

Opposition Seizes Moment After BJP Setback, Eyes Long-Term Political Shift



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The recent setback for the Bharatiya Janata Party in Parliament has opened up a rare window for the opposition to push back more assertively. After an extended period of political dominance by the ruling party, this moment has given opposition groups a chance to regroup, coordinate their strategies, and make a more visible impact on a key legislative issue. It has also demonstrated that, under the right circumstances, the ruling party can be challenged within the parliamentary framework. At the same time, it would be premature to view this episode as a turning point in India's broader political landscape. A single parliamentary success, while symbolically significant, does not automatically translate into sustained political momentum. For the opposition, the real challenge lies ahead—maintaining unity across diverse parties, ensuring consistency in their approach, and articulating a clear and compelling narrative that resonates with voters. If they can build on this moment with sustained coordination and a shared political vision, it could mark the beginning of a more competitive phase in national politics. If not, it risks remaining an isolated instance of resistance rather than the foundation of a lasting shift.

CM REVANTH REDDY TARGETS BJP ALLIES, SAYS CHANDRABABU MAY FACE SAME FATE AS NITISH KUMAR AND EKNATH SHINDE



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In a significant political statement, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy made sharp remarks on parties allied with the BJP, stating that their political survival is uncertain. Speaking to the media in Delhi on April 18, 2026, he said that leaders like Nitish Kumar in Bihar and Eknath Shinde in Maharashtra are already facing challenges, and warned that N Chandrababu Naidu and the TDP (Telugu Desam Party) could face a similar situation in the future. Politics "BJP Allies May Be Sidelined": Revanth Reddy's Key Comments Addressing reporters, CM Revanth Reddy stated that

the BJP is currently giving importance to allies like the TDP due to its lower seat strength at the Centre. He added:

If BJP's strength increases, allies may be sidelined

Political dynamics at the Centre depend on majority strength

Alliances may not remain stable in the long run

Remarks on Governance, Laws and Majority Power The Chief Minister also spoke about legislative processes, stating:

Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha exist to make laws

Implementation is the responsibility of state governments and bureaucracy

A two-thirds majority does not justify arbitrary laws

Revanth Reddy's breakfast with BJP, allies in Delhi draws BRS fire

BJP leader Srinivasa Varma explained that he had invited MPs from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as part of regular outreach, and extended a personal invitation to Revanth Reddy due to prior acquaintance.

Telangana chief minister Revanth Reddy, attending a breakfast meeting with NDA leaders in New Delhi, has triggered a political controversy, with the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) questioning the Congress' stand against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the national level. The meeting, arranged by Union minister Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, came following the failure of the Constitution (131st Amend-



ment) Bill, 2026, to clear the Parliament. Although an

informal meeting, its timing became the centre of political

debate in Telangana. Speaking to reporters following the meeting, Srinivasa Varma clarified that the gathering was a routine interaction with MPs from Telugu states and had no political agenda. He said leaders from the BJP, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and Congress, along with Telangana chief minister Revanth Reddy, attended the event, which also saw the presence of several Union ministers and parliamentar-

ians. Srinivasa Varma explained that he had invited MPs from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as part of regular outreach, and extended a personal invitation to Revanth Reddy due to prior acquaintance. He emphasised that the meeting was purely informal, stating that all attendees "sat together and had breakfast" and that there was "no political angle" to the interaction.

Parliament Special Session ends; Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha adjourned sine die

New Delhi: The proceedings in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha were adjourned sine die soon after the session began on Saturday, marking an end to the Parliament's Special Session. A day earlier, the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, was defeated in the Lok Sabha. The defeat of the Bill has triggered a sharp political confrontation, with the NDA accusing the INDIA bloc of deliberately blocking a historic reform aimed at increasing women's representation in legislative bodies.

