

Internships: Boon to job-seekers

Hyderabad: Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs has announced the Round 3 of Paid internships in top companies across Bharat. Monthly financial assistance of Rs 9,000; one-time joining grant of Rs.6,000. Internship duration 6 or 9 months. Age: 18 to 25 years. It will provide real work experience; professional networks; confidence development and opportunity to learn new skills. Interested candidates can register at: pm.internship.mca.gov.in or toll free:1800 116 090, says a notification.

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Rs.351 Crore Sanctioned for Bhadrachalam Temple

- *Redevelopment and Revival Works - Administrative orders issued by the Endowments Department releasing the first phase of funds for the development of the temple*
- *Orders released through G.O. Rt. No. 167*
- *A master plan has been prepared for the temple's development in three phases.*
- *The Endowments Department Director has issued administrative approval for works worth a total of Rs.586 crore.*
- *Minister Tummala expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for sanctioning funds for the temple's development.*



Repaka Ramarao, Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March 25: The government has issued administrative orders sanctioning Rs.351 crore for the redevelop-

ment and rejuvenation of the Bhadrachalam Sri Rama Temple, often referred to as "Dakshina Ayodhya." A master plan has been prepared for the development

works in three phases, with a total estimated cost of Rs.586 crore. During his visit to Bhadrachalam on March 11, 2024, Chief Minister

KTR appeals over Sircilla weavers' issues

- *Demand to waive the burden of electricity bills*
- *KTR meets Deputy Chief Minister and ministers*
- *Concerns raised that weavers' livelihoods are at risk*



K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March 25: KT Rama Rao has stepped forward to seek relief for weavers facing a severe electricity crisis in Sircilla's textile industry. In this regard, he met Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, submitting a representation on the issues.

He urged the government to reduce the burden of increased electricity dues and surcharges on powerloom units. KTR explained that "back billing" imposed on powerloom units in Sircilla has pushed the industry into a serious crisis. He noted that during the previous government, electricity subsidies up to 25 HP helped the industry sustain, but the current additional

billing has worsened the situation. He stated that around 127 small industrial units have been levied approximately Rs.19 crore in back billing for the period between 2016 and 2024, which has risen to Rs.38 crore including surcharges. Due to this heavy burden, units are unable to sustain financially. KTR expressed concern that several powerloom units have shut down, leaving thousands of families without livelihoods. He also highlighted that recently 13 workers died by suicide due to financial distress, calling it extremely tragic. Appealing on humanitarian grounds, he requested the government to completely waive electricity bill burdens and take immediate steps to protect the Sircilla weavers and revive the industry.

Revanth Reddy directed officials to prepare a comprehensive master plan for the development of both the temple and the town. Following these instructions, the Endowments Department prepared the master plan, which received the Chief Minister's approval. Subsequently, the Director of the Endowments Department issued administrative orders for the first phase of works. On the occasion of Sri Rama Navami, the Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will visit to offer traditional "Mutyalu Talamburulu" and silk clothes on behalf of the state government during the celestial wedding ceremony (Sitarama Kalyanam). He is also expected to lay foundation stones for several development works. Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao thanked Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for sanctioning funds, stating that while the temple had been neglected during the previous government, the current allocation would help develop it in a manner appreciated by millions of devotees.

Gas, petrol and diesel reserves are abundant in Hyderabad city as well as across the state: Dy. CM

K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March 25: State Deputy Chief Minister, Finance and Power Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka clarified that gas, petrol and diesel reserves are plentiful in Hyderabad city as well as across the state. State Civil Supplies and Water Drainage Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy along with Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao reviewed gas and petrol supplies in the Legislative Council meeting hall on Wednesday. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said that there is no prob-



lem in the storage and distribution of petrol and gas across the state. Consumers are advised not to be alarmed by misleading media reports. Motorists have been appealed not to buy and store more than what they buy regularly. Officials and agencies have been ordered to ensure that even the last motorist who comes to the banks gets petrol and gas. It is suggested to give regular press briefings to increase the trust among the people. Officials have been ordered to take strict action against black marketers as per law. He said that the government will provide full support to petrol and gas agencies Civil Supplies Commissioner Stephen Ravindra, GHMC Commissioner RV Karnan, Police Commissioners Sajjannar, Sudhir Babu, representatives of IOCL, HPCL, BPCL, agencies and Civil Supplies Department officials participated in this review.

Yogi Government Announces Extra Holiday For Ram Navami, Extends Break To Two Days

Lucknow: In a significant move reflecting public sentiment, the Uttar Pradesh government led by Yogi Adityanath has announced an additional public holiday on March 27, extending the Ram Navami break to two consecutive days. March 26 had already been declared a holiday for Ram Navami. The decision to add March 27 comes in response to the increasing number of devotees visiting temples across the state during the festival period. Officials said the move aims to ease crowd management and ensure convenience for worshippers. The Chief Minister approved the ex-

tension, reiterating the government's commitment to respecting religious sentiments and facilitating smooth celebrations. Separately, the High Court has revised its holiday schedule. While courts were initially set to remain closed on March 26, proceedings will now continue as usual on that day. Instead, all courts will observe a holiday on March 27 in view of the festival. Meanwhile, security arrangements have been significantly strengthened across Uttar Pradesh ahead of the celebrations. Large gatherings are expected at prominent religious centres such as



Ayodhya, Varanasi and Mathura. Authorities have issued guidelines to police and administrative officials to ensure smooth crowd control and prevent any disruption. Preparations at temples are also underway, with a focus on cleanliness, decoration, enhanced security and facilities for devotees. A festive atmosphere has already begun to take shape across key religious cities as the state prepares for large-scale Ram Navami observances

"NO CRIMINAL CONSEQUENCES" Court Junks Plea Against "Vande Mataram" Circular

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday refused to hear a petition challenging a government circular issuing guidelines on singing Vande Mataram in schools and public places. A bench consisting of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi termed the plea filed by one Muhammed Sayeed Noori as "premature" and based on "vague apprehension of discrimination". "This is a case of premature apprehen-

sion. Please come to us when you are discriminated against on the basis of the advisory," the court told the petitioner. The bench emphasised that the circular was merely advisory in nature. "There is no threat to conform. It is only a protocol. There are no criminal consequences," Chief Justice Kant observed. Senior advocate Sanjay Hegde, appearing for the petitioner Noori, said they respect every religion in the country, but if people are

compelled to sing the song irrespective of their religion and faith, some may find it a compulsion to participate in the "social demonstration of loyalty". "If you face penal action, you have the right to come to court," the bench said, adding that no such situation had arisen yet. Senior advocate Sanjay Hegde argued that compelling participation in singing the national song could infringe upon individual conscience.



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Prominent Leaders Attend Wedding in Ponnur MLA's Family

Bureau, Guntur, Jay Janasena News, March 25: The wedding ceremony of the daughter of senior TDP leader and Ponnur MLA, Dhulipalla Narendra, was celebrated in a grand manner. The event was held at Sri Convention in Guntur, where Minister for Education and IT, Nara Lokesh, attended and blessed the newly married couple. Several political leaders and public representatives participated in the adding vibrancy to the occasion. A special highlight of the event was the presence of Telangana



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, who attended along with his family. On this occasion, Minister Nara Lokesh warmly welcomed CM Revanth Reddy. Both leaders interacted cordially and exchanged greetings. Minister Nara Lokesh

Controversy over 'Vande Mataram' in the Legislative Assembly

- *Ramchander Rao demands action against MIM MLAs*
- *Petition submitted to the Governor - Call to uphold national dignity*

K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March 25: BJP leader N. Ramchander Rao has demanded action against MIM MLAs who boycotted the singing of 'Vande Mataram' in the Telangana Legislative Assembly. He stated that a representation has been submitted to the State Governor, Shiv Pratap Shukla, in this regard. He expressed serious concern over the incident that took place in the Assembly. Ramchander Rao said that behaving in a manner that disrespects a

national song on a democratic platform like the Legislative Assembly is inappropriate. He criticized the conduct of the MIM MLAs, stating that it hurts patriotic sentiments. He demanded strict action over the incident. He opined that maintaining discipline in the Assembly is the responsibility of the Speaker and suggested that the concerned MLAs should be suspended. He emphasized that respecting rules and traditions in a democratic system is the responsibility of every public representative.



EDITORIAL

Shame on Trump,
let him laugh!

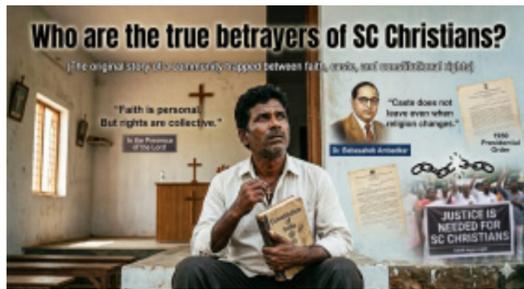
Even a chameleon would be ashamed of US President Donald Trump.. For not being able to change colors as quickly as he is! If Goebbels were alive, he would have bowed his head.. For not being able to lie as easily as Trump! It is no exaggeration to say that there is no one in the present era who surpasses Trump in believing fantastical fictions as real facts. If we put aside the lies he has told in the past and look at the current war with Iran, one must sneer at the lies told by the US leader. When the US attacked Iran last June, Trump himself declared that Iran's nuclear program had been damaged beyond repair. If that is true, then the question is why these latest attacks. Ten days ago, he also told a similar lie beautifully. He said that Iran had been irreparably damaged and that the war would not last much longer. But, what is happening in reality is different. Even after three weeks of the war, Iran has not abated, and is even firing long-range missiles, making the leaders of America and Israel sleepless. Just two days after the war began, more than 175 children were killed in an attack on a school in Iran. Trump tried his best to convince the people that Iran was responsible for the attack. However, after an investigation by the country's Defense Department found that the cause of the accident was a US missile mistakenly hitting the school.

Trump recently made another lie, saying that he was halting the attacks for a week because he was negotiating with Iran. However, Iran denied this claim. It has categorically stated that it is not negotiating with the United States. If someone were to make a list of leaders who shamelessly tell lies and half-truths, ignoring the common sense that he is the head of a superpower and that his words and actions should not only strengthen the country's reputation, but also tarnish it, there is no doubt that Trump would be at the top of the list. It is noteworthy that a survey conducted by CNN found that when he first took office as the US president, he used to lie an average of eight times a day. He has told many lies not only about his political life, but also about his personal life in the past. Even though his claims about his relationship with Epstein and his affair with a model have been proven to be untrue, it is only fair that he continues to lie with renewed vigor without correcting his mistakes. Trump has also failed miserably in his strategic approach to war with Iran.

Trump and Co. have been blundering in predicting that Iran will block the Strait of Hormuz and launch attacks on the Gulf countries. His own admission that he did not foresee Iranian attacks on the Gulf countries is a testament to his failure. Iran did not give in to Trump's threats of attacking Iranian power plants if the Strait of Hormuz was not opened within 48 hours, but warned that if that happened, it would destroy infrastructure and energy supplies across West Asia. Trump backed down. His efforts to integrate NATO countries have also been thwarted. The damage to America due to the war with Iran has also been significant. Twelve soldiers have died so far, and more than a hundred have been injured. Several American bases in the Gulf countries have been destroyed.

Iran's downing of a fighter jet like the F-35, which is the backbone of the US Air Force, is another unexpected blow. Due to the war, the prices of petrol, diesel and other essentials are gradually increasing in America. Before he came to power, Trump, who had criticized the Democratic government for 'constantly engaging in wars', what is he doing now? What has he gained by pushing the world into an economic crisis? The Trump administration, which has been so inept at home and abroad, has only one thing to do now. To engage in talks with Iran through diplomatic channels. As the Indian Prime Minister has said, talks should be the solution to the West Asian crisis. It is desirable that neutral countries like India step up to the plate for that.

Who Are the Real Betrayers of SC Christians?



(The true story of a community caught between faith, caste, and constitutional rights)

In India, religious conversion is not merely a spiritual decision; it is a deeply impactful issue that affects a person's social status, political rights, and economic opportunities. The problem of SC (Scheduled Caste) Christians, in particular, is a tragic reality caught between these multiple dimensions. In this context, an important question arises — what matters more to SCs: faith or legally guaranteed rights?

To understand the answer, we must carefully examine historical events, the internal structure of the Christian community, and political-legal developments. Since the introduction of Christianity in India, a contradiction has been evident. While the religion preaches equality in principle, in practice it has not been able to escape the influence of the Indian caste system. Particularly, the "Brahminized Christian system" shaped by dominant castes has played a key

role in distancing SC Christians from social movements.

This system, quite strategically, spread misinformation about Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, portraying him as anti-Christian. As a result, a deep divide was created between a leader who fought for liberation and the oppressed community. This was not just a misunderstanding but a planned social division. Because of this divide, SC Christians lost a natural ally.

