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OVER 90 COUNTRIES DECLARE READINESS TO ATTEND FUNERAL CEREMONY OF MARTYRED LEADER

Representatives from more than 90 countries, along with religious leaders, scholars and prominent figures from across the world, have expressed their readiness to attend the funeral



event amid the country's recent circumstances. He also noted that, in accordance with decisions by the office of the late leader and the guidance of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Mojtaba Khamenei, the ceremonies will be held over several days.

The official said the events have been planned under the supervision of the Supreme National Security Council, the Office of the Leader and a national headquarters established by the administration under First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref.

Specialized committees covering security, logistics, infrastructure, cultural affairs, media, universities and international relations have also been formed to oversee the ceremonies.

Funeral and farewell ceremonies will take place in Tehran, Qom, Mashhad and Iraq. Provincial headquarters have been established in Tehran, Qom and Khurasan Razavi Province, while coordinating committees

have also been formed across the country to facilitate public participation. Pourjamshidian said Iraq has established a national organizing committee chaired by the Iraqi prime minister's office following extensive coordination between Iranian and Iraqi officials, including meetings attended by Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi with Iraq's president, prime minister and other senior officials.

According to the announced timetable, the body will be transferred to Iraq on July 8, where an official reception is expected to be held at either Baghdad or Najaf airport with the participation of senior Iraqi officials. Funeral processions and commemorative ceremonies are then scheduled to take place in the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala. The following day, July 9, funeral prayers and burial ceremonies are planned in the holy city of Mashhad, where the martyred leader and his family are expected to be laid to rest near the shrine of Imam Reza.

The Democratic News
 Tehran, June, 30

more than 30 countries have already submitted formal requests to send high-ranking delegations to the ceremonies.

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, Ali Akbar Pourjamshidian, Iran's Deputy Interior Minister for Security affairs and secretary of the funeral organizing committee, said that

Pourjamshidian went on to say that the funeral had been postponed to allow sufficient time for organizing a major national and international

MODI SPEAKS TO IRAN PRESIDENT, STRESSES STRAIT'S IMPORTANCE TO INDIA

Modi reiterated the need for continued efforts to ensure lasting peace and stability in the region, and for safeguarding freedom of navigation and commerce.

The Democratic News
 New Delhi, June, 30

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a telephonic conversation on Tuesday with President of Iran Masoud Pezeshkian, who briefed him on the recent developments in West Asia and the way forward. The Prime Minister said he reiterated in his interaction with the Iranian leader the importance of freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz for India and the world.

Prime Minister Modi welcomed the understanding reached, and reiterated India's consistent position that all issues must be resolved through dialogue and diplo-



macy, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said. Modi reiterated the need for continued efforts to ensure lasting peace and stability in the region, and for safeguarding freedom of navigation and commerce.

During the telephonic conversation, the President of

Iran briefed Prime Minister Modi on the recent developments in West Asia and the way forward, the statement said. Modi also wrote on 'X': "Spoke with the President of Iran, Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian, on the recent developments in West Asia. Welcomed the progress made in the negotia-

tions and expressed hope that continued efforts will lead to lasting peace in the region. Reiterated the importance of freedom of navigation in the Hormuz Strait for India and the World."

Earlier, Iranian President Pezeshkian had invited Prime Minister Modi to the burial ceremonies for Iran's late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to be held next week.

According to reports, the government is planning to send Bihar Governor Atanand Kumar and Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Mohapatra to the ceremonies as representatives of India. The burial ceremonies will be held from July 5 to 9.

BRS KEEPS DOOR OPEN FOR AIMIM DESPITE OWAIISI'S CONGRESS TILT

The Democratic News
 Hyderabad, June, 30

Despite the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) shifting its loyalties to the Congress after the 2023 Telangana Assembly elections, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) in

the state is keeping a bridge open in case things change in the next polls.

The BRS and AIMIM may have parted ways, but the main Opposition party is hoping it can still count on support from the Asaduddin Owaisi-led party should it manage to

win the next Assembly elections. So far, the K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR)-led party, which was in power between 2014 and 2023, has refrained from attacking the AIMIM despite Owaisi having moved over entirely to the Congress camp.

BJP cadre must hit streets to win Telangana in 2028: Nitin Nabin

Hyderabad: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national president Nitin Nabin on Tuesday, June 30, called on party workers to take people's issues to the streets, asserting that the saffron party must come to power in Telangana in the 2028 Assembly elections. Addressing the party's state executive committee meeting here, Nabin said that after defeating the Trinamool Congress (TMC) in West Bengal and forming governments in 22 states across the country, the time had come to make the "lotus bloom" in Telangana - a state, he noted, that had given the party some of its earliest people's representatives. He said it was not enough for workers to merely highlight the failures of the Congress government in the state. They also needed to spell out what the BJP had done for people during its 12 years in power at the Centre. He said the state leadership, backed by district, mandal, village and booth-level committees, would play a crucial role in the party's bid for power.