CBI busts 'digital arrest' scam after raids in Andhra, Telangana; banker among 3 held

New Delhi: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday conducted searches at five locations across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in connection with a "digital arrest" fraud case, arresting three persons, including a bank official. The case, taken up on the directions of the Supreme Court, involves the alleged cheating of a senior citizen, who was coerced into transferring more than Rs 1.6 crore, under the threat of a so-called "digital arrest". The accused have been identified as Dubbaka Mahesh, the then assistant manager of IndusInd Bank, along with Rajesh Kanna and Vayala Srinivas. According to the central agency, the defrauded amount was routed through a bank account fraudulently opened in the name of a company to receive proceeds of cybercrime. Investigators found that the account was used to layer and transfer funds across multiple channels to conceal their origin. In a follow-up action, the CBI arrested the then assistant manager of IndusInd Bank for his alleged role in facilitating the fraudulent opening of the account. The other two accused were reportedly involved in arranging mule accounts and managing the movement of illicit funds. Searches at premises linked to the accused led to the seizure of incriminating documents and electronic devices,

BANDI SANJAY SLAMS CONGRESS OVER FAILED BILL, CLAIMS SOUTH INTERESTS COMPROMISED

Sanjay alleged that the opposition blocked safeguards for southern states ahead of the post-2026 delimitation exercise.

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Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Union minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar accused Congress and the INDIA alliance of betraying the interests of southern states as the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, was defeated in Lok Sabha. The Bill, introduced on April 16, aimed at increasing the strength of the Lok Sabha, bringing into force fresh delimitation based on the latest census report, and implementing women's reservation. But the Bill failed to gain the two-thirds majority required in the House.



Reacting to the development, Sanjay alleged that the opposition blocked safeguards for southern states ahead of the post-2026 delimitation exercise. He argued that population-based redistribution could reduce the relative share of states such as Telangana, Andhra

Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Concerns over delimitation have been consistently raised by leaders across southern states. They argue that states which successfully implemented population control policies and improved social indicators should not be

politically disadvantaged. A shift to population-based seat allocation, they fear, could increase representation for high-growth northern states while reducing the proportional voice of the South in Parliament. Another important issue is the effect on the country's balance of power, as leaders in the south fear that having less representation may decrease their ability to influence policy decisions and the distribution of resources at the national level. Some leaders are proposing other equations, like taking into account developmental indices or sticking to the present ratio.

Hyderabad Police Crack Down on Gutkha, Cigarette Sales Near Schools Under 'Operation Safe School'

In a major enforcement drive under "Operation Safe School" in Hyderabad, Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar led a city-wide crackdown on pan shops selling gutkha, tobacco, and cigarettes near schools. The Hyderabad police raids on pan shops were conducted across multiple locations within 100 meters of educational institutions, where such sales are strictly prohibited.

TELANGANA SPEEDS UP AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT IN WARANGAL, ADILABAD AND BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

Telangana speeds up airport development in Warangal, Adilabad and Bhadradi Kothagudem. 953 acres land ready for Warangal Airport, projects to boost connectivity.

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In a major push for Telangana airport development, State Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy reviewed the progress of new airport projects in Warangal, Adilabad, and Bhadradi Kothagudem on April 18, 2026, aligning with the vision of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for rapid state development. The Telangana government has prepared a comprehensive action plan to accelerate airport infrastructure, land acquisition, and approvals in these districts. Warangal Airport Project: 953 Acres Land Already Handed Over During a review meeting held at the Secretariat, the



Minister informed that: Around 953 acres of land have already been acquired for Warangal Airport. The land has been handed over to the Central Government. Foundation stone laying will begin soon. Officials



were directed to speed up coordination with central authorities to ensure early execution. Adilabad Airport: Joint Development with Defence and Civil Aviation. The proposed Adilabad Airport project will be de-

veloped jointly by: Defence Department Civil Aviation Department Telangana Government Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy instructed officials to: Prepare the master plan immediately. Begin land acquisition process. En-

sure faster approvals. Once completed, the airport is expected to improve connectivity in North Telangana. Bhadradi Kothagudem Airport: New Site Under Consideration. For Bhadradi Kothagudem, the earlier proposed location was found unsuitable by the Civil Aviation Ministry. Key decisions taken: Conduct a detailed feasibility study. Identify alternative land options. Submit a fresh report for approval. Key Officials Participate in High-Level Review Meeting. The review meeting was attended by: Raj Kishore Bharat Reddy. Officials discussed strategies to fast-track approvals and execution.