Several key historical events clearly expose this betrayal. In 1928, before the Simon Commission, Christian representatives claimed that there were no castes within their community, thereby officially concealing the real issues of SC Christians. At the same time, Dr. Ambedkar boldly pointed out that caste discrimination continued within Christianity. However, what got officially recorded was the claim that "there is no caste." This single statement laid the foundation for the future denial of rights to SC Christians.

In 1932, when the Communal Award was announced, Brahmin Christian groups opposed

it, which led to the loss of an opportunity for SC Christians to gain separate political rights. The same stance was repeated in 1940. Finally, in 1948, Christian representatives in the Constituent Assembly declared that reservations were unnecessary, committing a historic mistake. This decision significantly impacted the future of SC Christians.

In this context, the Presidential Order of 1950 became a crucial turning point. According to this order, Scheduled Caste status was restricted only to Hindus. Although Sikhs and Buddhists were later included, Christians and Muslims still remain outside its scope. Due to this legal framework, an SC person loses their constitutional rights immediately upon converting to Christianity. Education, employment, political representation, and protection under the Atrocities Act — all are lost at once.

This creates a serious contradiction. On one hand, the Constitution guarantees freedom of religion. On the other hand, converting religion results in the loss of fundamental rights. SC Christians experience this contradiction in the most painful way. Another important aspect is the internal structure of the Christian community. Though equality is preached in theory, caste discrimination continues in practice within churches. Separate seating, separate burial grounds, lack of representation in church committees, and dis-

crimination in educational institutions are still realities. The dominance of upper castes is clearly visible at the levels of pastors and bishops. This shows that even if religion changes, social reality does not. From an economic perspective, while top religious leaders accumulate vast wealth, ordinary pastors struggle in poverty. This reflects class exploitation carried out in the name of religion, further weakening the social strength of SC Christians. Dr. Ambedkar had already warned that caste does not disappear with religious conversion. Ignoring this warning has led SC Christians to their present condition of losing rights. Indifference toward social movements, the belief that "God will take care of everything," and lack of political awareness have all contributed to building a weakened community. Today, the situation has become even more complex. Legal limitations, social discrimination, and political neglect together have pushed SC Christians into an existential crisis. Recent Supreme Court judgments have further highlighted this reality.

In this situation, there is only one clear path forward — a united social movement. A strong nationwide movement is needed to amend the 1950 Presidential Order. The recommendations of the Ranganath Misra Commission must be implemented. SCs, STs, BCs, and minorities must unite in a collective struggle. Social



Bethala Sudarsanam,
The Buddhist Society of India, Samata Sainik Dal, Republican Party of India (B.A), APMUS:392/24. 9491556706.

awareness must be increased within churches. Ambedkar's ideas must be reintroduced into the community.

The example of South Africa stands before us, where Black communities turned churches into centers of social movements and achieved liberation. SC Christians must adopt a similar path. Finally, one truth must be clearly understood: faith is personal, but rights are collective. Faith without rights weakens an individual. A religious life without equality, dignity, and rights is not a complete life. The problems of SC Christians are not caused only by external forces; internal betrayals have also played a significant role. It is time to acknowledge this reality, learn from history, and choose a clear direction for the future.

Food Security at Risk: Long-Term Decline in Agricultural Production!

Food security across the world is no longer just an agricultural issue; it has evolved into a critical concern closely linked to the future of human society. Rapid population growth, intensifying climate change, depletion of water resources, lack of proper land management—these interconnected factors are placing immense pressure on the agricultural sector. In such circumstances, ensuring food security has become a major challenge for every nation. In a country like India with a vast population, this issue appears even more complex. Although the country has currently achieved self-sufficiency in food production, questions are emerging about the long-term sustainability of its agricultural system. Past achievements can only be sustained if present challenges are understood deeply and addressed effectively. The gradual signs of declining agricultural productivity are a matter of serious concern. After independence, the Green Revolution transformed India from a food-deficit nation into a self-sufficient one. High yields were recorded in major crops such as rice and wheat. Farmers gained access to high-yield seeds, chemical fertilizers, and irrigation facilities. However, this model relied heavily on chemical inputs, excessive water usage, and monocropping. Over time, it degraded soil quality, depleted groundwater, and reduced crop diversity. These developments are now affecting long-term agricultural sustainability.

India's total geographical area is approximately 329 million hectares, out of which around 139.35 million hectares constitute net sown area. The gross cropped area stands at about 197.32 million hectares, highlighting the importance of agriculture. Yet, despite nearly 60% of land being suitable for farming, full utilization is not achieved. Unequal water distribution, lack of infrastructure, and poor land reforms are major reasons. While northern regions show higher productivity, southern regions still depend largely on rainfall.

Urbanization is expanding rapidly. Agricultural lands are being converted into industrial zones, roads, and residential areas. This is steadily reducing cultivable land, which may directly impact future food pro-

duction. India has nearly 120 million farmers, of which about 85% are small and marginal, owning less than 2 hectares. This creates structural challenges within agriculture. Around 43% of the population depends on agriculture, yet its contribution to the economy remains relatively low. Unstable incomes, debt burdens, and market uncertainties affect farmers' livelihoods. As a result, younger generations are increasingly reluctant to pursue agriculture. Agriculture in India operates mainly through Kharif and Rabi seasons, with Zaid crops in some regions. Rice and wheat dominate, while cotton, pulses, and oilseeds are also important. However, declining crop diversity is a major concern.

Continuous monocropping depletes soil health and increases water consumption. Climate change is perhaps the biggest challenge. Rainfall patterns have become erratic—floods in some regions, droughts in others. Rising temperatures affect crop growth. Delayed monsoons, dry spells, sudden heavy rains disrupt farming cycles. Crops like wheat are already showing reduced yields. Heatwaves reduce soil moisture.

Water scarcity is becoming severe. Excessive groundwater extraction is lowering water tables. About 50% of agriculture still depends on rainfall, while the rest relies on borewells and canals. Poor rain-water harvesting worsens the situation. Soil health is also deteriorating. Overuse of chemical fertilizers reduces organic matter. Micronutrient deficiencies are increasing. Pesticide usage harms soil biodiversity. Salinity is rising, and soil is becoming compact. Land fragmentation is another serious issue. Over generations, land has been divided into smaller plots, limiting mechanization. Modern equipment becomes less feasible on small farms. Urban expansion continues to encroach upon agricultural land. Farmers are shifting to other sectors, further reducing cultivation.

Market instability significantly affects farmers. Lack of price stability, inadequate storage, and middlemen exploitation reduce farmers' income. All these factors threaten food security. If food production declines while population grows, prices will rise. Poor sections

will suffer the most. Malnutrition may increase, leading to greater social inequality. In the future, shrinking farmland, water scarcity, climate change, and declining farmer participation will further impact agriculture. If farming remains unprofitable, more farmers may exit the sector. Technology offers new opportunities. Drones, satellite data, and digital agriculture can improve productivity. However, these technologies must reach all farmers. Water conservation, promotion of natural farming, increasing crop diversity, farmer support systems, and scientific awareness are essential. India's food security is clearly at risk in the future. Without intervention, declining agricultural production could lead to a food crisis. Only sustainable practices, scientific approaches, and strong farmer support can address this chal-

lenge. Given that the nation's future depends on agriculture, it must receive top priority.

India's food security future depends entirely on the direction of its agricultural sector. Climate change, water scarcity, soil degradation, and shrinking farmland are pushing agriculture toward crisis. Ignoring these signals will inevitably result in declining production.

If farming remains unprofitable, farmers will continue leaving agriculture, creating a vicious cycle of reduced production. Breaking this cycle requires systemic reforms—water conservation, sustainable practices, diversification, and technological integration. Ensuring farmer income security, reducing market volatility, improving storage systems, and enhancing awareness are crucial steps. Food security is not just about increasing produc-



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tion; it involves sustainability, equity, and nutrition. Collective efforts from government, scientists, farmers, and society are necessary. Timely action can safeguard India's food future. Otherwise, the nation may face severe food shortages. Given its importance, agriculture must be treated as the highest priority.

A Northern Discomfort for Mamata Banerjee

There is a particular weather to political voyages: not the weather the meteorologist reads, but the climate that surrounds a leader as she steps from the capital, Kolkata, into places that hold both memory and mystery. Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's sudden pivot north after unfurling the Trinamool Congress manifesto in Kolkata last week felt like that kind of atmospheric change - as if the very air of West Bengal had shifted its axis, and she, who has long been mistress of the south (Central Bengal) and the city (Greater Kolkata region and the metropolis), was now testing the gusts of a different wind. There are journeys that are outward but inward at the same time - trains that are maps of the self, landscapes that reflect an inner composition. Banerjee's barnstorming of North Bengal over the past three days has a similar double vision. On the surface, it is a tautly strategic exercise: rallies in Maynaguri, Dabgram Fulbari, Naxalbari; speeches on the grounds of Jabravita High School and Nandaprasad High School; logistics checked and rechecked by cops and administrators. Underneath, though, there is an old story being re-read - of a leader known for populist intimacy, threading herself through markets and alleys, now reaching for con-

stituencies that have long been resistant to her voice.

Mamata Faces a Challenge From Saffron, Not Erstwhile 'Red Brigade'

Historically, Naxalbari was the place where the CPI-ML had its genesis, hence the Naxalite movement. But that was decades ago, in the era of 1967 to 1969, when the Maoists under Charu Mazumdar and Kanu Sanyal had begun the peasant uprising. Mamata Banerjee, however, rushed to the erstwhile revolutionary zone not to face the gauntlet from the Red revolutionaries but to meet an electoral challenge from a different hue: the Saffron brigade. Numbers, of course, are blunt and crystalline companions to any political pilgrimage. In the last assembly round, the TMC's wounds in the north were visible not just in seats but in the geometry of votes: 23 seats out of 215 for Banerjee's TMC party, while the BJP pocketed 30 of 77 in that very region; a vote share where TMC's 44.53% faced the BJP's 42.27%, margins thin enough to be measured in gestures and grievances.

North Is a Different Mood

If the map of Bengal is divided into quadrants of mood and memory, the north stands as a different country to which Mamata must now become an eligible immigrant: not only to

be seen, but to be heard, recognised, forgiven, persuaded. There is a peculiar restlessness in Cooch Behar these days, as if a quiet tea-stall conversation has spilled into the high rooms of power. The TMC - long accustomed to the rhythms of Bengal's politics - now finds itself tugged in different directions, not by an external foe but by the uneasy strains of its own inside chorus. With the assembly elections approaching, dissatisfaction has seeped into the veins of the party in the district, making what was once a simple contest into something knottier. Consider Khokon Mian, whose resignation reads less like a rupture and more like a small, telling admission of a larger unsettlement. Once a close companion of Rabindranath Ghosh - the district's steady hand for more than 20 years - Mian has moved across the aisle to the Congress Party. In such moments, allegiance shifts not because of one glaring betrayal but because the ground beneath many feet feels less sure. Ghosh himself, a former MLA and minister, has been quietly sidelined after the party declined to give him the Natabari ticket. His response was characteristically low-key: a retreat, a pause. "I am taking a break and am currently resting," he said.

Addressing the Transgender Rights -2026 Amendment Bill in the Rajya Sabha:- MP Vadiraju Ravichandra



K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Hyderabad/New Delhi, Jay Janasena News, March '25: BRS Parliamentary Party Deputy Leader and Rajya Sabha Member Vadiraju Ravichandra said that during the regime of Telangana's first Chief Minister Kalvakuntla Chandrasekhara Rao, several measures were taken for the safety, welfare and advancement of transgenders. MP Ravichandra said that there is a need to discuss not only about this law, but also about their self-respect, respect in society and equal rights. MP Ravichandra said that our country has long tradition of accepting different gender identities and communities like hijras and kinnars are a part of our culture. However, even today, transgender people are facing many problems, discrimination, denial and lack of livelihood opportunities. He said that they have been given financial support for livelihood and measures have been taken to protect their health. However, MP Ravichandra said that they still have problems. It is difficult for them to get higher education and jobs.

MP Vadiraju explained that the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act was brought in 2019 to change this situation, this is a good step and through this act they tried to give them rights and provide protection.

He said that now in 2026 a new amendment bill has been brought and there are some good changes in it, but there

is a need to think about some things. Regarding the definition of transgender, the law used to have a broad definition, but now it has been removed and only some categories have been included and some identities have been removed. Should we decide our own identity? Or should the government decide? He said that the questions are arising. Identity is personal and everyone should respect it. In this new bill, the transgender person has to apply to the district collector for the identity certificate, which is also given only on the recommendation of a medical board, he said. MP Ravichandra opined that in one way it is like bringing in a system, but on the other hand, it is also an unnecessary interference in personal matters. The bill also says that a new certificate must be taken after gender reassignment surgery. Hospitals are also required to provide this information, which raises questions about privacy, he said. However, the bill also takes some strong measures, including stiffer penalties for serious crimes against transgender people. Forced transgender, kidnapping, grievous harm, forced beggar, slave labor.

MP Ravichandra said that heavy punishments and fines for these crimes is a good thing. He said that the government is taking this issue seriously. MP Ravichandra stated that there is still discrimination in the society and not only the policies but also their implementation needs to be strong. MP Ravichandra said that skill development and awareness are very necessary and making laws alone is not enough, our thoughts should also change. MP Ravichandra explained that this bill is an important step forward for transgender people to get equal rights like us, equal opportunities in jobs, good medical facilities, equal rights in education especially, to live with dignity in the society. But he called for it to be more inclusive, not to increase hardships, but let us all build a society where everyone can live with dignity regardless of their gender identity. This is not only about transgender rights but also for the protection of human rights, said MP Vadiraju.

Jeevan Reddy Resigns from Congress, Strong criticism against the high command and CM's approach

Expresses dissatisfaction over encouragement of defections Remains firm on decision despite persuasion attempts

K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Jagtial, Jay Janasena News, March '25: Senior Congress leader and former minister Tatiparthi Jeevan Reddy has resigned from the primary membership of the Congress party. He released his resignation letter in the presence of party workers in Jagtial and strongly criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the party high command. This development has become a topic of discussion in state politics. Jeevan Reddy stated that he has been going through severe mental distress within the party for the past 20 months. He expressed that it was not possible to continue in a place where there is no respect, which led him to take this decision. He alleged that he was not given due importance within the party and that his views were ignored. He strongly criticized the encouragement of defections in Telangana, stating that it is against party principles. He particularly expressed dissatisfaction over the induction of Jagtial MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar into the party and the importance given to him. He alleged that long-time party workers are being sidelined while newcomers are being given priority. Jeevan Reddy also stated that when a key leader who supported him passed away,



the Chief Minister neither consoled him nor stood by him. Due to these reasons, he said he has lost trust in the party and made it clear that his future political fight will be against the policies of Revanth Reddy. On the other hand, efforts by ministers Sridhar Babu, Ponnab Prabhakar, and TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud to persuade him until the last moment failed. As Jeevan Reddy remained firm in his decision, political analysts believe that a strong cadre in the Jagtial constituency may follow him.

Don't Believe Rumors... No Fuel Shortage in the City: - CP Sajjanar.

Confirms that there are sufficient fuel reserves for 60 days Advises people not to rush for full tank refills unnecessarily Warns of strict action against false propaganda



K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March '25: Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar clarified that the rumors circulating about a fuel shortage in the city are completely false. He stated that there are adequate reserves of petrol and diesel available in the city for nearly 60 days. He assured that there is no need for the public to panic and advised people not to rush to petrol pumps for unnecessary full tank refills. To address these concerns, a high-level review meeting was held on Wednesday at TGCCC, he said.

month, fuel sales stood at 3,024 kilolitres, which doubled to 6,400 kilolitres on the 23rd due to panic-driven demand. The Commissioner warned that strict legal action will be taken against those selling petrol or diesel illegally in bottles or cans. He also stated that authorities are monitoring social media closely and will take stringent action against those spreading misinformation and creating panic. He added that the situation at 240 petrol pumps under the commissionerate is being continuously monitored in coordination with Civil Supplies and Revenue departments. District Collector Harichandana said that fuel supply is running smoothly at 186 petrol pumps in the city. A special control room has also been set up for public convenience, and steps are being taken to increase supply wherever necessary. Officials emphasized that the administration is fully alert and closely monitoring the situation on the ground. They urged the public to remain calm, avoid believing rumors, and cooperate with authorities. They reaffirmed that fuel supply in the city is sufficient and normal conditions are continuing without any disruption.

MMTS trains from Secunderabad to Ghatkesar; MP Etala Rajender

K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Hyderabad/ New Delhi, Jay Janasena News, March '25: Hon'ble Minister of Railways please provide the following information:

(a) Has the Government noticed that there are very few MMTS (Multi Modal Transport System) trains running from Secunderabad, Hyderabad to Ghatkesar via Charlapalli? But what are their details?

(b) Is it true that many trains are now running from Charlapalli due to renovation and repair work going on at Secunderabad Railway Station? In this regard, is it true that due to the low frequency of trains (number of arrivals) on the above mentioned route, there is no proper transport facility to reach Charlapalli railway station or passengers are facing serious difficulties in not getting their trains on time? What are the details of this?

(c) What are the details of the steps taken or to be taken by the Government to increase the frequency of at least one MMTS train per hour from Secunderabad to Ghatkesar via Charlapalli (and back) for the convenience of passengers boarding trains from Charlapalli Railway Station?

Answer
Railway, Information & Broadcasting and Minister of Electronics & Information Technology (Ashwini Vaishnav)

(a) to (c): Presently MMTS train services are running in Hyderabad suburban section, including the corridor between Secunderabad station via Charlapalli station and Ghatkesar station. In this section, the management of train services depends on factors such as operational feasibility, availability of paths, passenger demand, availability of necessary rolling stock, etc.

At present, 08 MEMU and Express train services cater to Secunderabad-Charlapalli-Ghatkesar sector. Their details are given below:

- Serial No. Train Number & Name
1. 17645 Secunderabad - Repalle Express
 2. 17646 Raypalle - Secunderabad Express
 3. 17659 Secunderabad - Bhadrachalam Road Express
 4. 17660 Bhadrachalam Road - Secunderabad Express
 5. 67761 Secunderabad - Warangal MEMU (MEMU)
 6. 67762 Warangal - Secunderabad MEMU (MEMU)
 7. 67763 Secunderabad - Kazipet MEMU (MEMU)
 8. 67764 Kazipet - Secunderabad MEMU (MEMU)

Besides, 39 train services are available between Secunderabad - Charlapalli and 08 train services are available in Charlapalli - Ghatkesar sector. Their details are mentioned below: List of trains running between Secunderabad and Charlapalli:

- Serial No. Train Number & Name
1. 12705 Guntur - Secunderabad Express
 2. 12706 Secunderabad - Guntur Express
 3. 12713 Vijayawada - Secunderabad Express
 4. 12714 Secunderabad - Vijayawada Express
 5. 12735 Charlapalli - Yeswantpur Express
 6. 12736 Yeswantpur - Charlapalli Express
 7. 12745 Secunderabad - Manuguru Express
 8. 12746 Manuguru - Secunderabad Express
 9. 12757 Secunderabad - Sirpur Kagaznagar Express



10. 12758 Sirpur Kagaznagar - Secunderabad Express
11. 12805 Visakhapatnam - Lingampally Express
12. 12806 Lingampally - Visakhapatnam Express
13. 17011 Hyderabad - Sirpur Kagaznagar Express
14. 17012 Sirpur Kagaznagar - Bidar Express
15. 17013 Hadapsar - Kazipet Express
16. 17014 Kazipet - Hadapsar Express
17. 17201 Guntur - Secunderabad Express
18. 17202 Secunderabad - Guntur Express
19. 17205 Sainagar Shirdi - Kakinada Port Express
20. 17206 Kakinada Port - Sainagar Shirdi Express
21. 17207 Sainagar Shirdi - Machilipatnam Express
22. 17208 Machilipatnam - Sainagar Shirdi Express
23. 17233 Secunderabad - Sirpur Kagaznagar Express
24. 17234 Sirpur Kagaznagar - Secunderabad Express
25. 17321 Vascodegama - Jasadih Express
26. 17322 Jasadih - Vascodegama Express
27. 17645 Secunderabad - Repalle Express
28. 17646 Raypalle - Secunderabad Express
29. 17659 Secunderabad - Bhadrachalam Road Express
30. 17660 Bhadrachalam Road - Secunderabad Express
31. 18519 Visakhapatnam - Lokamanya Tilak (T) Exp
32. 18520 Lokamanya Tilak (T) - Visakhapatnam Express
33. 20629 Secunderabad - Thiruvananthapuram Central Express
34. 20630 Thiruvananthapuram Central - Secunderabad Express

- Serial No. Train Number & Name
1. 67761 Secunderabad - Warangal MEMU (MEMU)
 2. 67762 Warangal - Secunderabad MEMU (MEMU)
 3. 67763 Secunderabad - Kazipet MEMU (MEMU)
 38. 67764 Kazipet - Secunderabad MEMU (MEMU)
 39. 17626 Raypalle - Vikarabad Express

List of trains running between Charlapalli and Ghatkesar:

- Serial No. Train Number & Name
1. 67761 Secunderabad - Warangal MEMU (MEMU)
 2. 67762 Warangal - Secunderabad MEMU (MEMU)
 3. 17645 Secunderabad - Repalle Express
 4. 17646 Raypalle - Secunderabad Express
 5. 17659 Secunderabad - Bhadrachalam Express
 6. 17660 Bhadrachalam - Secunderabad Express
 7. 67763 Secunderabad - Kazipet MEMU (MEMU)
 8. 67764 Kazipet - Secunderabad MEMU (MEMU)

In view of ongoing renovation and modernization works at Secunderabad station, train services are being temporarily regulated. However, every effort is being made to minimize the inconvenience caused to passengers by this arrangement.

Tight Security Arrangements for Sri Ramanavami and Pattabhishekam Celebrations: SP Rohith Raju



Correspondent, Bhadradi, Jay Janasena News, March '25: District Superintendent of Police Rohith Raju conducted a review meeting with police officials today at the ASP office in Bhadrachalam regarding the security arrangements for the upcoming Sri Ramanavami celebrations on the 27th of this month at the Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy Temple and Mithila Stadium in Bhadrachalam, and the Pattabhishekam ceremony to be held on the 28th. He instructed officials to ensure foolproof security arrangements and to take all necessary precautions in coordination with concerned departments so that devotees do not face any inconvenience. He emphasized that all police of-

ficers and staff must responsibly perform their assigned duties. Sector-wise in-charge officers were directed to keep their teams alert at all times and take measures to prevent any untoward incidents. Special focus should be given to traffic management with a well-planned strategy. SP Rohith Raju mentioned that approximately 2,000 police personnel are being deployed for these arrangements. He also informed that special QR codes and an online link (<https://ramanavami.4sightai.com/>) have been created by the district police to provide information on parking facilities, laddu counters, and sector details for devotees. He appealed to all devotees to make use of this facility.



District Collector Ankit inspected the arrangements for Sri Rama Navami



Correspondent, Bhadradi, Jay Janasena News, March '25: On Wednesday, District Collector Ankit inspected the arrangements for the Sri Rama Navami celebrations being organized at Mithila Stadium in Bhadrachalam. On this occasion, he reviewed the progress of the preparations with the concerned officials

and instructed them to complete the works at the earliest. During the inspection, Bhadrachalam Sub-Collector Mrunal Shrestha, Trainee Collector Saurabh Sharma, Devasthanam EO Damodar Rao, and others accompanied the Collector. The Collector also interacted with the temple priests and enquired about the arrangements for the Bhumi Puja program to be conducted as part of the Chief Minister's visit, as well as the Sri Sita Rama Kalyana Mahotsavam (Kalyana Karyakramam). He inspected the ongoing works in various sectors set up within the stadium premises. He specifically reviewed barricading, security arrangements, and facilities in the VIP sectors, and advised officials to make necessary improvements. The Collector emphasized that all departments should work in coordination to ensure the successful conduct of the Sri Rama Navami celebrations without any inconvenience to the devotees.

Steps towards further expansion of RTC in Telangana, RTC will increase village-to-village connectivity with Hyderabad city

RTC bus stations with infrastructure, new routes, new buses,

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Goud in an interview with RTC officials and public representatives

K.SHANTHIKUMAR,

Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March' 25: RTC has taken steps towards further expansion with increasing traffic with Maha Lakshmi scheme. For this, a face to face meeting was held with the in-charge minister, district ministers, MLAs, MLCs, RTC MDs, EDs and RMs in the Assembly Committee Hall-1 for three days under the leadership of Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar. On the first day of the three-day meeting, public representatives of Nalgonda, Medak, Rangareddy and Greater Hyderabad districts brought to the attention of Minister Ponnam Prabhakar in the presence of RTC officials the problems in their constituencies. RTC officials are preparing a report on the points raised by public representatives. Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, MLAs Vemula Veeresham, Balu Naik, Jayaveer Reddy and Kumbham Anil Kumar Reddy from Nalgonda district participated. Minister Captain Uttam Kumar Reddy said that the Maha Lakshmi scheme will continue successfully in the state and RTC has a great history in the world. He said that he will support Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on purchasing new buses needed in the state, running buses on new routes and solving the problems of RTC workers. It is suggested to complete the development works of Kodada and Huzur Nagar bus stations. Nagarjuna Sagar MLA Jayveer Reddy requested to establish a night halt bus service in Gurranguda and to run additional buses between Miryalaguda Halia and Maisampally. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar said that there is no RTC bus depot within 50 kms around Tungathurthi MLA Shyamul

Tungathurthi and they have requested to grant a depot but there is no mention of new depots at present. Suryapet, Hanamakonda, Yadagiri Gutta buses to Motkur. It is suggested to take measures to stop in Tungathurthi. Annaram Major Gram Panchayat asked to arrange night halt bus. Major gram panchayats have asked to set up bus shelters at highways. The MLA stated that they will take steps to establish more new buses if they are constructed from SDF funds. In Nakirekal constituency, MLA Vemula Veeresham asked to take steps to ensure that Madeira, Kothagudem and Khammam buses pass through Nakirekal town. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar ordered the authorities to immediately conduct a route survey and take steps to ensure that buses pass through the town. From Hayat Nagar, village lights were asked to be laid up to Chitya. It is suggested to run buses on new routes in the constituency. MLA Balu Naik asked for reconstruction of the old bus depot in Devarakonda. They asked to increase buses for students during school colleges. He asked to take steps to stop buses at Kondamadu in Bhuvangiri constituency. He asked for more buses as the bus station was busy in the evening due to the addition of six city buses. MLA Sanjiva Reddy asked to develop bus stations in Narayankhed and Pedda Sankarampeta as new buses have already arrived in Narayankhed in the joint Medak district. It is suggested to run buses from bus station in Pedda Sankarampeta. Ranga Reddy, Greater Hyderabad to Kutbullapur Jagadgirigutta RTC buses from all over the state come there, he said, parking is a problem. MLA Vivekananda suggested that if a temporary bus station is



constructed at the party site using HMDA land, it would be good in every way. Additional buses have been requested to ply at 2 bhk colonies in Kutbullapur, Dundigal, Gandimaisamma, Bachupalli Nizampet areas where there is the highest traffic. In Malkajgiri, there is a large number of daily laborers and they are advised to run buses on Maccha Bollaram-Charminar, Maccha Bollaram-ECL, Moulali, RTC Colony ECL, Secunderabad new route to provide adequate personnel. Mr. Ganesh suggested to you that the biggest bus stand GBS bus station in the Cantonment Constituency should be built as a modern model bus stand from where the Karimnagar Nizamabad Adilabad bus going to North Telangana will run. It has been suggested that the land required for the modernization of the bus station should be taken from the Cantonment Board. They

asked to run buses for it in Anna Nagar, Tad Bund, Balam Rai and Boinpally Thoots and suggested that buses should be purchased through self help groups women's groups. He asked the Prime Minister to run a bus from Jubilee Hills constituency to Erragadda, Borabanda to Patancheruvu. In order to increase the connectivity to the new colony of Hyderabad, they asked to increase the number of buses in the morning and evening on the routes going to the educational institutions. The RTC officials will make a report on the issues raised by the public representatives. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar has assured that steps will be taken to solve the problems. Public representatives of joint Nalgonda, Medak, Rangareddy, Greater Hyderabad districts, RTC MD Nagireddy, EDs, RMs and other RTC officials participated in the meeting.

Expressing deep concern over the proposed amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), Dr. Mallu Ravi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Nagarkurnool



K.SHANTHIKUMAR,

Hyderabad/New Delhi, Jay Janasena News, March' 25: Dr. Mallu Ravi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Nagarkurnool, has expressed serious concerns over the proposed amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), stating that the Bill, in its current form, risks weakening the foundational principles of India's insolvency framework. He noted that the amendments dilute the institutional strength of the insolvency resolution process, moving away from the core objective of preserving and maximizing asset value for all stakeholders. "The earlier framework ensured a fair and balanced approach by empowering the liquidator with quasi-judicial authority. Subordinating this role to the Committee of Creditors (CoC) risks undermining neutrality and due process, while concentrating excessive power in the hands of financial creditors," he said. Dr. Ravi further pointed out that the proposed Creditor-Initiated Insolvency Resolution Process (CIIRP) continues to rely on default as a trigger, rather than enabling early intervention. "This approach allows value erosion to set in before corrective action begins. Additionally, it creates inequity by excluding operational creditors and certain financial creditors from initiating pro-

ceedings, thereby narrowing access and reducing transparency," he added. Highlighting procedural concerns, he stated that restrictions on the withdrawal of insolvency applications—both before the formation of the CoC and after inviting resolution plans—would discourage early settlements and out-of-court resolutions. "Such rigidity runs counter to the need for flexibility in a complex financial ecosystem," he emphasized. On cross-border insolvency, Dr. Ravi cautioned against excessive delegation of legislative powers to the executive. "While global frameworks like UNCITRAL provide useful guidance, blindly transplanting them without adapting to Indian realities—such as judicial delays and promoter-driven litigation—can create uncertainty, especially for investors," he said, urging Parliament to lay down clear guiding principles. He also raised concerns over the emphasis on strict timelines without adequately addressing systemic constraints such as tribunal backlogs, infrastructure gaps, and institutional capacity. "Speed cannot come at the cost of fairness and practicality," he remarked. Dr. Ravi warned that the amendments may tilt the balance excessively in favor of creditors, potentially undermining the equilibrium necessary between creditors and corporate debtors for effective resolution. At the same time, increased regulatory oversight of insolvency professionals could reduce their independence and slow down decision-making. While acknowledging the introduction of a framework for handling insolvency across corporate groups as a positive step, he pointed out that the lack of clarity on substantive consolidation and the definition of a 'group' may lead to further litigation and ambiguity. Concluding, Dr. Mallu Ravi stated, "The IBC must remain a tool for genuine insolvency resolution, not merely a mechanism for debt recovery. Without parallel reforms in judicial efficiency, institutional capacity, and regulatory clarity, these amendments risk falling short of their intended goals and may, in fact, lead to increased disputes." He called upon the Government to undertake wider consultations and ensure that the amendments strengthen, rather than dilute, India's insolvency ecosystem.

No Fuel or LPG Shortage in Telangana: Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy Dismisses Rumors, Assures Adequate Stocks and Advises Against Panic Buying

K.SHANTHIKUMAR,

Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March' 25: Amid growing rumors of petrol, diesel and LPG shortages that triggered panic buying and long queues at fuel stations across Hyderabad, the Telangana government on Wednesday firmly assured the public that there is no shortage of any petroleum products in the state. Addressing a press conference, Minister for Civil Supplies and Irrigation N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, along with Civil Supplies Commissioner Stephen Ravindra, categorically stated that stocks are more than adequate for the next three months and that supply is currently running well ahead of demand. The Minister revealed that oil marketing companies — Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) have ramped up supplies significantly. On the day of the briefing, against a demand of 17,246 kiloliters (KL), the companies supplied 17,898 KL, leaving an excess of nearly 652 KL. He pointed out that while daily demand has suddenly spiked by 25% due to panic buying, supplies have been maintained at 22% above the average, ensuring seamless availability. "Supply is more than the demand. We are providing very excess supply," the Minister emphasized. He added that an additional 16,000 KL of buffer stock has already been arranged and 1,200 extra tankers have been pressed into service to keep fuel stations fully stocked. Any temporary "no stock" boards visible at a few outlets were only because tankers had not yet arrived, he clarified, and not due to any actual shortage. The government has also taken strong note of the use of cans and containers to carry petrol and diesel, terming the practice illegal and hazardous. "Officials are in the field. Use of containers will not be allowed. OMCs have been strictly instructed," the Minister warned. He appealed to the public not to indulge in panic buying, stating that all rumors of shortages have no basis.

Nationwide and Statewide Situation Normal

The Minister informed that there is no shortage anywhere in Telangana. Referring to situation elsewhere in the country, major cities and depots such as Ahmedabad, Surat, Bengaluru, Dharwad and Belgaum have been experiencing such panic buying instances. CNG and LPG supply chains remain fully intact. Strategic Petroleum



Reserves (SPR) are sufficient for 60-65 days and ONGC has extended a credit line to ensure uninterrupted supplies. On the LPG front, the Minister clarified that domestic LPG cylinders and petrol/diesel are in abundant supply with no shortage. While there is a problem with commercial LPG cylinders, the government is actively representing the matter to the Centre. In a related crackdown, authorities have seized a total of 2,952 commercial cylinders being misused or illegally filled.

596 Petrol Bunks in Hyderabad Fully Operations.

The Minister revealed that 596 petrol bunks are functioning in Hyderabad city alone. "All shops and petrol bunks are open. No bunk is being allowed to close. Closing a petrol bunk is illegal," he asserted. He personally confirmed that officials had inspected outlets in LB Nagar and Bhairamalguda and found them fully operational.

Staff from the Civil Supplies Department have been reaching out to every bunk, and dedicated control rooms are monitoring supplies round-the-clock in coordination with Legal Metrology, Police and Civil Supplies officials. Appeal to Public and Action Plan. Describing the current rush as "purely panic-driven", Uttam Kumar Reddy urged citizens to stop rumormongering and avoid hoarding. "There is absolutely no need for panic. Petrol, diesel and domestic LPG are in abundant supply," he said.

Sri Rama Navami festival arrangements must be completed efficiently: District Collector Ankit

Correspondent, Bhadradi, Jay Janasena News, March' 25: District Collector Ankit has instructed officials to complete all arrangements related to the Sri Rama Navami festival efficiently and on time. On Wednesday, he reviewed the progress of works in a meeting held at the Bhadrachalam Sub-Collector's office along with Sub-Collector Mrinal Shrestha and officials from various departments. On this occasion, he enquired about the progress of works being carried out by departments such as medical, electricity, roads, and irrigation. He directed medical officials to ensure that adequate blood stock (blood packets), essential medicines, and medical staff are kept ready to handle emergencies at the Bhadrachalam Area Hospital.

Keeping in view the Chief Minister's visit, he reviewed the progress of helipad arrangements, barricading, and other works. He instructed electricity department officials to inspect all lines in advance and ensure there are no

loose connections by conducting thorough checks. As a large number of devotees and VIPs are expected during the festival, he directed officials to ensure continuous supply of safe drinking water 24/7 in all sectors around the temple premises, and to take measures to prevent any disruption in power supply.

He also emphasized giving special priority to the safety of devotees at the Godavari bathing ghats by installing warning boards, setting up barricades, and ensuring the availability of trained swimmers.

District Collector Ankit called upon all department officials to work in coordination to ensure the successful conduct of the Sri Rama Navami festival. Training Collector Saurabh Sharma and officials from various departments also participated in the meeting.



Rohit Raju congratulated Sushma for winning two gold medals at the Telangana State 4th Police Sports Meet

Correspondent, Bhadradi, Jay Janasena News, March' 25: At the Telangana State 4th Police Sports Meet held at the Cyberabad Commissionerate, District Armed Reserve (AR) woman police constable D. Sushma, who is currently serving in the AR department, won gold medals in the 100 meters and 200 meters running events. Demonstrating remarkable talent, Sushma also secured fifth place in the national-level competitions held in Punjab. On Wednesday, District SP Rohit Raju specially congratulated her at his office. Speaking on the occasion, the SP stated that sports play a key role in developing mental strength. He emphasized that winning and losing are natural, and advised participants to strive for better performance. He encouraged those who faced defeat not to feel discouraged,

but to move forward with greater enthusiasm in the future. AR DSP Satyanarayana, Admin RI Lal Babu, and others were present at the event.



AP CM Reviews Tourism Development

- Special Focus on Eco and Temple Tourism

- Orders for Speedy Completion of Projects

- Action Plan for Development of Major Tourist Destinations

Bureau,

Amaravati, Jay Janasena News, March '25: With the objective of comprehensively developing the state's tourism sector, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu conducted an important review meeting. The meeting was held at the CM's camp office and was attended by Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh, Tourism Development Corporation Chairman Nookasani Balaji, and senior officials.

The Chief Minister emphasized that the state should fully utilize the vast opportunities available in the tourism sector. He directed officials to expedite the implementation of tourism projects approved by the State Investment Promotion Board. He also instructed that continuous monitoring should be ensured to avoid delays in project execution. He expressed the view that the tourism sector should be made more attractive to draw investments.

The CM suggested that special plans should be prepared to expand eco-tourism and temple tourism in coordination with the Forest and Endowments departments. He set a deadline of May 2026 for completing the development works of temples and tourist destinations under the PRASAD and Swadesh Darshan schemes. Officials stated that completion of these projects would significantly enhance the state's tourism appeal.

The Chief Minister directed that places like Gandikota, Suryalanka, and Araku Borra Caves should be developed into world-class tourist destinations. He instructed im-



provements in infrastructure such as roads, accommodation, safety, and recreational facilities in these areas. He noted that developing them to international standards would also attract foreign tourists.

He also directed that works related to allowing tourists at the Godavari Pushkar Ghat and Havelock Bridge should be completed by December this year. He stated that the development of the tourism sector would increase employment opportunities and provide a strong boost to the state's economy. Officials mentioned that the government is moving forward with a comprehensive plan.

Are Tribals Excluded from Lord Rama's Kalyanam?

Where is the Recognition for the Descendants of Pokala Dammakka and Shabari?

PUNEMPRADEEP KUMAR,

Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March 25: The annual celestial wedding (Kalyanam) of Lord Sri Sitarachandra Swamy at Bhadrachalam is being celebrated with devotion across the country. However, the Sri Rama Navami celebrations at Bhadrachalam hold a unique significance. While in Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Rama, only the birth anniversary is observed, the divine wedding of Sita and Rama is performed with grandeur only in places like Bhadrachalam.

Bhadrachalam, often revered as the "Dakshina Ayodhya" (Southern Ayodhya), has a distinctive historical and spiritual legacy. According to tradition, a tribal devotee named Pokala Dammakka, who lived on the banks of the Godavari, received a divine vision instructing her to unearth the idols. When she poured Godavari water over an anthill, the idols of Lord Rama, Sita, and Lakshmana emerged. She then worshipped them daily under a simple thatched shelter with deep devotion.

Later, Kancherla Gopanna (Popularly

Tribal communities must be given priority in every festival

In the sacred pilgrimage town of Bhadrachalam, during the celestial wedding (Kalyanam) of Lord Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy, the Mukkoti Ekadashi celebrations, and all other temple events, it is essential to establish a tradition of specially inviting and honoring tribal elders. As descendants of Pokala Dammakka and Shabari, it is the responsibility of the State Government, ministers, and temple authorities to recognize and invite tribal communities with due respect. Immediate steps must be taken in this direction to ensure that tribal elders are honored and given special recognition and privileges in every religious event.

known as Bhadrachala Ramadasu) undertook the construction of the temple, marking a significant phase in the temple's history. In this entire narrative, the role and historical connection of tribal communities remain fundamental. However, concerns are now being raised that tribals are not receiving due recognition in the present-day celebrations. Particularly, the lack of prominence given to the descendants of great devotees like Pokala Dammakka and Shabari during the Kalyanam festivities has become a matter of debate among tribal groups. A pressing question is being asked: "Would Lord Rama of Bhadrachalam have come

into prominence without Dammakka?" Similarly, Shabari's devotion stands as one of the highest examples of bhakti in the Ramayana. Tribal organizations argue that limiting the descendants of such revered devotees merely to ceremonial service roles is unjust. While every year's Sitarama Kalyanam accords special importance to officials, dignitaries, and invited guests, the very communities that form the roots of this tradition appear to be sidelined. Critics say this goes against the principles of social justice.

Is it justified to overlook historical truths in the name of devotion and tradition? Many believe that the Kalyanam of Lord



Punem Pradeep Kumar, TG State Secretary, Human Rights Conservation Council Of India

Rama should reflect unity across all sections of society, rather than remain confined to a select few. Tribal organizations are now demanding that the government and Endowments Department take immediate steps to ensure dignified representation for the descendants of Pokala Dammakka and Shabari in the Kalyanam celebrations. They have warned that failure to address this issue could lead to large-scale protests. It is time for authorities to acknowledge historical realities and act accordingly. Otherwise, celebrations conducted in the name of "devotion" risk becoming examples of inequality, contradicting the very spirit they claim to uphold.

We will complete allotment of "2BHK" in 99 days plan

- Soon 1.12 lakh Indiramma houses will be entered into houses
- Another lakh will be completed by June
- Operation of Indiramma houses in urban areas: Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy

K.SHANTHIKUMAR, Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, March 25: State Revenue, Housing and Information Civil Relations Minister said that after completing the construction of unfinished double bedroom houses in various parts of the state as part of the Prajapalan-Pragathi Plan-99 days programme, the vacant houses will be allotted to the deserving poor. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy announced.

Minister Ponguleti gave a long explanation to the questions asked by about 22 legislators on Wednesday in the Legislative Assembly sessions on the issues of Indiramma houses, double bedroom houses etc. He said that special review meetings will be held within the common districts soon to resolve the issues arising in all assembly constituencies regarding Indiramma houses in the state. A toll free number will be made available in a few days to solve the problems of Indiramma houses in the rest of the constituencies along with the points brought to their attention by the members and after answering the questions coming through them within 24 hours for their solution. They revealed that action will be taken. The minister said that steps have been taken to solve the problems by dividing them into three sections regarding the Indiramma houses in the state. He said that 21 lakh houses were built in the Telangana region in the union state with the initiative of the former Chief Minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy. He said that the construction of Indiramma houses on a large scale is going on in this government of the poor. He said that while the previous government had sanctioned houses for over two lakhs and allotted one

lakh houses to Hyderabad area, out of these 78,861 houses were completed but did not get the basic facilities and 21,838 houses were limited to foundations only. Explaining that 26 colonies have remained incomplete within the GHMC, they have sanctioned houses for new cantonment constituencies and have provided infrastructure facilities at a cost of 738 crore rupees. They said that they have completed 62,000 houses out of 92,000 houses that were left incomplete in the past without going into any misunderstandings.

He explained that the previous government had allocated 23,500 houses before the 2023 elections, but as a result, more than 12,000 houses remained empty as people doing professional business in the city did not come to the allotted houses at a distance of about 20-30 kilometers. He said that three separate meetings were held with the higher officials, collectors of four districts and other officials. He said that they have given notices to give another chance to the beneficiaries to enter these houses within two months. Minister Ponguleti said that if they are unable to come, we have decided to allocate them to the deserving poor within a radius of 5-10 kilometers. He told the House that the new allocations will be completed as part of the Prajapalan - Progress Plan - 99 days program.

He said that we have given life by canceling the estimates made in the past regarding the infrastructure facilities for the colonies taken up in 2017, and similarly we will take steps to provide infrastructure facilities to the journalists' colonies as well. 784 crores for the infrastructure facilities for about 80 colonies in the state. He said that we have



sanctioned, out of which we have spent about 432 crore rupees, and we expect that there will be a requirement of up to 270 crore rupees along with the remaining amount. He said that while sanctioning the first phase of 4.50 lakh houses in the state, 12 thousand houses have been sanctioned to the Chenchus and tribals under ITDA. In relation to the shops in various colonies, they are not paying the rents properly and the rents are not being collected because they are going to the courts. In these circumstances, the money obtained from the sale of the shops in the open auction was deposited in the name of the respective colony committee and the government. Electricity with interest accrued thereon, He said that it has been proposed to spend for the lift and other needs.

He said that the construction of the double bedroom houses which were left incomplete in the past, and the houses which have not been allotted so far, will be handed over to the old contractors if they agree to the then rates. He said that we will complete the selection of the beneficiaries in the planning program in these 99 days and we will release the funds for the remaining structures to the beneficiaries who

have stopped the constructions in the past. Sarpanch will be the chairman of Indiramma House Committees in the villages, if the committee under his leadership selects the poor, then the allocations will be done with the approval of the Collector and then the district in-charge minister, and MLAs will be represented in these committees in the coming period. They announced that they will look into it. Minister Ponguleti announced that by March 31, about 12 lakh Indiramma houses will be completed and house entry will be held, and construction of another lakh houses will be completed by next June. He said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the second phase of Indiramma houses will be sanctioned in April this year. He said that in the past, under the Griha Lakshmi scheme, funds will be given to the houses which were left incomplete and a decision has to be taken in the cabinet. Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy made it clear that we have already identified 14-15 villages for the construction of houses within the JIHCMC and we will give houses to the poor in those areas and we will implement the same method in other major cities of the state.

MISSION AIDS SURAKSHA ZEROES IN ON 19 TELANGANA DISTRICTS

Bureau Chief

Hyderabad, March, 25: The National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) convened a high-level "Suraksha Sankalp Karyashala" in Hyderabad to accelerate HIV control efforts under Mission AIDS Suraksha. The Karyashala brought together national, state and district leadership to accelerate targeted interventions across priority districts in the State.

With 0.41% HIV prevalence and nearly 1.57 lakh people living with HIV, Telangana remains a key focus state. As many as 19 priority districts have been identified for intensified programme implementation and monitoring.

Chaired by Dr. Rakesh Gupta, NACO director general, the workshop stressed data-driven, district-level interventions, improved testing, ART access and stronger monitoring. Dr. S. Sangeetha Satyanarayana, Mission Director, National Health Mission, Telangana and Project Director, Telangana State AIDS Control Society (TSACS) also participated.



Addressing the participants, Dr. Rakesh Gupta, AS & DG, NACO, emphasized that priority districts remain central to India's HIV response, and focused, data-driven interventions at the grassroots level are critical to improving outcomes and accelerating progress towards national targets." He further highlighted the need for strengthened planning, monitoring and accountability at the district level to ensure effective programme implementation.

During the Karyashala, district teams presented detailed updates on

programme performance, highlighted operational and field-level challenges, and engaged in structured discussions to develop district-specific, data-driven action plans.

The deliberations focused on strengthening HIV prevention strategies, expanding access to testing services, improving linkage and retention on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), enhancing viral load suppression, and scaling up targeted interventions among vulnerable and key populations. The platform

enabled collaborative problem-solving, experience sharing and convergence between national, State and district stakeholders, ensuring a more coordinated and responsive HIV programme.

Representatives from 19 priority districts, including Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Khammam, Karimnagar, Nalgonda, Siddipet, Medak, Warangal, Nizamabad, Adilabad, Suryapet, Peddapalli, Jangaon, Vikarabad, Kamareddy, Hanamakonda, Sangareddy, Mahabubabad and Jayashankar Bhupalapally, took part in the deliberations.

RTC to add more services to match growing passenger load

Bureau Chief

Hyderabad, March, 25: In view of increased ridership under the Mahalakshmi scheme, the State government has initiated measures to further expand RTC services across Telangana.

A three-day interactive meeting was conducted under the leadership of Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnambhakkar at Assembly Committee Hall-I on Wednesday, involving in-charge Ministers, district Ministers,

MLAs, MLCs, and senior RTC officials. On the first day, public representatives from the erstwhile Nalgonda, Medak, Rangareddy, and Greater Hyderabad districts highlighted RTC-related issues in their constituencies. Officials are compiling a detailed report based on these inputs. From Nalgonda district, Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy and MLAs Vemula Veeresham, Balu Naik, Jayaveer Reddy, and Kumbham Anil Kumar

Reddy participated. Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that the Mahalakshmi scheme is being successfully implemented and assured full support for procurement of new buses, expansion of routes, and resolution of RTC employees' issues. He also suggested completing development works at Kodad and Huzurnagar bus stations. Several requests were raised by public representatives, including, introduction of night

halt bus services and additional buses on key routes, development and modernisation of bus stations, increasing bus frequency during school and college hours, improving connectivity to rural and semi-urban areas and construction of bus shelters in major Gram Panchayats along highways. Minister Ponnambhakkar directed officials to conduct route surveys and take necessary action on feasible proposals.

Union jalsakthi secretary visits polavaram project

From Our Staff Reporter

Polavaram, March, 25: The Secretary of the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Water Resources), V. L. Kantha Rao, emphasized the need to focus on both quality and speed in the execution of works at the Polavaram Project. He stated that every moment is crucial in the construction of this national project and urged officials to utilize time effectively to meet the set targets. On Wednesday, the Secretary visited the Polavaram Project site along with Project CEO Yogesh Paitankar, newly appointed CEO Sanjeev Vohra, and Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) Chief Engineer K. Ramesh. During his visit, he reviewed the ongoing construction works and later held a detailed with officials of the PPA, Andhra Pradesh Water Resources Department, and representatives of the executing agency MEIL.

The review covered progress achieved so far, future work plans, timelines, challenges being faced, and strategies for resolving them. The Secretary spent nearly five hours at the project

site. In light of the announcement by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to complete the project by June next year, he sought detailed information on the action plan prepared to meet this deadline. Expressing satisfaction over the progress made so far, Kantha Rao noted that works are being executed as per the planned schedule. He stressed that even a minor delay going forward could impact the overall completion targets. He advised officials and contractors to set daily targets and ensure their timely completion. The Secretary assured full support from the Central Government for the completion of the project, including timely approvals for designs.

He also noted that earlier coordination issues existed as the PPA office was located in Hyderabad, but with its relocation to Rajamahendravaram, such issues should now be resolved through daily coordination meetings. He announced that a comprehensive review meeting involving all concerned Central and State Government departments would be con-

ducted shortly. Engineer-in-Chief K. Narasimha Murthy presented a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the project progress, including rehabilitation and resettlement of project-affected families and land acquisition status. During his site visit, the Secretary inspected key components including the Buttress Dam, Diaphragm Wall (Gap-1 and Gap-2), D-Hill, and G-Hill. He reviewed the timelines for completion of these critical works. He also visited the Polavaram Hydroelectric Project,

where officials informed him that construction is progressing simultaneously and all generating units are expected to be completed by January 2028. Senior officials who participated in the visit and review meeting included Andhra Pradesh Water Resources Department advisor M. Venkateswara Rao, Engineer-in-Chief K. Narasimha Murthy, Chief Engineer Ramachandra Rao, MEIL representatives A Satish babu, A. gan gadhar, murali pamm and APGENCO, and WAPCOS.

Swami Avimukteshwaranand Gets Anticipatory Bail In Sexual Abuse Case

Allahabad: The Allahabad High Court on Wednesday granted anticipatory bail to Swami Avimukteshwaranand Saraswati and his disciple Mukundanand Brahmachari in a case registered against them under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act. The order was passed by Justice Jitendra Kumar Sinha on the anticipatory bail applications moved by the seer and his disciple. Earlier on Feb 27, the court had stayed the arrest of Avimukteshwaranand, directing that he would not be taken into custody till the pronouncement of the order in the matter related to alleged sexual harassment of minor children and other offences. The court had also reserved its order after hearing the matter and directed the applicants to cooperate with the investigation. The case pertains to an FIR lodged at Jhansi police station in Prayagraj following directions from a POCOS court, alleging sexual exploitation of several 'batuks' (young disciples) by the accused.

Letters In Jungle, Call To Minister

: How Reporter Played Role In Top Maoist's Surrender



Bastar: A week before the government's deadline to declare the country Maoist-free, the last major Maoist cadre operating in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region - Papa Rao alias Mangu - has surrendered along with his armed group. The 56-year-old Papa Rao, a native of Sukma district and a senior member of the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZCM), arrived at Kutru police station in Bijapur district carrying an AK-47 and other weapons. Accompanied by 17 associates, including 10 men and 8 women, he was later shifted by bus to Jagdalpur. In January, this reporter visited the Kanger Valley National Park - a 200sq km biodiverse park known for its dense Sal forests - near Jagdalpur in Chhattisgarh's Bastar district. This reporter dropped a dozen letters across the area seeking a meeting with the wanted Maoist.

The letters did reach him, but he did not show up. Months went by. Something shifted in the intervening period. This reporter received a call this Sunday, two months after the letters were dropped off in the forest. The voices at the other end did not reveal

their names.

"We wish to return to the mainstream," a man declared at the other end. One is an Area Committee member, the other a Party member, the caller added, with a hint of hesitation. Something big was in the offing.



This reporter set out immediately. He had been summoned to Kutru in the Bijapur district. Kutru is no ordinary place. It marks the frontier where the road gradually gives way and the jungle takes over. From there, this reporter, who had two more people with him, arrived at the designated spot. "Sir, come alone. That is the only way": was the

message from the Maoists.

This reporter then arranged for a motorcycle and set off alone towards Ambelli village. Are we on the right track? This question nagged this reporter as he made his way deep into the forest. By the time this



reporter reached Ambelli, night had already fallen. Upon arriving at the specific location, this reporter was in for another surprise: the entire District Reserve Guard (DRG), also known as the District Reserve Group, a specialised police unit formed in 2008 in Chhattisgarh was present at the spot. This meant, under these circumstances no

surrender would take place. Immediately, reporter dialled Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, who is also the state's home minister, and explained that if the security forces remained on the scene, the individuals in question would not come forward. The state home minister assured that the specialised forces would be withdrawn. Soon, the area was cleared of security personnel. Another day had begun. As this reporter moved deeper into the jungle from Ambelli village, the forces appeared again. Another call was made to the state home minister.

The path cleared up again. The villagers led this reporter deep into the interior. Here, the jungle was not merely a cluster of trees, it was a labyrinth. At around 1 in the afternoon, the reporter arrived at the designated spot. Standing there were 10 or 12 armed Maoists. One among them was Papa Rao, whom this reporter identified immediately.

Unrealistic Or Sustainable? Row Over AIADMK's Cash Support, Subsidy Promises

Chennai: The All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) has strongly defended its welfare-heavy poll manifesto, asserting that its promises from cash assistance to consumer subsidies are both necessary and economically sustainable, even as rivals dismiss them as unrealistic. At the heart of the AIADMK's campaign is an aggressive expansion of welfare schemes. The party has promised to double the DMK government launched monthly assistance for women from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000, distribute free refrigerators, and provide subsidies for five lakh women to purchase two-wheelers. It has also pledged a waiver of farmland loans, alongside a "compassionate allowance" of Rs 10,000 for all families.

Other key promises include expanding free bus travel to men, providing three free LPG cylinders annually, and distributing one kilogram of dal and cooking oil in addition to the existing free rice scheme - moves clearly aimed at consolidating support



among women and economically weaker sections. Defending the promises, former minister Gokula Indira told that the party has a proven track record. "J Jayalalitha fulfilled free mixer, grinder and fan schemes. We will fulfil this too," she said, underlining the party's experience in delivering on welfare commitments. Rajya Sabha MP C Ve Shanmugam echoed the sentiment, arguing that such schemes are both viable and necessary given the economic distress among sections of the population. "These are economically viable and

needed as many are down-trodden," he said.

AIADMK chief Edappadi K Palaniswami insisted that the promises would be met through "better financial management." He pointed to his government's performance during the COVID-19 pandemic, saying, "Even during COVID amid less revenue, my government performed. Our promises are plausible." Politically, the AIADMK has been on the back foot, having lost three consecutive elections, making this a crucial, do-or-die battle for Palaniswami as he seeks to reclaim lost ground and reassert his

leadership in Tamil Nadu politics. However, the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) has sharply criticised the manifesto, calling it a "document full of lies." DMK spokesperson TKS Elangovan accused the AIADMK of inconsistency, noting that its leaders had earlier mocked the DMK's Rs 1000 monthly assistance scheme for women. Rejecting concerns over the growing "freebie culture," Elangovan argued that welfare schemes would not hamper development spending, instead blaming the Centre for inadequate fund allocation to Tamil Nadu.

Nagaland Woman Found Dead In Karnataka Home, Sister Says She Was Harassed

Chikkamagaluru: The body of a 22-year-old woman from Nagaland was found hanging in her rented home in Karnataka's Chikkamagaluru district. The woman, identified as Linsula, was originally from Nagaland's Kiphire district and worked at a spa in Chikkamagaluru. She stayed at a rented house in the Aravinda Nagar area, where her body was found. According to the complaint filed by her sister Lashila Inchungar, a resident of Bengaluru, the family was alerted on March 22 by one of Linsula's colleagues. Lashila, along with Eastern Nagaland Students' Union Bengaluru (ENSUB) officials and police, rushed to the spot and arrived. Lashila has raised strong suspicion against two individuals, Rajesh and Tejas, alleging possible mental harassment leading up to the death. She has urged authorities to conduct a thorough investigation and take immediate legal action against those responsible. Police have registered the case, and further investigation is underway.



"I Have Non-Veg On Shivratri"

- Siddaramaiah Counters Budget Timing Charge



Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has declared that he sticks to a non-vegetarian diet even on Shivratri and Ugadi, festivals when a large population in the country switches to vegetarian food as per religious beliefs. The chief minister asserted that he does not believe in auspicious timings or religious dietary restrictions, in comments that followed the opposition's accusation that he selectively adhered to such practices during this year's budget presentation. Replying to criticism during the ongoing budget session in the assembly, the chief minister said he has consistently rejected beliefs surrounding Rahu Kaala, Gulika Kaala, and Yamaganda Kaala, maintaining that governance decisions should not be guided by superstition. "I've presented many budgets in the past during Rahu Kaala. This time, my family members and officers requested that I avoid it, and I respected their

wishes, as I believe in democracy. Personally, I've never been concerned about Rahu Kaala or other such timings, nor do I believe in superstitions surrounding eclipses," he said. The chief minister went a step further, addressing cultural practices linked to festivals, stating that he does not follow dietary restrictions observed by many. "On festivals like Ugadi and Shivaratri, many people avoid non-vegetarian food, but I have non-vegetarian

food even on those days. There's nothing wrong with it. For me, every day is the same. We simply designate certain days as festivals," Siddaramaiah remarked. Earlier, Leader of Opposition R Ashok had questioned the Chief Minister's decision to avoid "inauspicious" timings while presenting the 2026 budget. Siddaramaiah's move reflected political uncertainty, he had alleged.

"Whether or not you followed auspicious timings in the past, this time you did because you were worried about whether you would present the next budget," Ashok jabbed. Siddaramaiah, who recently presented his record 17th budget, also used the opportunity to defend his government's fiscal management, rejecting allegations that the state is running on excessive debt. "The criticism that the government is running on borrowed money is incorrect. We have bor-

rowed Rs 1.32 lakh crore, and the total budget is Rs 4.48 lakh crore. How can it be called a debt budget? Borrowing is essential for social welfare and development, and we have stayed within prescribed limits," he said. He noted that Karnataka's total outstanding debt currently stands at Rs 8.24 lakh crore, reiterating that borrowing is a standard practice for governments globally.

The Chief Minister also blamed the Union government for the state's inability to present a revenue surplus budget. He said Karnataka had aimed for a surplus in 2026-27 but fell short due to policy decisions by the Centre. "State GST growth was 10%, but after the Centre reduced GST rates, it dropped to 4%. Seven states have opposed this policy and demanded compensation. The Centre's non-cooperation has affected our fiscal position," he added.

Uncertainty Over Trinamool's Swapna Barman Candidature Amid Resignation Drama



Kolkata: The candidature of Swapna Barman, a Railways official and Trinamool Congress candidate from the Rajganj Assembly constituency, has run into complications over her resignation from service. Barman joined the Trinamool on February 27 without resigning from her job. Alleging violation of service rules for participating in political activities without prior resignation, the authorities initiated a departmental inquiry against her on March 9. Subsequently, she submitted her resignation on March 16. However, the Railways did not accept it, citing the ongoing departmental inquiry against her. Challenging this, Swapna Barman approached the Jalpaiguri Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court. The matter came up for hearing on Tuesday before Justice Gaurang Kant. During the hearing, the Railways informed the court that a departmental inquiry was already underway against Barman, which is why her resignation had not been accepted. However, it was also stated that if she admits to the charges and agrees not to claim any post-retirement benefits, the Railways may grant her release.

Congress Has A New HQ. Why It Still Wants To Retain 24, Akbar Road Bungalow

New Delhi: The 24, Akbar Road office is a part of the Congress heritage, and the party will approach the courts to retain the bungalow, sources have told. The Directorate of Estates under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has asked the main opposition to vacate the bungalows at 24, Akbar Road, and 5, Raisina Road by Saturday. While the Akbar Road premises housed the Congress headquarters for 48 years, the Raisina Road bungalow is the office of the Indian Youth Congress. This comes after the Congress inaugurated its new headquarters, Indira Bhavan, on Kotla Marg near ITO. Sources in the Congress said they have been paying rent for the bungalows -- on market rates -- and had also tried to get them allotted in the names of two of their party MPs, but that did not happen. Party leaders accused the BJP-led government of resorting to vendetta politics and vowed to fight legally.

A leader questioned why the government is bent on vacating these two bungalows when many politicians, including the BJP veteran Murlu Manohar Joshi and former Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, continue to stay in government bungalows. "The BJP government is acting out of vendetta. The 24, Akbar Road, office is connected to Congress's history. So we won't vacate this bungalow, and we will fight a legal battle," senior party leader and Rajya Sabha Pramod Tiwari told. Manan Kumar Mishra,



Rajya Sabha MP from the BJP, said, "When the Congress has already built a new party headquarters, they should move there and vacate this bungalow."

Why Congress Wants To Retain 24, Akbar Road

Leaders of the Congress say the 24, Akbar Road, bungalow is not just an office for the party, but a part of its heritage. These premises, they say, have been witness to historic moments. The bungalow once housed Sir Reginald Maxwell, a member of Viceroy Lord Linlithgow's Executive Council during the British Raj. In the early 1960s, the bungalow was the residence of Daw Khin Kyi, Myanmar's Ambassador to India. Daw Khin Kyi's daughter, Aung San Suu Kyi, who would later win the Nobel Peace Prize, spent several years in that house. But the most glorious chapter of the bungalow's history began in the late 1970s. Following the Congress's crushing defeat in the 1977 elections, the party split. Indira Gandhi led a breakaway faction, and the group needed a place

to work. Rajya Sabha MP G Venkatswamy, an Indira Gandhi loyalist, offered his Akbar Road bungalow. This bungalow witnessed the Congress's thumping revival. It remained Congress's headquarters through the Prime Ministership of Rajiv Gandhi, PV Narasimha Rao, and then Dr Manmohan Singh. The bungalow also expanded in size to meet the demands of space, till the Congress found a new address. It was this office where Indira Gandhi-led Congress celebrated its comeback in the 1980 Lok Sabha election, three years after the party was routed in the post-Emergency polls. In the years that followed, Indira Gandhi was assassinated, and Rajiv Gandhi took over. After the 1989 election, the United Front government led by VP Singh came to power, ushering in the Coalition era in Indian politics. During these years, this reporter was at Congress's 24, Akbar Road, headquarters to cover several key events. It was at this office where the then Congress chief Sitaram

Kesri announced to the media the Congress's decision to withdraw support to the HD Deve Gowda government in 1997. The number of mediapersons that day was so large that they could not be accommodated in the media briefing room, and Kesri had to hold the press interaction on the lawn. Less than a year later, the Akbar Road bungalow witnessed the events surrounding the unceremonious removal of Kesri as party chief through a Congress Working Committee resolution. Multiple reports have said Kesri was locked in a bathroom as the transition of power took place and Sonia Gandhi took charge. This was also the office where Sharad Pawar, PA Sangma, and Tariq Anwar rebelled against Sonia Gandhi and brought her Italian roots. They were expelled, paving the way for the formation of NCP. From this bungalow, the Congress led the UPA to victory in the 2004 and 2009 general elections, and then suffered defeat in the three polls that followed.

RCB sold to Aditya Birla Group consortium in Rs 16,660 crore deal



Mumbai: A consortium led by Aditya Birla Group and Times Internet Limited has acquired the defending Indian Premier League (IPL) and Women's Premier League champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) for Rs 16,660 crore, the owners of the franchise informed regulatory bodies on Tuesday. United Spirits Ltd, the owner of the franchise, made this disclosure in mandatory regulatory filings with the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange of India on Tuesday. Bolt Ventures (Bolt) and Blackstone's perpetual private equity strategy (BXPE, Blackstone) are the other members of the consortium that have jointly bought Royal Challengers Bengaluru,

one of the eight original franchises of the IPL that was formed ahead of the inaugural edition in 2008. The decision to sell off its 100 per cent equity stake in Royal Challengers Sports Private Limited was approved by the board of United Spirits Limited, owned by Diageo India, a subsidiary of the UK-based Diageo plc. The decision was taken by its board in a meeting on Tuesday. "We wish to inform you that the board of directors of United Spirits Limited at its meeting held today, i.e., March 24, 2026, has inter alia approved the sale of 14,690 equity shares of Royal Challengers Sports Private Limited ("RCSPL"), a wholly owned subsidiary of USL, for an aggregate consid-

eration of Rs 166.6 bn, subject to adjustments and other conditions set out in the Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) dated March 24, 2026 executed by and amongst USL, RCSPL, and Bolt IPL Holdings LLC; Aelius Investments Pte Ltd; Asia Investment Topco II Pte Ltd; Times Internet Limited; and Metropolitan Media Company Limited (the "Proposed Transaction") and such parties, the "Parties", the company said in its statement to the regulatory bodies. "Upon completion of the Proposed Transaction in accordance with the SPA (which is subject to customary conditions including the receipt of all requisite approvals as required to give effect to the Proposed Transaction, including

from the Competition Commission of India and the Board of Control for Cricket in India), USL will cease to hold any shareholding in RCSPL and consequently RCSPL will cease to be a subsidiary of USL," the company said. According to reports, under the new ownership structure, Aryaman Vikram Birla, Director at the Aditya Birla Group, will serve as Chairman, while Satyan Gajwani of Times Internet Limited will take on the role of Vice Chairman. The consortium also includes David Blitzler, founder of Bolt Ventures, and Viral Patel, CEO of BXPE. Diageo plc had put RCB on the block as per a decision taken by its board in November 2025, with many suitors expressing interest in taking over the franchise. These included Adar Poonawalla of Serum Institute of India. But in the end, the company entered into a one-to-one negotiation, which eventually resulted in it accepting the offer by this consortium. RCB is the first and only franchise to hold the IPL and WPL titles at the same time. RCB men won their maiden IPL title in 2025, while the women followed suit to win their second WPL title in February 2026. The RCB franchise was won in the original team auction by United Spirits Limited, then controlled by erstwhile liquor baron Vijay Mallya. Diageo plc acquired the RCB franchise when it took over United Spirits from Mallya.

Kal Somani-led consortium to buy Rajasthan Royals for Rs 15,290 crore



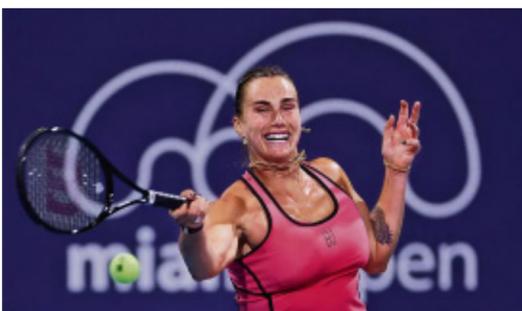
New Delhi: IPL franchise Rajasthan Royals is set to be sold to a US-based Kal Somani-led consortium for USD 1.63 billion (approx Rs 15,290 crore), marking a colossal hike in valuation for the outfit, which was the least expensive among the original eight teams of the glitzy T20 league. The Somani-led consortium includes Rob Walton from the Walmart family and the Hamp family (Ford Motor Company). Somani is an Arizona-based tech entrepreneur who has founded IntraEdge (technology services and solutions), Truyo.AI (data privacy rights and AI governance) and Academian

(edtech services). The other contenders to buy the team, which won the inaugural trophy in 2008, were the Times Internet-led consortium, the Aditya Birla Group and the Mittal family led by ArcelorMittal CEO Aditya Mittal. The sale of Rajasthan Royals is subject to approval from the BCCI and will come into effect after the 2026 edition. British-Indian businessman Manoj Badale held a 65 per cent stake in the franchise, which was originally sold for USD 67 million in 2008 to his company Emerging Media. "Kal is an existing investor in the franchise. The deal is sub-

ject to approval from the BCCI and will be signed soon. The price of USD 1.63 billion reflects how far the IPL has come as a brand," a well-placed source told PTL. "If you look at the sale of the latest IPL entrants Lucknow Super Giants, it is way more than that. It just shows the remarkable growth of the league," said another source, drawing a comparison with the sale of LSG to RPSG Group for a little over Rs 7,000 crore back in 2021. "I expect the deal to be announced in the next four to five days," the source added. Another major IPL franchise, defending champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru, is also

up for sale and the value of that deal is likely to cross USD 2 billion. Somani is a co-owner of the Motor City Golf Club, a Detroit-based golf team set to join Tomorrow's Golf League (TGL) in 2027, which has been co-founded by Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy in partnership with the PGA Tour. Somani is also said to be an early investor in the TGL. The 81-year-old Rob, who is the eldest son of Walmart founder Sam Walton, had served as the company's chairman from 1999 to 2015. In 2022, he led an ownership group consisting of his daughter Carrie Walton Penner and her husband Greg Penner, which bought the National Football League (NFL) team Denver Broncos for a record price of USD 4.65 billion. Walton also owns a 10 per cent stake in Major League Baseball team Arizona Diamondbacks. The Hamp family is led by Sheila Ford Hamp, who is the principal owner and chairperson of the NFL side Detroit Lions. She is related to both the Ford (Ford Motor Company) and the Firestone families (Firestone Tire and Rubber Company). "It's great news for the IPL, mind-blowing numbers," said Indian cricket great Sourav Ganguly, who has also served as BCCI President besides being involved in the IPL as a mentor.

Sabalenka storms into Miami Open QF, Gauff sets up Bencic showdown



Miami: Defending champion Aryna Sabalenka continued her dominant run at the Miami Open, booking a place in the quarterfinals with a straight-sets win over Zheng Qinwen. Sabalenka took one

hour and 25 minutes to seal a 6-3, 6-4 victory, maintaining her strong head-to-head record against Zheng. Although the Chinese star produced moments of brilliance, the Belarusian consistently

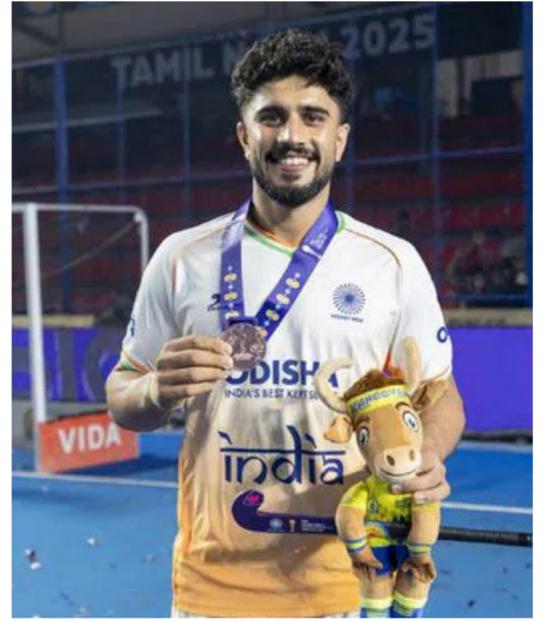
absorbed the pressure and reasserted control at crucial junctures. With the result, Sabalenka reached her 15th consecutive WTA quarterfinal, a milestone last achieved by Justine Henin between 2006 and 2008. It also marked her 32nd appearance in a WTA 1000 quarterfinal, placing her behind only Victoria Azarenka among active players. She will next take on American Hailey Baptiste, who advanced to her maiden WTA 1000 quarterfinal with another composed performance. Baptiste followed up her upset of Elina Svitolina by defeating Jelena Ostapenko 6-3, 6-4. The 22-year-old has

been in commanding form all week, progressing through the draw without dropping a set. Meanwhile, world No. 4 Coco Gauff reached her first Miami Open quarterfinal after overcoming Sorana Cirstea 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 in a fluctuating contest. The match was defined by frequent breaks of serve, particularly in the opening two sets, where both players struggled to hold serve. Gauff, however, found greater stability in the decider, holding serve throughout the third set to wrest control. Her effectiveness on return proved decisive, as she won significantly more points on her opponent's serve.

Young goalie Prince Deep Singh eyes Olympic gold

Hyderabad: For a player who is yet to make his senior international debut, Prince Deep Singh's rise has been anything but ordinary. The young goalkeeper, currently training at the Senior Men's National Camp, has found himself rubbing shoulders with the country's best after being nominated in two of the biggest categories – Hockey India Baljit Singh Award for Goalkeeper of the Year 2025 and Hockey India Jugraj Singh Award for Upcoming Player of the Year 2025 (Men – Under 21) – at the Hockey India 8th Annual Awards 2025, which will be held on March 27, 2026 in New Delhi.

It is a recognition that feels both surreal and deeply affirming for the 21-year-old player, who only broke into the international scene in 2024 with the Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team, but has already won numerous laurels with the team, including a gold medal at the FIH Junior Asia Cup 2024, a silver medal at the Sultan of Johor Cup 2025, and a bronze medal at the FIH Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025. Interestingly, Prince Deep Singh was also named 'Goalkeeper of the Tournament' in the Men's Hero Hockey India League (HIL) 2025-26, where he played for Accord Tamil Nadu Dragons. "I feel very happy and proud," Prince says with quiet conviction. "It usually takes time to get nominated for such awards, but I got this opportunity early. Performing well in tournaments and seeing my name among top goalkeepers, it motivates me a lot." His journey to this moment has been shaped by performances under pressure. At the FIH Junior Men's World Cup 2025, where India clinched bronze, Prince stood tall in crunch situations, particularly during India's quarter-final against Belgium, a match that tested not just skill,



but temperament. "That match was do-or-die for us," he recalls. "We conceded late and it went into a shootout. My teammates kept telling me, 'you have played well, you will do it.' When I made the early saves, it reduced pressure on the team. The crowd, the noise, it all boosted my confidence." Those moments, forged in high-stakes environments, have fast-tracked his growth, but his beginnings were far more unassuming. Hailing from Pathankot, Prince did not start as a goalkeeper. He was a full-back at the Cheema Hockey Academy in Batala, balancing hockey with weekend football games. It was on those football fields that his natural instincts began to stand out. "I used to play as a goalkeeper in football and made some good saves. My coaches noticed my height and reach and suggested I try goalkeeping in hockey. That's how everything

started," he says. Among his key learning moments, the Sultan of Johor Cup 2025 stands out, not for a silver medal win, but for the lessons it offered. "Playing against teams like Australia made me realise the importance of giving 100 per cent for the team in every moment," he says. Despite not yet earning his senior cap, Prince's nomination alongside Krishan Bahadur Pathak, Bichu Devi Kharibam and Suraj Karkera places him in elite company, a testament to both his potential and his performances. "India has a strong pool of goalkeepers. To be nominated among them, even before my senior debut, feels special. It gives me confidence that I am on the right path," he says. With clear ambitions for the future, Prince signed off by stating his ultimate goal to win Olympic gold. "My dream is to become the main goalkeeper for the Indian senior team and win a gold medal at the Olympics."

