



Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar interacts with Border Security Force personnel in Kashmir on Thursday

Bandi Sanjay lauds BSF services in snow-clad mountains of Kashmir

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

UNION Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar lauded the Border Security Force (BSF) personnel for their magnificent services in the snow-clad mountains of Kashmir.

During his visit on Thursday, he described their valour during 'Operation Sindoor' as unparalleled and a source of immense pride for the nation. Stressing that the safety of BSF jawans is the foremost priority, he assured full-scale support and co-operation from the Central Government.

During his visit to the BSF campus (SHQ) in Srinagar, the Minister met with IG Ashok Yadav and senior officials. A detailed presentation highlighted the services rendered by BSF jawans, their operational challenges, and their pivotal role in 'Operation Sindoor'.

Video footage showcased jawans performing duties at altitudes of 15,500 feet, braving blizzards and extreme cold. Officials emphasised

- Says your valour in 'Operation Sindoor' is unparalleled
- The safety of BSF jawans is our foremost priority
- Kashmir witnesses peace and stability due to vigilance of soldiers
- Region emerging as a prominent tourist destination
- Minister inaugurates newly built barracks in Baramulla

that the operation's success was solely due to the courage and dedication of BSF personnel, who continue to serve despite limited amenities.

Earlier, the minister visited the Tulip Garden in Srinagar, which attracts nearly a million tourists annually during its one-month bloom. He toured the premises, observed the vibrant floral displays, and learned about the garden's 75-year history.

Later, amidst tight security,

he enjoyed a brief boat ride on Dal Lake, symbolising Kashmir's growing appeal as a tourist destination.

On the first day of his visit, Bandi Sanjay Kumar inaugurated two newly constructed BSF barracks in Baramulla after paying tribute at the martyrs' memorial.

He noted Baramulla's historic role as one of the earliest BSF sectors, with battalions guarding sensitive stretches of the Line of Control and patrolling treacherous terrains in Uri and Nowgam, often navigating through 20-25 feet of snow.

He remarked that Kashmir is entering a new era of peace and development, with tourism flourishing and infrastructure steadily expanding. This transformation, he said, has been made possible by the unwavering vigilance of BSF personnel, whose discipline, courage, and patriotism remain an inspiration to the nation.

The minister pledged continuous efforts to ensure the welfare of jawans while strengthening India's security and progress.

Ponguleti dishing out 'concocted lies' to camouflage misdeeds: Harish Rao

WORDY DUEL TAKES A BITTER TURN...

Spoke like builder, not Minister,' says BRS leader

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BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao on Thursday said that Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has gone on the defensive and spoke not like a minister, but like the owner of Raghava Constructions.

Harish Rao launched a scathing attack on Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, accusing him of trying to divert attention from serious corruption and illegal mining allegations through abusive language and fabricated explanations.

Speaking to the media at Nagapur village, he said the minister's remarks inside the Assembly had only further exposed the Congress government's desperation and moral bankruptcy.

Ponguleti did not speak as a responsible cabinet minister, but as the head of Raghava Constructions, clearly trying to protect his own family and business interests. When people have no facts, no answers, and no defence, they resort to abuse, distractions and emotional drama, he alleged.

Harish Rao said that in trying to defend himself, Ponguleti ended up exposing the broader corruption in the Congress government. "In the process of defending himself, he has virtually admitted that not just he, but several ministers in this government are tainted," he said.

He pointed out that by referring to the names of senior ministers and the Chief Minister, Ponguleti had opened the door to wider scrutiny



BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao addresses the media on Thursday

over corruption allegations within the government. The most important point was that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had admitted on the floor of the House that irregularities in Raghava Constructions had been detected by government officials, and that a penalty had been imposed.

Rao said that officials from Revenue, Electricity, Pollution Control Board and Mining Departments had jointly inspected the site and confirmed illegal mining activities.

"So who is lying?" Harish Rao asked. "Is Ponguleti right, or are the officials right? Is the Chief Minister wrong? Is the Mining Minister wrong? Or are all of them speaking the truth, and only Ponguleti is denying it?" Harish Rao questioned.

Harish Rao also addressed Ponguleti's comments on the Nadargul land issue, and said the BRS government had in fact protected those lands as government property. He said it was the BRS government that included the land in the prohibited list, fought the case in the High Court, and secured

Dasoju disses Ponguleti for throwing weight behind land dispute in RR dist

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BRS MLC Dasoju Sravan accused Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy of misusing his office to further private real estate interests, claiming victims of these disputes are increasingly approaching the BRS office. He ridiculed the claims of the Minister and criticised him for spreading false narratives. Detailing a case involving Satish Shah and Pallavi Shah on Thursday, Sravan said the family owns 27 acres across Survey Numbers 169, 244, and 245 at Vattinagulapally in Ranga Reddy district. He



noted that multiple surveys and HMDA compensation had previously established clear ownership.