Congress, BJP playing blame game: K. Kavitha on women's quota defeat

Holding both the ruling NDA alliance and the Opposition responsible, she added, "BJP is blaming the Congress, and the Congress is blaming the BJP. But the point is that the women of this nation have seriously lost out a very long fought battle."

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In the aftermath of the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill's defeat in the Lok Sabha, Telangana Jagruthi President K. Kavitha on Saturday blamed both the Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), saying they are "playing a blame game" over the failure of the Women's Reservation Bill.



Speaking to IANS, Kavitha said, "In the history of India, yesterday will be remembered as the black day for women empowerment in this nation."

Holding both the ruling NDA alliance and the Opposition responsible, she added, "BJP is blaming the Congress, and the Congress is blaming the BJP. But the point is that the women of this nation have seriously lost out a very long fought battle." "Women were a part of In-

dia's freedom movement but they never happened to make in the same proportion into the Parliament or assemblies of the nation," Kavitha said. She said in 2006, it was the Congress which "cheated the women". "Now after 20 years, in 2026, the BJP has again cheated the women of the nation," she alleged.

Termining the Bill's failure as "unfortunate", Kavitha said, "It is unfortunate that Women's Reservation Bill is time and again being linked with either census, caste census or delimitation, or something or the other. But women

are being blocked."

She appealed the women that despite the blow to the reservation attempt, they should contest the elections, without thinking about whether they will "win or not". "I appeal to the women of the nation, we need to stand on our own feet and get empowered by ourselves. We need to come out and contest," Kavitha said.

"But the BJP didn't do that," she alleged.

Moreover, Moitra alleged that this was the Delimitation Bill, "dressed in" the Women's Reservation Bill.

HYDERABAD CP V C SAJJANAR URGES CITIZENS TO SAVE LIVES UNDER RAH-VEER SCHEME, HIGHLIGHTS GOLDEN HOUR IMPORTANCE

In an important road safety awareness message in Hyderabad, Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar urged citizens to step forward and help accident victims under the Rah-Veer Scheme, highlighting the importance of the Golden Hour in saving



lives. Sharing a video message on his official X handle, the Hyderabad Police commissioner emphasized that no life is more valuable than human life, and immediate help during road accidents can prevent deaths. What is Rah-Veer Scheme and How

It Helps Save Lives The Rah-Veer Scheme, introduced by the Central Government, encourages people to assist road accident victims without fear. Key benefits of the scheme: ₹25,000 cash reward for those who help victims reach hospitals in time

Appreciation certificate for Good Samaritans ₹1,00,000 national award for selected top contributors The initiative aims to promote Good Samaritan behavior and reduce fatalities during the Golden Hour, the crucial first hour after an accident.

GHMC CRACKS DOWN ON FOOTPATH ENCROACHMENTS FROM ATTAPUR TO SHIVARAM PALLY IN RANGA REDDY DISTRICT

In a major enforcement action against Hyderabad footpath encroachments, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation carried out a demolition drive from Attapur to Shivaram Pally in Ranga Reddy district. The operation targeted illegally constructed footpath encroachments, which were causing serious inconvenience to pedestrians. The drive was conducted today under the supervision of Town Planning ACP Sridhar, with heavy police bandobast to ensure smooth execution. Repeated Warnings Ignored, GHMC Takes Strict Action According to GHMC officials, several warnings were issued earlier to those responsible for encroachments. However, due to lack of response from the public, authorities were forced to take strict action. Key actions taken: Demolition of illegal structures on footpaths. Clearing of encroachments along the stretch from Attapur to Shivaram Pally. Deployment of police personnel to maintain order. Officials emphasized that such encroachments violate municipal rules and disrupt public movement. Matrimony services Footpath Encroachments Causing Traffic and Pedestrian Problems in Hyderabad GHMC officials stated that illegal occupation of footpaths has been creating major issues:

