the week.

Market Outlook

Overall, the week ahead is likely to be event-heavy, with markets reacting to policy decisions, macroeconomic indicators, and global developments. Volatility may remain elevated as investors await clarity on interest rates, growth outlook, and global risks. Market participants are expected to remain cautious, focusing on key data releases and policy signals. The RBI policy outcome, services PMI trends, and U.S. economic indicators will be the primary factors shaping market direction in the coming days.

Expansion to Drive Growth, but Execution Will Decide Winners in Value Retail

India's value retail sector is entering a strong growth phase, driven primarily by aggressive store expansion across cities and towns. However, while expansion is expected to support revenue growth, the long-term winners will be determined by execution, store productivity, and merchandising strategies. As competition intensifies, retailers will need to focus on operational efficiency rather than relying solely on footprint expansion.

Value retail, which focuses on affordable pricing and high-volume sales, has gained momentum due to rising price sensitivity among consumers and increasing demand for budget-friendly fashion and lifestyle products. Companies

in this segment are rapidly expanding their store networks to capture market share, particularly in tier-2 and tier-3 cities where consumption growth remains strong. Expansion strategies are therefore emerging as a key growth lever for many retailers.

However, analysts believe that expansion alone may not guarantee sustainable growth. Store productivity is expected to become a crucial differentiator. Retailers that generate higher sales per store and maintain strong same-store sales growth are likely to outperform peers. This is particularly important as rapid expansion can sometimes dilute operational efficiency and increase costs if not executed carefully.

Merchandising will also

play a significant role in determining winners in the value retail space. Product assortment, pricing strategies, and inventory management are becoming increasingly important as consumers seek both affordability and variety. Companies that can quickly adapt to changing consumer preferences and manage supply chains efficiently are likely to maintain competitive advantages.

Same-store sales growth across players in the value retail segment remains positive, indicating steady demand despite macroeconomic uncertainties. This trend reflects strong consumer interest in affordable fashion and everyday essentials. However, maintaining this momentum will require consistent execu-

tion, especially as new store openings increase competition within the segment.

Margins remain another key focus area. Value retail typically operates on thin margins due to competitive pricing strategies. As companies expand, controlling costs such as rentals, logistics, and staffing becomes critical. Retailers that can achieve scale benefits while maintaining operational discipline are expected to deliver stronger profitability.

Additionally, private labels and in-house brands are becoming increasingly important in the value retail business model. These offerings help retailers improve margins and differentiate themselves from competitors. Companies investing in strong

private label portfolios may gain an edge in the long term.

Despite near-term growth opportunities, risks remain. Rapid expansion could strain supply chains and operational capabilities if not managed efficiently. Furthermore, increased competition from both organised and unorganised players may put pressure on pricing and profitability.

Overall, the outlook for India's value retail sector remains positive, supported by expansion plans and strong consumer demand. However, long-term success will depend on execution, store productivity, merchandising strategies, and cost control. As the sector evolves, retailers that balance aggressive growth with operational excellence are likely to emerge as clear winners.



Punjab Kings Thrill to Five-Wicket Win Over Chennai Super Kings in IPL 2026

In a thrilling encounter at the MA Chidambaram Stadium, Punjab Kings chased down a challenging target to defeat Chennai Super Kings by five wickets in the IPL 2026 on Friday night. The victory marked Punjab Kings' second consecutive win of the season and handed Chennai another home defeat early in the tournament.

Batting first, Chennai Super Kings posted a competitive 209/5 in 20 overs. Ayush Mhatre led the charge with a well-paced 73 runs off 43 balls, stabilizing the innings after early wickets. Support

came from Sarfaraz Khan and Shivam Dube, who contributed crucial late runs, pushing the total past 200 and giving CSK a challenging target. Chasing 210, Punjab Kings got off to a blistering start. Priyansh Arya attacked from the outset, scoring 39 runs off 11 balls to provide early momentum. Prabhsimran Singh continued the aggressive batting, adding 43 runs to keep the scoring rate high. The pivotal contribution came from captain Shreyas Iyer, who anchored the innings with a vital 50 off 29 balls, guiding his team under pressure. De-

spite a few middle-over setbacks, PBKS reached the target with eight balls to spare, finishing at 210/5 in 18.4 overs.

The win highlighted Punjab Kings' strong batting depth and composure in high-pressure situations. The team displayed resilience and strategic partnerships, successfully chasing a formidable total against one of the IPL's most celebrated franchises. For Chennai Super Kings, the defeat extended their early-season home struggles, signaling the need to regroup and strengthen their performance.

