

KCR'S DAUGHTER K KAVITHA'S HUNGER STRIKE IN DELHI TODAY, 12 PARTIES TO JOIN

THIS COMES A DAY BEFORE HER QUESTIONING BY THE ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DELHI LIQUOR POLICY SCAM.

New Delhi: K Kavitha, senior leader of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), is holding a hunger strike in New Delhi today demanding the introduction of Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament.

Leaders of several parties, including Trinamool Congress and Samajwadi Party, are expected to participate in Ms Kavitha's day-long protest at Jantar Mantar in the national capital.

This comes a day before her questioning by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with the Delhi liquor policy scam.

Ms Kavitha, who is also the daughter of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, had yesterday said that 18 parties have confirmed their participation in the protest. "We released a poster on March 2 about the hunger strike in Delhi over the Women's Reservation Bill.

ED summoned me on March 9. I requested for March 16, but don't know what haste they're in, so I agreed for March 11," she told reporters in the national capital yesterday. "Why was the ED in a rush to question me and chose a day before my protest? It could have happened a day later as well," Ms Kavitha added.

The ED case alleges that Ms Kavitha is part of the "South Cartel" that benefited from kickbacks after Delhi's now-scrapped liquor policy came into force.



MAHA BUDGET: WELFARE BOARDS FOR UNORGANISED SECTOR WORKERS & AUTO-AND TAXI- DRIVERS

FADNAVIS ANNOUNCED THAT A WELFARE BOARD EACH WOULD BE CONSTITUTED FOR AUTO AND TAXI DRIVERS, AND MORE THAN 3 CRORE WORKERS IN THE UNORGANISED SECTOR

Paying heed to the long-pending demand for formation of welfare boards for workers from the unorganised sector and for auto-rickshaw and taxi drivers, finance minister and deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis finally made a formal announcement to that effect during the Maharashtra budget session on Thursday. He announced that a welfare board each would be constituted for auto and taxi drivers, and more than 3 crore workers in the unorganised sector. "For the benefit of the unorganised sector and to provide them with social security and welfare schemes at the state level, the Maharashtra State Unorganised Workers' Welfare Board will be formed. Similarly, the Maharashtra State Auto-Rickshaw and Taxi Owners' Welfare Board will also be formed," Fadnavis said during his budget speech on Thursday.

Welcoming the state government's decision, Keshav Kshirsagar, president, Baghtoy Rickshawala Auto-Rickshaw Union, said, "On behalf of the Maharashtra Kamgar Sabha as well as Baghtoy Rickshawala, we express our heartfelt gratitude to the Maharashtra state government and we hope that in the coming time, these schemes will not remain just on paper but will actually benefit the workers in the unorganised sector." Hemant Kambale, an auto-rickshaw driver from Pune, said, "During the last three years, we have suffered a lot financially due to the pandemic and now through this welfare board, we hope to get some benefits from new schemes as well as help from the state government during such crises. This welfare board should be established soon and they should start disseminating information about various schemes to auto and taxi drivers."



PAKISTAN'S CHIEF JUSTICE TO SKIP SCO MEETING IN INDIA DUE TO 'UNAVOIDABLE COMMITMENTS'

India had sent an invitation for the SCO meet to the Pakistani Chief Justice. With the denial, now Pakistan is the only nation that would not attend the SCO Chief Justice meeting hosted by India.

Pakistan will not be participating in the meeting of chief justices of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), scheduled to be held in New Delhi from March 10 to 12, 2023.

In a statement, Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said, "As one of the active members of the SCO, Pakistan regularly participates in all SCO activities and constructively contributes to their outcomes."

"Due to his unavoidable commitments on the scheduled meeting dates, the Honourable Chief Justice of Pakistan will not be able to participate in the SCO meeting of the Chief Justices of the Supreme Courts scheduled from 10-12 March 2023. He has accordingly conveyed his regrets to his Indian counterpart, who is the current chair/host of the meeting," the statement added. According to the Express Tribune, an invitation from India to attend the event was received by the Pakistani chief justice.

The Shehbaz Sharif-led country is now the only nation that would skip the SCO Chief Justice meet hosted by India.



MUMBAI POLICE NABS TWO JEWELLERY MAKING UNIT EMPLOYEES FROM WEST BENGAL FOR GOLD THEFT

According to the Dahisar police station official, the duo worked in the city-based unit along with 17 other employees and last month fled with gold

Two employees of a jewellery-making unit were arrested by the Mumbai police from West Bengal on Thursday for allegedly stealing gold ornaments from their workplace, an official said.

According to the Dahisar police station official, the duo worked in the city-based unit along with 17 other employees and last month fled with gold.

After the incident came to light, the jewellery-making unit owner lodged an FIR.

The Mumbai police eventually tracked them down to West Bengal and arrested them after following their mobile phone locations and other clues, he said.

Some of the stolen gold was sold in Ahmedabad and a few other places said the official without revealing the total value of the precious metal. The accused were booked under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including 381 (theft by a servant), and further investigation was underway, he added.

RELIANCE INDUSTRIES COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF TWO POLYESTER FIRMS

Reliance Industries subsidiary Reliance Polyester Limited has completed the acquisition of the polyester business of Shubhalakshmi Polyesters Limited and Shubhlaxmi Polytext Limited.

RIL informed the investors about this acquisition via stock exchange filing.

The Mukesh Ambani-backed company wrote, "We wish to inform you that Reliance Polyester Limited (formerly known as Reliance Petroleum Retail Limited), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, has on March 8, 2023, after receipt of the necessary approvals, completed the acquisition of polyester business of Shubhalakshmi Polyesters Limited and Shubhlaxmi Polytext Limited".



Last year, Reliance Petroleum Retail acquired the polyester business of Shubhalakshmi Polyesters (SPL) and Shubhlaxmi Polytext (SPTex) for ₹1,522 crores and ₹70 crores, respectively, in cash.

Fair trade regulator Competition Commission cleared the acquisition of business undertakings of Shubhalakshmi Polyesters Ltd and Shubhlaxmi Polytext Ltd by Reliance Polyester Ltd on October 2022.

SPL and SPTex are primarily engaged in the production and supply of polyester products while RPL is engaged in the production and supply of certain petrochemical products and polyester yarns.

Shubhalakshmi Polyesters has two manufacturing facilities--in Dahej (Gujarat) and Silvassa (India) (Dadra and Nagar Haveli). And, Shubhlaxmi Polytext has a texturized yarn manufacturing facility at Dahej.

BILL GATES SHARES PICS FROM HIS INDIA TRIP, SAYS "I LOVE VISITING BECAUSE..."

During his trip to India, Mr Gates interacted with a number of high-profile personalities in India, including PM Modi, Anand Mahindra, Sachin Tendulkar and Smriti Irani among others.

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates returned to the United States after a week-long visit to India where he met a number of politicians, businessmen, entrepreneurs, and social workers among others. Now, summing up his visit, Mr Gates shared a bunch of pictures from his trip and expressed his desire to return to the country soon. Taking to Instagram, the billionaire philanthropist posted photos from his visit featuring Prime Minister Narendra Modi, bridge champion Anshul Bhatt, YouTuber and 'Mismatched' star Prajakta Koli, NGO workers, his e-rickshaw drive among other activities.

"I just returned from my visit to India, and I can't wait to go back again. I love visiting India because every trip is an incredible opportunity to learn," Mr Gates wrote in the caption of his post.