Sravan stated the issue began only after the son of the Minister, Harsha Reddy, entered into a development agreement with a neighbouring landowner. He alleged that attempts were made to pressure the family into parting with

land. In October 2025, a forced survey was reportedly conducted, though the High Court later struck down the report. Despite this, Sravan alleged the situation escalated with the demolition of a boundary wall and the use of bulldozers. He claimed that even after FIRs and court injunctions, enforcement remained weak due to ministerial pressure on police and revenue authorities. Dasoju Sravan demanded an immediate halt to such high-handedness, asserting that the state administration should protect citizens rather than facilitate land grabs for those in power.

orders that action should be taken against those who sold and purchased ceiling-surplus lands illegally.

He questioned why the Congress government was now trying to suppress these facts. He questioned whether

there were links between Shilpa, Raghava and AQ Square, and asked why the government is not coming clean on these relationships.

Rao demanded that if the government was sincere, it should immediately

act against the encroachers, send HYDRAA to the site, and prove its honesty through action rather than statements. He said Ponguleti's attempts at creating noise and drama have failed to bury the facts.

BJP chief pays tributes to tiger Narendra on his death anniversary

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BJP state chief N Ramachander Rao paid floral tributes to Tiger Ale Narendra on his twelfth death anniversary on Thursday. He stated that as a senior BJP leader, former MP, former MLA, and a prominent figure in the Telangana movement, Narendra fought tirelessly for the statehood cause.

He later served with distinction as a Member of Parliament and a Union Minister. Rao noted that Narendra will always be remembered for his leading role in the regional movement and his work as a trade union leader. Under his guidance,



BJP state chief N Ramachander Rao pays floral tributes to Tiger Ale Narendra on his death anniversary in Hyderabad on Thursday

the Kagaznagar Mills and Sirpur Mills saw resolute struggles for the rights and welfare of workers. The BJP Chief recalled that during times

of heightened communal tensions in Hyderabad, when the Congress party allegedly encouraged the MIM, Narendra stood firmly by the people

in the Old City.

Even today, the ideals and aspirations of Narendra continue to inspire thousands of karyakartas across Hyderabad who carry forward the work of the party with conviction. Rao asked every party worker to emulate the qualities of courage and fighting spirit exhibited by the late leader. He described Narendra as a leader who dedicated his life to the nation, the protection of Dharma, and the rights of the community. The gathering observed that his legacy remains a source of strength for the cadre, serving as a reminder of the commitment required to serve the public interest and uphold cultural values in the face of political challenges.

Tripartite agreement signed to strengthen agri-biotech innovation

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THE Tripartite Agreement Signing Ceremony under the BioNEST Co-Incubation Programme was successfully held at ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, marking a pivotal step in strengthening the agri-biotech ecosystem of India. The agreement was signed on Thursday between a-IDEA, which is the agri-business incubator of ICAR-NAARM, the ICAR-Indian Institute

of Rice Research, and the selected incubates including Ventas Biosolutions LLP and individual entrepreneur Lakshmi VSDS Rudraraju. The event commenced with a welcome address by Ranjit Kumar, CEO of a-IDEA and Principal Scientist at ICAR-NAARM, who outlined the vision of the programme to nurture cutting-edge agri-biotech ventures. Kalyani M Barbadikar, Senior Scientist at ICAR-IIRR, detailed the rigorous evaluation process that

identified promising startups for incubation. Gopal Lal, Director of ICAR-NAARM and President of a-IDEA, highlighted in his keynote address the importance of innovation-driven entrepreneurship and institutional support in accelerating the agri-startup ecosystem. Complementing this, R Meenakshi Sundaram, Director of ICAR-IIRR, emphasised the role of research-backed incubation in advancing sustainable agriculture.

BEAT THE HEAT WITH ICE APPLES



A vendor sells thaati munjal (ice apples) by the roadside in Secunderabad. The summer fruit, sourced from palm trees, is prized for its sweet, tender flesh and refreshing water.

Photos: Ch Prabhu Das

Vizag man held for abusive post against actress Renu Desai

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A man from Visakhapatnam was arrested by the Cyberabad Cybercrime Police for posting an offensive and abusive comment on a social media reel shared by actress Renu Desai. The accused was identified as Idadasu Apparao, a resident of

Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. According to the police, Apparao frequently watched Instagram reels during his free time. Recently, after watching a reel posted by the actress, the accused allegedly used a fake Instagram account he had created to post an abusive and derogatory comment. Cybercrime officials apprehended him in

Visakhapatnam and brought him to the Cybercrime Police Station in Gachibowli for further investigation. During the verification process, the mobile phone used to post the offensive content was produced and seized by the authorities.

The police have advised social media users to maintain responsible online be-

haviour and strictly avoid posting abusive, defamatory, or offensive comments. They emphasised that sharing objectionable content on digital platforms can lead to severe legal action under relevant provisions of the law. Citizens are encouraged to use digital spaces responsibly and report any cyber offences to the nearest police station or via the 1930 helpline. Recently, Renu Desai issued a strong warning against trolling and obscene comments, stating that such behaviour would not be tolerated.

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