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## 49 more Lok Sabha MPs suspended

**Total 141 suspended so far; Oppn calls move 'undemocratic'**

PTI  
NEW DELHI

As many as 49 more opposition lawmakers were suspended from Lok Sabha on Tuesday for unruly behaviour, taking the total number of MPs facing action in both Houses of Parliament to 141 and prompting the I.N.D.I.A coalition to announce nationwide anti-government protests on Friday.

While the opposition bloc slammed as "undemocratic" the suspension of MPs for display of placards demanding a statement from Home Minister Amit Shah on the December 13 security breach in Parliament, the government justified the action as it accused the suspended MPs of insulting Lok Sabha Speaker, Rajya Sabha Chairman and the institution of Parliament.

A political row broke out as Trinamool Congress leader Kalyan Banerjee derisively mimicked Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar during the opposition's protest on the stairs of Parliament against the MPs' suspension, drawing strong condemnation from the ruling



Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge with suspended MPs during their protest in New Delhi on Tuesday. — Photo: PTI

ing BJP. Rahul Gandhi was seen making a video of the performance by Banerjee who appeared to mimic the way Dhankhar walked by leaning forward and made reference to having a spine. Dhankhar gave vent to his anguish in Rajya Sabha, saying he was personally hurt as his farmer and Jat backgrounds were targeted.

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**'Oppn will remain in Opposition'**

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi accused the opposition parties of providing "muted and indirect" support to the security breach incident in Parliament and asserted that they will remain in opposition with further reduced numbers in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections because of their conduct. Addressing what he said was the last BJP parliamentary party meeting this year, Modi very much set out the theme for the ruling alliance's campaign for the 2024 Lok Sabha election as he took a swipe at the I.N.D.I.A. bloc over its meeting.

(REPORT PAGE 7)

**In IPS reshuffle, Ravi Gupta retained DGP**



CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

In a major reshuffle, the State government transferred and gave new postings to 18 IPS officers on Wednesday. While one officer was asked to report to the DGP office another was handed over additional charge. The officers with the new postings are: Ravi Gupta — DGP Coordination and will also hold the Full Additional Charge of DGP (Head of Police Force).







Anjani Kumar was posted as Chairman, Road Safety Authority, Telangana and will also hold the Full Additional Charge of Commissioner, Printing and Stationery, Telangana. Rajiv Ratan was posted as Director General Vigilance and Enforcement, while CV Anand was posted as Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Telangana. Abhilasha Bisht is the new Director, Dr RBVRR Telangana State Police Academy, Hyderabad and also hold the Full Additional Charge of the post of Inspector General of Police, Training, Telangana.

(SEE PAGE 2)


## AUSSIES HIT THE JACKPOT


Australia's Mitchell Starc scripted history as the costliest player ever in the Indian Premier League (IPL) when he fetched a record price of Rs 24.75 cr from two-time champions Kolkata Knight Riders, in IPL mini auction held in Dubai. His teammate and captain Pat Cummins also attracted a price of Rs 20.5 cr from Sunrisers Hyderabad

**MOST EXPENSIVE BUYS AT IPL AUCTIONS**

 <b>Rs 24.75 cr</b> <b>MITCHELL STARC</b> KKR in 2024	 <b>Rs 20.50 cr</b> <b>PAT CUMMINS</b> SRH in 2024		
 <b>Rs 18.50 cr</b> <b>SAN CURRAN</b> PBKS in 2023	 <b>Rs 17.50 cr</b> <b>CAMERON GREEN</b> MI in 2023	 <b>Rs 16.50 cr</b> <b>BEN STOKES</b> CSK in 2023	 <b>Rs 16.50 cr</b> <b>CHRIS MORRIS</b> RR in 2021

**Hyderabad cricketers A Avanish Rao and Tanay Thyagarajan were bought by CSK and PBKS respectively for their base price of Rs 20 lakh**

  
A Avanish Rao

  
Tanay Thyagarajan

**Ayodhya: Advani invited**

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**N Korea warns US of more action**

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ENTERTAINMENT  
PAGE 12

**Sonam on fashion**

Says she is proud to represent India to the world



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## 'New Telangana Bhavan in Delhi to reflect TS culture'

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy said a new Telangana Bhavan would be constructed in New Delhi, reflecting the State's culture.

The Chief Minister, who reached the national capital on Tuesday, held a review meeting with Telangana Bhavan Resident Commissioner Gaurav Uppal and Officer on Special Duty Sanjay Jaju. According to officials, the meeting focused extensively on delineating the share allocated to Telangana within the Joint Estate during bifurcation in 2014.