Analysts noted the balanced contributions across Punjab Kings' batting order, while their bowlers managed to keep CSK's scoring in check during crucial phases. The victory has boosted PBKS' confidence and early-season standing, showcasing their potential as serious contenders in IPL 2026. With this thrilling win, Punjab Kings have made a statement with their aggressive chase, solid teamwork, and ability to handle pressure, making them one of the exciting teams to watch this season.



IPL 2026: Delhi Capitals Seek Top-Order Stability Against In-Form Mumbai Indians

The focus will be firmly on the top-order batting of Delhi Capitals as they prepare to take on a confident Mumbai Indians side in their first home match of the IPL 2026 season. With both teams entering the contest with different levels of momentum, the clash promises to be a crucial early-season test.

Delhi Capitals Searching for Stability

Delhi Capitals have long struggled with consistency at the top of the batting order. The issue persisted last season, when the team experimented with multiple opening combinations in search of reliability. Despite hopes of fixing the problem this year, early signs suggest that the Capitals are still trying to settle on a stable opening partnership.

A strong start at the top is essential for Delhi, especially against a powerful Mumbai Indians lineup. The team's middle-order has shown promise, but repeated early setbacks could place unnecessary pressure on the rest of the batting



unit. With a home game offering familiar conditions, Delhi will hope their openers can finally deliver a solid platform.

Captain Axar Patel will also be keen to see his batters build partnerships and avoid collapses that have hurt the team in previous seasons. Establishing a rhythm early in the tournament is vital, particularly as teams aim to secure momentum in the opening phase.

Mumbai Indians Carry Winning Momentum

Mumbai Indians, mean-

while, enter the match with strong confidence following impressive performances in their opening games. Their batting lineup appears in good form, with key players contributing across the order. This depth makes Mumbai one of the most dangerous teams in the competition. The five-time champions also boast a balanced bowling attack capable of exploiting early weaknesses.

If Delhi's top order falters again, Mumbai's bowlers are well equipped to capitalize on

the opportunity.

Mumbai's all-round strength and recent form make them slight favourites heading into the contest. However, playing away from home could present its own challenges.

Key Battle to Watch

The contest between Delhi's top-order batters and Mumbai's new-ball bowlers is likely to shape the outcome. If Delhi can survive the early overs and build a foundation, they have the firepower to challenge Mumbai. But if Mumbai strikes early, they could quickly take control of the match.

Early Season Importance

Although still early in the tournament, both teams will be eager to secure valuable points. Delhi Capitals will aim to build momentum at home, while Mumbai Indians will look to extend their strong start. With contrasting narratives—Delhi seeking stability and Mumbai riding confidence—the clash promises to be an intriguing battle between two competitive sides in IPL 2026.

"Can't Sit With Those Who Made Personal Remarks": Yuvraj Singh Drops Big Bombshell

Former India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh made a strong statement about distancing himself from certain individuals in cricket, saying he cannot sit alongside those who made personal remarks. The revelation has sparked fresh discussions about tensions within cricket circles and commentary panels.

Yuvraj Explains Absence From Commentary

Yuvraj revealed that he has deliberately stayed away from commentary duties despite receiving offers. According to him, the decision was influenced by personal comments made by some individuals in the cricketing fraternity.

He stated that while professional disagreements are acceptable, personal remarks cross the line. Yuvraj added that he prefers maintaining dignity and respect rather than sharing space with people who made such comments.

The former cricketer emphasized that mutual respect is essential, especially in public platforms like commentary panels where former players represent the sport.

Personal Remarks Led to



Distance

Although Yuvraj did not directly name individuals, his comments appear to be linked to recent controversies involving remarks made within cricket circles. He made it clear that he has no interest in engaging in uncomfortable environments and would rather focus on other commitments.

Yuvraj also stressed that he prefers contributing to cricket in meaningful ways, including mentoring young players and

working behind the scenes, rather than being part of commentary discussions filled with personal tensions.

Focus On Mentoring Young Talent

In recent years, Yuvraj has shifted his attention toward coaching and mentoring young cricketers. Several emerging Indian players have benefited from his guidance, particularly in white-ball formats.

The 2011 World Cup hero has also been active in franchise cricket support roles and talent development initiatives, helping nurture future stars.

A Decorated Career

Yuvraj Singh remains one of India's most celebrated match-winners. He played a pivotal role in India's triumphs in the ICC T20 World Cup 2007 and the ICC Cricket World Cup 2011, where he was named Player of the Tournament.