TRS CHIEF KAVITHA FLAGS CONCERNS OVER SIR EXERCISE

Kalvakuntla Kavitha alleged fake voters from Karnataka in Kodangal and sought scrutiny of the electoral roll revision exercise.

The Democratic News
 Hyderabad, June, 30

Kalvakuntla Kavitha, president of Telangana Rakshana Sena, on Monday, June 29, expressed concerns over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls be-

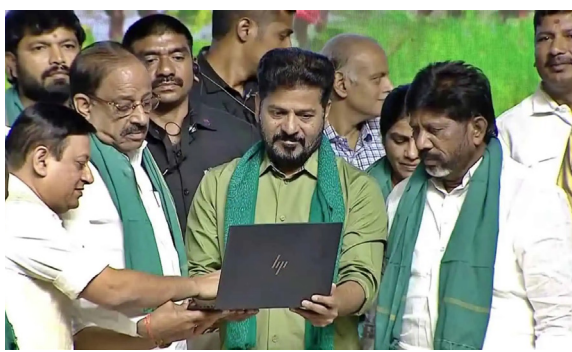
ing undertaken by the Election Commission of India, saying the exercise had raised several doubts. Addressing a media conference at the Telangana Rakshana Sena office in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Kavitha alleged that the voters' list in Kodangal

Assembly constituency, represented by chief minister A Revanth Reddy, a candidate, contained fake voters from neighbouring Karnataka. She displayed what she claimed was a list of such voters during the press meet.

Kavitha said the modification of nearly one lakh votes in the Kodangal constituency had created suspicion and warranted a thorough examination by the authorities. She also called for the implementation of a "One Nation, One Election, One Vote" system across the country to ensure greater transparency and uniformity in the electoral process. Telangana's election machinery has completed nearly 1.73 crore enumeration forms in just four days under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) said on Monday, June 29, calling the pace of work "outstanding" even as he pressed district officials to sustain the momentum to achieve full coverage.

REVANTH RELEASES Rs 2,482 CR RYTHU BHAROSA TO 41 LAKH FARMERS

The Telangana CM said steps were being taken to ensure crop input financial assistance under Rythu Bharosa reached farmers in a timely manner.



The Democratic News
 Hyderabad, June, 30

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has appealed to farmers to opt for rainfed crops in the present Kharif 2026 season and cut down on

paddy cultivation, citing weak monsoons this year on account of the Super El Nino effect. On Tuesday, June 30, Revanth Reddy, along with Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka and Agriculture Minister Tummala Nag-

eswara Rao, released Rs 2,482 crore into the bank accounts of 41.37 lakh farmers across the state under the first phase of the Rythu Bharosa funds release, at an event held at Shilpakala Vedika in Madhapur. Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister said steps were being taken to ensure crop input financial assistance under Rythu Bharosa reached farmers in a timely manner, so that the funds were available to them at the start of the crop season. What worked in Bengal won't work here: CM

Countering claims made by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) national president Nitin Nabin that the saffron party would come to power in Telangana after having defeated the Trinamool Congress (TMC) government in West Bengal, Revanth Reddy said what had worked in West Bengal would not work in Telangana. Pointing out that the BJP had come to power in West Bengal only after 15 years of repeated attempts, Revanth Reddy said it would take the party another 15 years to come to power in Telangana.

Venezuela earthquake death toll surpasses 1,700 as search efforts continue

The scale of destruction caused by Venezuela's twin earthquakes continues to emerge as the death toll surpassed 1,700 and satellite imagery revealed widespread devastation across the country. Venezuelan authorities said on Monday that at least 1,719 people have been killed and 5,034 injured since two powerful earthquakes struck the country last Monday. More than 50,000 people remain missing or unaccounted for as rescue teams continue searching through the rubble of thousands of collapsed and damaged buildings, with hopes of finding more survivors fading. The US Geological Survey said the earthquakes measured magnitudes of 7.2 and 7.5 and struck less than 40 seconds apart. The magnitude 7.5 earthquake struck about 23 kilometers southeast of Yumare in Yaracuy state, while the magnitude 7.2 quake hit roughly 24 kilometers northeast of San Felipe. The earthquakes caused extensive destruction in Caracas and several coastal states, including La Guaira, Carabobo, Miranda, Aragua and Falcon. Tens of thousands of people have been displaced, placing additional strain on emergency services and relief efforts.

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