The Chief Minister specifically sought details on the total area of the Joint Estate, the number of structures, their status and Telangana's share. The total estate was spread over 19.78 acres. Of these, the Sabari Block, Godavari Block and roads were developed in 8.78 acres in the undivided block, while the old nursing hostel was developed in 3.35 acres and the Pataudi House in 7.64 acres, officials informed. When the Chief Minister asked about Telangana's share, the officials



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy at a review meeting in New Delhi.

**CM visits official residence**

**HYDERABAD:** Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy visited Bungalow 23 on Tughlaq Road in New Delhi, the official residence of the Chief Minister, Telangana. Officials have changed the nameplate of the bungalow, which was the official residence of former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao since 2004. After a few changes in the bungalow, the Chief Minister is likely to occupy the residence officially and perform pujas.

replied that as per the AP Reorganisation Act, the State was to get 8,245 acres and Andhra 11,53 acres. On the status of the structures, especially officials and staff quarters, Resident Commissioner Gaurav Uppal said the structures were con-

structed about three to four decades back. They were in a dilapidated condition and repairs were being taken up, he added. The CM instructed officials to lay focus on asset distribution between the two Telugu States and made a few suggestions.

## KTR, Siddaramaiah spar over promises

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

BRS working president KT Rama Rao and Karnataka Chief Minister K Siddaramaiah indulged in a political slugfest on social media platform X on Tuesday, with the former starting it off wondering whether the Congress government in Telangana would follow the Karnataka government's 'model'. The episode, which saw both trading charges over the implementation of pre-poll promises, began when Rama Rao shared a video on X where Siddaramaiah was

seen stating that there was no money to implement the party's poll promises. "No money to deliver promises/guarantees, says Karnataka CM. Is this the future for Telangana too after successfully hoodwinking the people in elections? Aren't you supposed to do

basic research and planning before making outlandish statements? (sic)" he asked. Responding to this, Siddaramaiah said the BJP was circulating such fake edited videos and advised Rao to verify the authenticity of videos before making such allegations.

(SEE PAGE 2)

## Quake in China claims 127 lives



**DEVASTATING:** A rescue worker searches for survivors in a house that collapsed when a powerful 6.2-magnitude earthquake jolted a mountainous region of northwestern China. — Photo: AP (REPORT PAGE 9)

## Fast-track Gyanvapi case: HC

PRAYAGRAJ

The Allahabad High Court on Tuesday dismissed pleas challenging the maintainability of a 1991 suit seeking the "restoration" of a temple where the Gyanvapi mosque now stands in Varanasi, while observing that the "religious character" of a disputed place can only be decided by the court.

The court dismissed five related petitions — on maintainability and also against a survey of the mosque premises — filed over the years

by the masjid management committee and the Uttar Pradesh Central Sunni Waqf Board. The HC held that the suit filed before the district court is not barred by the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 that forbids "conversion" of the "religious character" of a place from what existed on August 15, 1947.

In an important observation, Justice Rohit Ranjan Agarwal said: "Either the Gyanvapi compound has a Hindu religious character or a Muslim religious character.

It can't have dual character at the same time." He ordered that the trial in this case of "vital national importance" should be concluded as soon as possible, preferably within six months.

"In the national interest, it is required that the suit must proceed expeditiously and be decided with utmost urgency with the cooperation of both the contesting parties without resorting to any dilatory tactics," he said, cautioning against any "unnecessary adjournment" in the lower court. PTI

## Ensure decency, cops to NY eve organisers

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

**E**nsure decency of apparel, dance acts, gestures, words, and no obscenity and nudity in performances.

These are among others happen to be the guidelines issued by city police to the organisers of New Year's Eve celebrations. The guidelines issued by the City Police Commissioner K Sreenivasa Reddy on

Tuesday underscore the importance of ensuring decency of apparels, strict surveillance on use of drugs or other narcotic substances and measures to prevent driving vehicles in an inebriated condition.

"Legal action will be initiated if the managements fail to prevent the availability or consumption of drugs on the premises as it would lead to their culpability as well. Special attention should be on parking areas

and other places where drugs are clandestinely sold," said the commissioner. The organisers were told to maintain the sound levels below 45 decibels, fix surveillance cameras with recording facilities to monitor the events and appoint adequate security guards for security access and traffic management.

In their bid to curb drunk driving, the police said that it is the responsibility of

the management of pubs/bars to make necessary arrangements to provide drivers/cabs to customers who are in a drunken state.

The managements of three stars and above hotels, clubs and bars and restaurants/pubs conducting events/programmes up to 1 am (midnight) should apply to the Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad for a grant of permission well in advance.

## TN Minister convicted

CHENNAI

The Madras HC set aside an order of a trial court, acquitting Higher Education Minister K Ponmudy and his wife P Visalakshi in a Rs 1.75 crore DA case. Passing orders on an appeal filed by Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, the court convicted the Minister and his wife and directed them to be present in the court on December 21 for pronouncing the sentence after hearing them. PTI