Known for his aggressive batting and match-winning performances, Yuvraj continues to be a respected voice in Indian cricket. His latest comments, however, have once again highlighted underlying tensions and the importance of maintaining respect within the cricketing community.

Yuvraj Singh Reveals Chat With Father Yograj Over Dhoni, Kapil Dev Controversy

Former India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh has opened up about a private conversation with his father Yograj Singh following controversial remarks made about MS Dhoni and Kapil Dev. Yuvraj admitted that he felt uncomfortable with the comments and even apologised to both cricket legends.

Yuvraj Distances Himself From Father's Remarks

Yuvraj revealed that he had spoken directly to his father about the statements, making it clear that such remarks were unacceptable. He said he told his father that the comments were not appropriate and that they also affected him personally since he shared professional relationships with both Dhoni and Kapil Dev.

The former India star said he respects both players for their achievements and leadership. He added that he wanted to apologise to them personally for any hurt caused by the statements, even though the comments were not his own.

What Sparked The Controversy

Yograj Singh has previously made several controversial remarks targeting MS Dhoni, accusing him of harming the latter phase of Yuvraj's international career. He also criticised Kapil Dev, claiming he had been dropped unfairly during his own playing days. These statements resurfaced recently, prompting Yuvraj to finally address the issue publicly.

Yuvraj acknowledged that hearing such comments from his father was uncomfortable and insisted that he does not share those views. He stressed that both Dhoni and Kapil Dev are among India's greatest cricketers and deserve respect for their contributions to Indian cricket.



Yuvraj's Respect For Dhoni And Kapil

The 2011 World Cup hero highlighted that he had played alongside MS Dhoni and maintained a professional relationship with him. He also praised Kapil Dev's leadership and legacy, noting that both figures had achieved milestones that shaped Indian cricket history.

By issuing the apology, Yuvraj attempted to distance himself from the controversy and maintain goodwill within the cricketing fraternity. He also indicated that while family opinions can differ, mutual respect in public discourse remains important.

Ending The Controversy

Yuvraj's remarks appear aimed at closing a long-running controversy involving his father's statements. His willingness to apologise and clarify his stance reflects an effort to maintain harmony within the cricket community and move beyond past disputes.

The comments have since drawn attention across cricket circles, with many viewing Yuvraj's response as a mature attempt to defuse tensions and show respect to two of India's most celebrated captains.

Ajinkya Rahane Told Not To Bowl Varun Chakravarty In Powerplay, Irfan Pathan Explains Why

Former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan criticised Ajinkya Rahane for using mystery spinner Varun Chakravarty during the powerplay in Kolkata Knight Riders' IPL 2026 match, saying the decision hurt the bowler's confidence and proved costly.

Pathan Questions Rahane's Captaincy Call

Pathan felt that introducing Varun Chakravarty early in the innings, when batters are usually aggressive during the powerplay, was not the right move. The spinner, who has struggled for form recently, conceded heavily after being brought into the attack, allowing the opposition to gain early momentum.

According to Pathan, a cap-



tain's responsibility is to protect players who are short on confidence and deploy them in situations that suit their strengths. He suggested that

giving Chakravarty the tough task of bowling during the powerplay added unnecessary pressure on the spinner.

Costly Over Hurt KKR

During the match, Chakravarty was introduced early and was taken apart by the opposition batters, conceding a large number of runs in a single over. The expensive spell shifted momentum and made it difficult for Kolkata Knight Riders to recover.

Pathan added that Rahane handled things better later in the innings, but the early decision had already caused damage. He stressed that such tactical calls can influence a bowler's self-belief and overall performance.

Chakravarty's Recent Struggles

The criticism comes at a time when Chakravarty has been struggling in IPL 2026. He has conceded runs in the open-

ing matches without picking up wickets, making the early-over decision even more questionable.

Experts believe that Chakravarty is more effective in middle overs, where his variations and mystery spin can restrict scoring and create wicket-taking opportunities.

Captaincy Under Scrutiny

Rahane's captaincy decisions have come under scrutiny after Kolkata Knight Riders' early-season struggles. With expectations high, tactical choices like bowling changes are being closely analysed.

As IPL 2026 progresses, Rahane will be hoping to fine-tune his strategy and help key players like Chakravarty regain confidence and form.