Pant has tremendous talent, says du Plessis



Hyderabad: "The talent that Rishabh Pant has is tremendous. You look at him playing Test cricket and you think, this guy has all the shots. When I look at his game, I feel he has too many options in his head. He feels like he can hit a six off every ball to any part of the ground," says Faf du Plessis, former South African captain and JioStar expert. In a special show on JioStar, du Plessis said: "But in T20 batting, you still need a method. You need a game plan for how you go about your business. Look at all the great T20 players. You can almost have an idea of where they will score their boundaries and where they have slight weaknesses." "They work their way through that. With Pant, I feel he is always on the edge. When you watch him play, you feel he can get out at any time because it is almost frantic at times. The surprising number for me is his T20 strike rate, which is around 130. How is that possible for a guy with so many shots? Maybe it is because we watch him in Test cricket playing these extravagant, exuberant innings, taking the game on. We almost feel that should just happen in T20 cricket as well," du Plessis said.

On Pant's ideal batting position, du Plessis said: "Looking at LSG's 2026 auction and their strategy around who they signed, you look at that top-heavy batting line-up – Aiden Markram, Mitchell Marsh and Nicholas Pooran are the main ones alongside Pant. Pooran is maybe the only guy who can slide down." "But the success Marsh and Markram had at the top of the order for LSG last season is probably something I would expect them to start with again. So, maybe there is an opportunity for Pant to bat at number three. The numbers suggest that for him to be the best player he can be, number three looks good. I see him batting at number three for LSG this season, with Nicholas Pooran sliding down to number four," he said.

On what Pant needs to do to find consistency, du Plessis said:

"Rishabh Pant's stroke play is one that looks all over the place. There is some sort of

method and game plan that goes into his head. He has a blueprint for how he wants to play Test cricket. The same thing applies in T20 cricket. He needs to figure out exactly what his game plan looks like to give himself the best chance, not to be a one out of ten or two out of ten kind of player, but to be in the 60 to 70 per cent range where he can have consistency." "To do that, you cannot premeditate every ball. That is too high a risk. Yes, you might hit a few sixes and play a couple of good innings. But when teams bowl wide to him, he is good enough to have something else in his armoury to hit through the off side. His game plan is not one-dimensional. He can score all around the ground. For me, it is about his first six balls. When I look at him, he is almost like a highlight player. I want him to be more of a high-impact player in terms of what he can give in his numbers," he concluded.

Knight Riders expand legacy with franchise takeover in Caribbean



Hyderabad: Riders took over the franchise. They are the most successful team in the Caribbean and hold a unique feat of having won the trophy in 2020 without losing a single game in the tournament. TKR Women, the Knight Riders'

first-ever women's team, were champions of the inaugural WCPL in 2022. For many years now, the Knight Riders Academy has been actively scouting talented cricketers from across India and around the world. The sole objective of the Academy is to identify and help cricketers achieve overall, round-the-year improvement in their crickering skills and fitness.

What's The Clarification From Peddi Makers On Charan Injury

The team behind Mega Power Star Ram Charan's much-awaited film Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, has issued an official statement regarding a minor accident that occurred during the shoot yesterday. While performing an intense action sequence, Ram Charan sustained a small injury just above his eye.

According to Team Peddi, the injury is completely minor and nothing to be concerned about. Ram Charan, known for his discipline and unwavering commitment, went on to finish the remaining portions of the day's schedule despite the incident.

The production unit has now paused the shoot briefly, giving Ram Charan a short break.



Sanjay Dutt Farming Aura with Solid Villain Roles

Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt continues to remain a top choice for powerful antagonist roles across Indian cinema, proving his enduring appeal even in a rapidly evolving industry. With blockbuster appearances in films like KGF: Chapter 2 and Jawan, and Dhurandhar, Sanjay Dutt has already been part of multiple ?1000 crore successes, reinforcing his strong box office pull. What sets him apart is his commanding screen presence and raw energy, which consistently elevate the characters he portrays. Filmmakers continue to bank on his ability to bring depth and intensity to negative roles, making him a preferred choice for big-ticket projects. Interestingly, Dutt's popularity is not limited to Bollywood. He has also been actively working in South Indian films, where he is being offered significant roles. While not all projects have worked in his favor, his recent outing in The RajaSaab



failed to make the desired impact, his individual performance still draws attention. In Dhurandhar, where he played SP Chaudhary Aslam, Dutt once again showcased his strength as a performer. Despite mixed results for some films, his presence continues to be a major factor, with filmmakers relying on his experience and charisma to anchor crucial roles. This year, he will be seen in even more action packed roles.

Sharwa's Biker Should Change Gears to Action Mode

With the release of Biker slated for April 3, the team is gearing up for an intense promotional push. Starring Sharwanand and Rajasekhar in lead roles, and featuring Malavika Nair as the heroine, the film directed by Abhilash Reddy promises a mix of high-octane action and emotional drama.

However, with ongoing speculations about the gas and oil crisis affecting public sentiment, traditional promotional campaigns may not fully connect with audiences. Regular posters, trailers and city visits buzz getting lost amid broader concerns.

Observers suggest that the team pivot to a more dynamic promotional strategy focused on action-packed cuts from the film. Short, high-energy clips highlighting stunts, fight sequences, and chase scenes are likely to resonate strongly with younger GenZ audiences on social media platforms, generating organic buzz and engagement.

The trailer itself has already showcased a balance of emotions and adrenaline-fueled sequences, signaling that the film's strength lies in



its action. By releasing a series of carefully curated action clips, the marketing team can amplify excitement and shift attention back to the theaters.

With the clock ticking

toward the April 3 release, making the promotion action-mode could be crucial to driving footfalls and ensuring that Biker cuts through the noise and reaches its target audience effectively.

Mukesh Chhabra reveals actors rejected Akshaye Khanna's role in Dhurandhar, 'now they regret', recalls R Madhavan, Sara Arjun castings

Fresh off the thunderous success of Dhurandhar 2: The Revenge, casting director Mukesh Chhabra is soaking in what he calls a defining phase in his journey. "It took me 20 years to reach here, after doing over 300 films," Chhabra told Hollywood Reporter India, reflecting on the film's impact on his career.

From 'same faces' to a casting revolution

Chhabra, who began his journey with Rang De Basanti (2006), recalled how casting in Bollywood has undergone a massive shift over the years. "They used to cast the same three people in every film—same villain, same right hand, same mother, same sister, same driver. Now the audience gets to see so many new actors and faces," he said. He pointed out that today, "every single director in Bollywood, even the big directors making commercial films, has a casting director," marking a significant evolution in storytelling.

'I don't find talent on Instagram'

At a time when the industry is debating influencer-led casting, Chhabra drew a clear line. "We keep recording data. But I only focus on a film once I get a script. I personally don't find talent through Instagram," he said, emphasising his reliance on auditions and grassroots scouting.

Many actors rejected Rehman Dakaik's role

For Dhurandhar 2, directed by Aditya Dhar and starring Ranveer Singh, the casting process was anything but straightforward. "We were discussing so many actors' names for the film, but they kept saying no, because they didn't want to be part of an ensemble film," Chhabra revealed, recalling the struggle to cast key roles like the antagonist Rehman Dakaik. He added, "Sometimes you don't have to create a look for an actor," stressing the importance of natural fit over cosmetic transformation. Interestingly, after the film's release, several actors who had declined roles reached out again—this time with regret. One of the biggest casting wins came with Akshaye Khanna. "Akshaye Khanna's name came towards the end... when I first called him, he said, 'Are you mad?'" But I told him to at least hear the story. After the narration, he said 'Fantastic!' and confirmed within the day," Chhabra shared. Similarly, R Madhavan came on board almost instantly. "I told him, trust me, we need only 10-12 days... he immediately said yes. He brought an authority to his performance. There is no action—he speaks calmly and never loses control," he said.

'I don't think about acting,



only casting'

Chhabra's philosophy remains distinct. "I don't think about acting. I only think about casting for my character. If the acting is not that great but the actor is correct for my part, I will go with that actor," he explained. That instinct extended to Dhurandhar 2, where he pushed for exhaustive casting. "I wanted to cast every single person on screen... my team spent two years auditioning and casting over 300 people for the film," he revealed.

Finding fresh faces: Sara Arjun

The film also became a platform for discovering new talent, including Sara Arjun.

"When I saw her audition, I went mad. The scene where she confronts Ranveer Singh about being an Indian agent—that was her audition," he said. Today, as Dhurandhar 2 becomes both a box-office and cultural phenomenon, the spotlight is firmly on casting as a craft.

More about 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge'

Directed by Aditya Dhar, the film features Ranveer Singh, Sanjay Dutt, Rakesh Bedi, R Madhavan, Arjun Rampal, and Sara Arjun in key role. The star cast also includes Danish Pandor, Gaurav Gera, Mustafa Ahmed, Danish Iqbal, Saumya Tandon, and more.

Dhurandhar actor Aditya Uppal reveals real Omar Haider visited his Instagram, says he's getting death threats from Pakistan

The craze of Dhurandhar 2, titled as Dhurandhar: The Revenge, continues to grow as the film inches closer to the Rs 1000 crore mark at the box office globally. With audiences praising the performances, actor Aditya Nath Uppal has become a talking point for his role as ASP Omar Haider. In a recent interview, he shared interesting details about his journey, reactions from across borders and a surprising connection with the real-life Omar Haider. In a conversation with DNA, Aditya Uppal revealed that the real Omar Haider is aware of his portrayal. He shared, "I got to know that he has visited my Instagram profile. But I didn't want to disturb his privacy. So I never went ahead and interacted with him socially." He also mentioned seeing proof of recognition. "I saw a screenshot where my name was added to his Wikipedia page under popular culture. That's a big thing." This moment made him feel acknowledged without direct contact.

Aditya Uppal Getting Praise And Death Threats From Pa-



kistan

The actor said he has been receiving huge appreciation internationally, especially from Pakistan and the UAE. He even spoke about a well-known CEO of a global brand who praised his performance and helped him indirectly connect with the real Omar Haider. According to Uppal, the real person is active in Karachi at present and even tags him on social media posts.

Dealing With Threats And Criticism

Along with praise, Aditya Uppal also faced disturbing messages. He revealed, "Pakistan se mujhe darawane messages bhi aa rahe hai. Kai log keh rahe hai ki 'tujhe maar denge. Milega toh chhodenge nahi.'" He tries to explain his profession by saying, "main ek actor hoon," but admits that responding to everyone is not possible.

Dhurandhar Is A Turning Point In His Career

Coming from a theatre background, Aditya believes Dhurandhar has changed his career. Before this, he was seen in Bhakshsk (2024), The Sabarmati Report, ullu series Le De Ke Bol and more. Dhurandhar's success has made him more careful about future roles, as expectations from him have increased significantly.

Dhurandhar 2: War Crisis Turns a Hurdle for Its 'Big' Target?

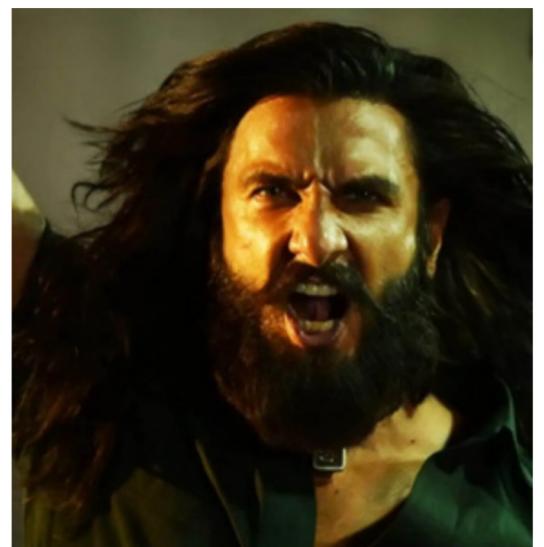
Dhurandhar 2: The Revenge is one film that is being talked across the globe. Directed by Aditya Dhar and starring Ranveer Singh in the lead role, the film is all set to clinch the 1000 Cr rupees gross at the box office. However, the film will not stop here and is ready to chase the mighty number of 2000 Cr rupees. Interestingly, the ongoing war crisis might drift the mood of public away from cinema.

As per the latest reports in the film circles, Dhurandhar 2 will have an edge over all the other films at the box office. The film is doing well in all major centers and the dubbing versions are also pulling crowds to theatres. Meanwhile, Dhurandhar will achieve the mark of 1000 Cr rupees by the end of the day today or tomorrow. The trade pundits predict that the 2000 Cr mark is also feasible.

However, there is uncertainty over the same.

The public across the nation is indulged in a panic like situation with the speculations of scarcity of fuel and gas. There have been rumors that a possible lockdown will be implemented amid the all party meeting being convened by the central government. However, there is no clarity on the impact of this situation on public. This could either be a temporary situation or a situation of unnecessary panic.

The film has collected an approximate gross of over 910 crore rupees across the globe in which the Indian revenue is more than 600 Cr rupees. The film must show strong run across the globe to achieve the next 1000 Cr rupees in no time. Whatever it may be, the current crisis is proving that the public is in the mood to



acquire the resources and essential commodities even before any unwanted situation comes into place. If

the situation comes to normalcy in a day or two, the film will surely pick up in terms of revenues.