Further, Mr Gates said, "During my travels last week in Mumbai, Delhi, and Bangalore, I met some amazing people who taught me how they are using the power of innovation, science, and collaboration to find solutions to the world's health, climate, and development challenges." Notably, during his trip to India, Mr Gates interacted with a number of high-profile personalities in India, including PM Modi, industrialist Anand Mahindra, cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, Wipro chairman Rishad Premji, Zerodha founder Nithin and Nikhil Kamath, Union Ministers Hardeep Singh Puri, Smriti Irani and Ashwini Vaishnaw, among others. In his recent blog, GatesNotes, the billionaire philanthropist praised the country for its "amazing ability to manufacture lots of safe, effective, and affordable vaccines, some of them supported by the Gates Foundation" and said these vaccines saved millions of l



TU JHOOTHI MAIN MAKKAAR BOX OFFICE COLLECTION DAY 2: RANBIR KAPOOR, SHRADDHA'S FILM REGISTERS A DROP

Tu Jhooti Main Makkaar released on Holi. The film minted Rs 10 crore on Day 2, March 9.

Ranbir Kapoor and Shraddha Kapoor have impressed fans with their chemistry on Tu Jhooti Main Makkaar. The film, that released on Holi (March 8), saw a rocking start at the box office. It recorded the second-best opening for a Bollywood film after Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan this year. On Day 2, March 9, TJMM added Rs 10 crore to its collection. It was almost Rs 5 crore less than its previous day's collection. The romantic comedy, directed by Luv Ranjan, also marked the acting debut of Boney Kapoor. It seems people are thronging the cinema halls in large numbers to watch Tu Jhooti Main Makkaar. On the opening day, the Ranbir Kapoor and Shraddha Kapoor-starrer earned Rs 15 crore in India. According to early trade reports, TJMM collected Rs 10 crore on Day 2. Hence, the total collection now stands at Rs 25.73 crore. Tu Jhooti Main Makkar had an overall 11.46 per cent Hindi Occupancy on March 9. Meanwhile, Box Office India reported, "Tu Jhooti Main Makkaar just about stayed above the water on day two as it dropped around 35%. This drop would have been pretty good if the Holi was a full-out Holiday and the benefit of Holi was across the board but with a partial holiday the drop is on the higher side. The bigger issue is the film only has 23 crore nett up on the board over the two-day holiday period so there is a lot of work to do and it becomes a must for the film to be up on Friday which should happen in cities but mass could see further drops as the Holi factor dies.

The makers had announced the title of Tu Jhooti Main Makkaar earlier in a unique way. This is also the first time Ranbir Kapoor and Shraddha Kapoor are coming together. The film was released during the Holi 2023 weekend, March 8, 2023. The romantic comedy film, written and directed by Luv Ranjan, is produced by Luv Films and T-Series Films. Anubhav Singh Bassi, Dimple Kapadia and Boney Kapoor play pivotal supporting roles in the film. The music of the film is composed by Pritam. All lyrics are written by Amitabh Bhattacharya.

BJP'S SHARP REACTION TO KTR'S 'ADANI IS PROXY OF PM' ALLEGATION

SoftBank has been a prominent and prolific investor in the Indian startup ecosystem, pumping in an estimated USD 15 billion over the years.

Billionaire investor and SoftBank Group Founder Masayoshi Son on Tuesday attended the wedding reception of Oyo Founder Ritesh Agarwal in New Delhi. In the pictures from the wedding reception widely shared on social media, Agarwal and his wife can be seen touching feet of the 65-year-old investor, a common gesture in India to seek blessings from elders.

Vijay Shekhar Sharma, founder and CEO of digital payments platform Paytm, also tweeted a photo of himself with Masayoshi Son. Another picture posted by him had various startup founders in it, including Lenskart CEO Peyush Bansal.

"Ultimate joy today, seeing Masa smiling, happy and enjoying his India trip. Everyone of us had tons of gratitude for his belief and support given to our startups," Sharma tweeted. Son is said to have met founders and CEOs of some prominent startups during his day-long visit to the national capital, reported PTI citing sources. SoftBank has been a prominent and prolific investor in the Indian startup ecosystem, pumping in an estimated USD 15 billion over the years. Some of the notable, early bets it had made included Ola, Oyo, Lenskart and Meesho.