Rain Interrupts PSL Post-Match Show, Hilarious Moment Leaves Fans In Splits



moment, with cameras continuing to roll while everyone tried to adapt.

Instead of stopping the interview, the team decided to continue despite the rain, adding to the humour of the situation. The unexpected twist turned what was supposed to be a formal interview into a spontaneous and entertaining exchange.

Carlos Brathwaite's

Gesture

Adding to the entertainment, Carlos Brathwaite stepped in with an umbrella to shield Azam Khan from the rain. The gesture drew smiles from everyone present and made the moment even more memorable.

While Brathwaite held the umbrella, Azam continued answering questions calmly, showing composure despite

the unusual circumstances. The scene, featuring a player holding an umbrella while another conducted the interview in the rain, quickly went viral on social media.

Fans praised the players for their relaxed attitude and sense of humour. Many described the moment as one of the most entertaining off-field incidents of the tournament.

Azam Khan's Match-Winning Performance

The humorous incident came after a strong performance from Azam Khan, who played a crucial role in Karachi Kings' victory. His aggressive batting helped his team chase down the target comfortably and earned him the Player of the Match award.

Azam's innings showcased his power-hitting abilities and his ability to perform under pressure. The post-match rain drama only added more attention to his standout performance.

Fans React to Viral Moment

Clips of the rain-interrupted interview quickly spread across social media platforms, with fans sharing reactions. Many viewers appreciated the spontaneity of the situation and the players' ability to handle it calmly.

Cricket fans often enjoy such unscripted moments, which add personality and entertainment beyond the game itself. The incident also highlighted the relaxed atmosphere that often defines T20 leagues.

Another Memorable PSL Moment

The Pakistan Super League has delivered several exciting matches and entertaining off-field moments over the years. This rain-interrupted interview now joins the list of memorable incidents that fans will recall long after the tournament ends. While cricket remained the main attraction, this humorous interruption proved that sometimes the most entertaining moments happen away from the pitch.

Hyderabad Theatres Shift to Percentage Model: A Major Change in Film Distribution

A significant shift is taking place in Hyderabad's exhibition sector as several single-screen theatres have decided to move away from the traditional rental system and adopt a percentage-based revenue-sharing model. This move is expected to have a noticeable impact on film distribution strategies, especially for big-budget releases scheduled in the coming months.

According to industry sources, around 23 single-screen theatres in Hyderabad have collectively decided to implement the percentage model instead of the conventional rental system. Under the earlier system, distributors paid a fixed rental amount to theatre owners regardless of a film's performance. While this model worked well when footfalls were consistent, the changing dynamics of movie-going habits and fluctuating box office performance have made it increasingly risky for theatre owners.

The percentage-based model, on the other hand, allows theatre owners and distributors to share revenue based on actual collections. This reduces financial risk for theatre operators and creates a more balanced arrangement between exhibitors and distributors. Theatre owners believe that this change



will help them sustain operations and avoid losses, especially during periods when films fail to attract audiences.

The decision comes at a time when single-screen theatres are already struggling to survive due to competition from multiplexes, OTT platforms, and rising operational costs. Many theatre owners have reported declining occupancy rates, making it difficult to manage expenses such as maintenance, staff salaries,

electricity, and licensing fees. As a result, several single-screen theatres in Hyderabad have either shut down or converted into commercial complexes in recent years.

Industry experts believe that the shift to the percentage model could influence the release plans of upcoming big-budget films. Movies like "Peddi" and "Toxic," which are expected to have large-scale releases, may need to renegotiate terms with theatre owners under the new

arrangement. This could also impact how screens are allocated, ticket pricing strategies, and promotional efforts.

Producers and distributors are reportedly evaluating the implications of this development. While some believe that the percentage model will encourage transparency and fairness, others are concerned about potential challenges in negotiating terms for major releases. The new model may also lead to more cautious release strategies, especially for films with uncertain box office potential.

Theatre owners, however, remain optimistic about the change. They argue that the percentage model aligns with current market realities and helps them stay financially viable. By sharing both risks and rewards, they hope to create a sustainable ecosystem for all stakeholders in the film industry. This development marks an important turning point for Hyderabad's theatrical business. If the model proves successful, it could inspire similar changes in other cities as well. Ultimately, the move reflects the evolving nature of the film exhibition industry, where flexibility and adaptability are becoming essential for survival in a rapidly changing entertainment landscape.



AadiSaikumar's New Film Titled "SairaBanu"; Bandhavi Sridhar as Heroine

After scoring a success with Shambala, actor AadiSaikumar is carefully choosing his next projects. Continuing this approach, he has teamed up with a successful production banner for his upcoming film. The movie is being produced by Rajesh Danda under the Hasya Movies banner. The makers have now officially revealed key details about the project, including the title, heroine, and director.

The film has been titled "SairaBanu", and it will feature Bandhavi Sridhar, who gained recognition for her performance in Masooda, as the female lead. This marks an exciting pairing, as both actors are known for choosing content-driven projects. The announcement has generated curiosity among audiences and industry circles alike.

The film will mark the directorial debut of Phani Krishna Siriki. Introducing a new director indicates that the project may offer a fresh narrative and style. Meanwhile, music for the film will be composed by Shekar Chandra, who is known for delivering soulful and engaging soundtracks in Telugu cinema.

According to the makers, SairaBanu is being developed as an out-and-out comedy love entertainer. This genre suits AadiSaikumar well, as he has previously delivered successful films with a blend of humor and romance. The team released a poster on Friday and officially announced the project details, creating buzz around the film.

Following the success of Shambala, expectations are high for AadiSaikumar's next venture. The actor has been focusing on selecting scripts that offer variety and strong entertainment value. With a fresh director, promising heroine, and experienced music composer, SairaBanu appears to be shaping up as an interesting project.

The film's title itself has sparked curiosity, and fans are eager to learn more about the story and characters. As production progresses, more details about the cast, shooting schedule, and release date are expected to be announced soon.

Overall, SairaBanu marks another promising step in AadiSaikumar's career, and if the film delivers on expectations, it could further strengthen his position in Tollywood.

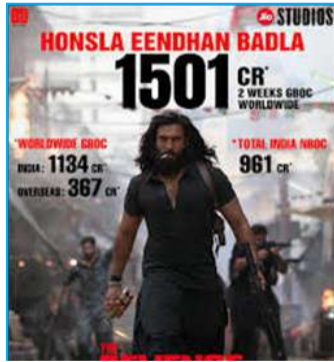


Dhurandhar 2 Creates Massive Box Office Records in Just Two Weeks

Bollywood has received a much-needed boost with the phenomenal success of Dhurandhar 2: The Revenge. The film has not only revived excitement around Hindi cinema but also set several new box office records within a very short period. With its massive collections and global reach, the movie has emerged as one of the biggest blockbusters in recent Bollywood history.

According to the makers, Dhurandhar 2 has collected an impressive 1500 crore worldwide within just two weeks of its release. The film reportedly earned around 1134 crore gross in India, while overseas markets contributed approximately 367 crore. This remarkable performance has placed the film among the fastest to reach the 1500 crore milestone, and trade analysts believe it may soon enter the prestigious 2000 crore club.

The success of Dhurandhar 2 is even more significant because it surpassed expectations despite reports that collections had slightly slowed down in recent days. However, the film's strong momentum and continued audience inter-



est have helped it maintain a dominant position at the box office. Analysts believe that if the film continues at this pace, it could soon break additional records and further strengthen its position among the highest-grossing Indian films.

Another interesting aspect is that the film was not released in several Arab countries due to content-related concerns. Industry experts estimate that if the movie had been screened in those regions, it could have easily crossed the 1800 crore mark already. Despite this limitation, the film still managed to achieve extraordinary numbers globally, highlighting its strong demand across other international markets.

When considering India net collections, the film has reportedly earned around 961 crore within two weeks and is now very close to the 1000 crore net mark domestically. This itself is a historic achievement, as no film has managed to generate such huge net collections in India within such a short period.

In addition to these milestones, Dhurandhar 2 has broken several other records. It registered one of the highest openings for a Hindi film, achieved record-breaking preview numbers, and posted the biggest opening weekend collections. The film also delivered the highest second-week collections and even surpassed the lifetime overseas collections of the first Dhurandhar movie within just ten days.

Overall, director Aditya Dhar and his team have delivered a historic blockbuster that has re-energized Bollywood. With strong word-of-mouth and sustained box office performance, Dhurandhar 2 is expected to continue its record-breaking run and potentially rewrite several milestones in Indian cinema.

Nani Tops Tier-2 Heroes in Box Office Race

A fresh debate has emerged in Tollywood regarding who holds the top position among Tier-2 heroes. While discussions often revolve around popularity, market value, and success rate, trade circles now suggest that actor Nani has secured the number one position among Tier-2 stars based on his consistent box office performance and success rate.

In Telugu cinema, the concept of "tiers" has long existed, with actors grouped based on their market reach and box office pull. Currently, stars like Prabhas, Mahesh Babu, Jr. NTR, Ram Charan, and Allu Arjun are widely regarded as Tier-1 heroes. Among them, Prabhas is often considered the top performer due to his massive global collections and high remuneration, which has made him one of the biggest stars in Indian cinema.

However, the competition becomes more interesting when it comes to Tier-2 heroes. This category includes actors such as Nani, Vijay Deverakonda, Naga Chaitanya, Ram Pothineni, Sharwanand, Sai Dharam Tej, Varun Tej, Naveen Polisetty, Adivishu, SidduJonnalagadda, and Vish-



wak Sen. Among them, industry insiders believe that the main competition for the top position is currently between Nani, Vijay Deverakonda, Naga Chaitanya, and Ram. Naga Chaitanya recently scored a notable success with his film Thandel, which strengthened his position in the Tier-2 race. He also received recognition for his performance, including a state award, further boosting his

standing. Vijay Deverakonda, despite facing a few setbacks at the box office, continues to maintain strong popularity and fan following. Similarly, Ram Pothineni has carved out a distinct identity with his own style and loyal audience base.

Despite this competition, Nani appears to have the edge due to his impressive success rate and consistent performance. Over the years, he has delivered a variety of films

across different genres, which not only performed well at the box office but also earned critical acclaim. His ability to balance content-driven films with commercial entertainers has played a key role in strengthening his market value.

Another factor that works in Nani's favor is his versatility. Unlike many actors who rely heavily on mass entertainers, Nani has built his career by experimenting with unique stories and unconventional roles. This approach has helped him maintain audience trust and deliver steady results at the box office. As a result, he is now widely regarded as the most consistent performer among Tier-2 heroes.

With several promising projects lined up, industry observers believe that Nani's position could become even stronger in the coming years. If he continues his successful run, he may not only dominate the Tier-2 category but also challenge the boundaries between Tier-1 and Tier-2 stars. For now, however, trade circles and fans seem to agree on one thing — among Tier-2 heroes, Nani currently holds the top spot in the box office race.

Telangana Theatres Shift to Percentage System for Movie Screenings

In a major development for the film exhibition sector, theatre owners in Telangana have decided to screen movies only under the percentage-based revenue model, moving away from the traditional rental system. This decision marks a significant change in how films will be released and screened across single-screen theatres in the region. According to reports, 23 single-screen theatres in Hyderabad have collectively decided to adopt the percentage system similar to multiplex chains. The Telangana State Film Chamber confirmed that this new model came into effect from Friday. Under the new arrangement, revenue generated from ticket sales will be shared between distributors and theatre owners based on a fixed percentage structure.

As per the new agreement, the revenue sharing structure has been finalized as follows: 60 percent share during the first week, 50 percent during the second week, and 40 percent during the third week of a film's release. This structure is designed to balance risks and benefits for both theatre owners and distributors.

The decision was taken after around 23 exhibitors approached the Telangana Film



Chamber expressing concerns about the difficulties in maintaining theatres under the rental model. Many of these theatres are located in prime areas and offer premium facilities, which require high operational costs. Theatre owners explained that running cinemas under the fixed rental system had become increasingly difficult due to rising maintenance expenses, staff salaries, and declining audience footfalls. Following discussions with leading distributors such as Sirish Reddy, SunielNarang, Bobby, and others, most stakeholders agreed to shift to the percentage system. However, some distributors stated that they would take a final decision only after consulting pro-

ducers and other partners. Despite this, the majority consensus paved the way for implementing the new model from April 3. Industry insiders believe this move could significantly impact upcoming movie releases. The percentage system is expected to reduce financial risk for theatre owners, especially when films fail at the box office. At the same time, it may benefit theatres during successful runs, as they can earn more based on actual collections rather than fixed rental payments. Additionally, exhibitors indicated that this model will gradually be implemented in other single-screen theatres across Telangana in phases. If the system proves successful, it could become the

standard practice across the state. This decision is also being seen as a step toward protecting single-screen theatres, many of which have struggled in recent years due to competition from multiplexes and OTT platforms. With this shift, theatre owners hope to ensure sustainability and create a more balanced business environment for producers, distributors, and exhibitors. Overall, the transition to a percentage-based screening system marks a major transformation in Telangana's film exhibition industry. The coming weeks will reveal how this change influences box office performance, release strategies, and the future of single-screen theatres in the region.