



**ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE
24, AKBAR ROAD, NEW DELHI
COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT**

Highlights of CP Speech

05 April, 2026

Congress President & Leader of Opposition (LoP), Rajya Sabha, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge addressed the public at Idukki, Keralam, today.

Shri Mallikarjun Kharge said- First, my greetings to all of you on a Happy Easter. Sitting on the dais Smt. Deepa Dasmunsi Ji; Seethakka, she is a very fighter and very hardworking women... she always looks after the poor people, goes in the forest area, meets the people... such a great lady, we had appointed her as Minister for Rural Development, Rural Water Supply, and Women & Child Welfare; Shri P.V. Mohan, who is our secretary, working hard... he is on the dais; then our MP Dean Kuriakose; then Francis George, MP from Lok Sabha.... he is also here; E. M. Augusthy, Joy Thomas... our allies- MJ Jacob (Kerala Congress), T M Salim (Muslim League), G Varghese (RSP), then our candidate Syriac Thomas Ji, my dear brothers and sisters, my young friends and all hardworking people of Kerala, ladies and gentlemen and also my media friends.... Keralam has always been a beacon of progressive thinking, social justice and education. But today, I ask you- is Keralam moving forward, or is it being held backward? For the last 10 years, under the LDF government led by Pinarayi Vijayan, promises have been made, but what has been delivered to the people, it is important.

1. Corruption and Scandals of the Left Democratic Front Government

From the gold smuggling case to allegations in infrastructure projects- LIFE Mission Housing Scheme is also a scam... Sabarimala Gold theft, then Cochin Minerals Financial Deal... corruption has tainted governance. The government is protecting the powerful instead of the common people.

2. Economic Mismanagement of the LDF Government

Keralam today faces a severe financial crisis. State debt from 2016 has surged from ₹1.57 lakh crore to nearly ₹6 lakh crore today... from ₹1.57 lakh crore to ₹6 lakh crore. Farmers, fishermen, small traders... many feel abandoned. Welfare schemes are either delayed or poorly implemented. Rising debt, visionless governance, and shrinking opportunities have pushed the state into uncertainty and hopelessness.

3. Unemployment Crisis

Keralam has education, but where are the jobs? The youth (15-29 age group) unemployment rate is around 30%, nearly three times the national average. Our youth are forced to leave their homes to find work. This is not just unemployment; it is a failure of this government.

4. Law and Order Concerns

Increasing incidents of political violence and deteriorating law and order have created fear among citizens. Keralam's tradition of peace is under threat.

5. Nexus of BJP and Left

They say that they attack Congress, but today the left and BJP both are going together to deceive the people of Kerala. Modi in Delhi and Pinarayi Vijayan in Keralam has same style of functioning. They both want to keep power centralised in their own hands. In fact, I heard people say, "Keralam's Modi is Pinarayi Vijayan." And that the BJP and LDF have secretly plotted to keep Congress away from power.

Now, Left is one side, you have to leave it. Left is left now, forget it and BJP is most communal party... BJP and RSS, they will destroy this country; I condemn their attitude, I condemn their ideology.

6. Targeting of Christian institutions

What is Modi doing in Delhi? The recent FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026 is a clear example of Modi's real intentions. It is not a reform; it is an attack. An attack on Christian institutions that have served this nation in education, healthcare, and charity for decades... and Christian institutions are doing this work better than any other institutions. He is not attacking only Christian institutions, he is attacking civil societies, NGOs and poor institutions, who are getting some funds to improve the welfare of the people.

My friends, not only this, just like the Waqf Amendment created fear among the Muslims, this (proposed) law creates fear among the Christians. This is not governance; this is selective targeting. Now the people of Keralam have clearly understood this BJP-RSS game. Why doesn't the Chief Minister of Keralam explain why his friend in Delhi, PM Modi, did this?

7. Challenges faced by the tea and cardamom worker in Kerala

Tea and cardamom workers are suffering. I am told many tea planters are shutting down their businesses in this area. The LDF government had promised financial support to tea planters, but once they came to power,

they conveniently forgot it. Also, because of new exploitative labour laws, the workers get no facilities from the garden owners. We promise better wages, timely benefits, and dignity for every worker.

8. Concerns over Land Rights, Wildlife Attacks and Healthcare

Thousands of families in this area still don't have land titles for the land they have lived on for generations. We will simplify laws and ensure every deserving family gets their 'pattayam'. Farmers are living in fear due to increasing elephant and wild boar attacks. We will ensure proper protection, quick response, and fair compensation. People are forced to travel far from this place for proper treatment. Tourism areas lack basic facilities. We will upgrade hospitals and develop tourism in a way that benefits the local people. This election is about justice for workers, farmers, and families of Peermade. Change is coming... you be ready... and if you all support, definitely Congress will come... 100 per cent this time. Today, after our strong victory in local body elections across Idukki, it is clear- the people are shifting towards the UDF.

Friends, under Congress-UDF governments, Keralam's strong education and healthcare systems were strengthened. Major infrastructure and development initiatives were taken.

At the national level, under leaders like Manmohan Singh, India saw historic economic growth, rights-based welfare schemes, and global respect. Schemes like MGNREGA, Right to Education, Food Security Act transformed the lives of millions, including people in Keralam. Congress believes in inclusive growth, not a selective governance.

9. Our Promise to Keralam

The Indian National Congress and the United Democratic Front offer a clear, people-centric alternative... that is the Indira Gandhi Guarantees - Indira Gandhi's and the UDF guarantees:

First- Welfare pensions (raised) to ₹3,000. You want ₹3,000 pension? Do you agree? Do you agree? Those who want, raise their hands.

Second- ₹25 lakh health insurance scheme in the name of Oommen Chandy in Kerala.

Another guarantee- Free KSRTC travel for women. All my sisters will get free travel.

₹1,000 monthly support for college-going girls.

₹5 lakh interest-free loans for young entrepreneurs.

Dedicated ministry for senior citizens.

₹300 base price for rubber.

10. We are committed to

- Reviving the economy and creating jobs
- We are supporting youth, startups
- And entrepreneurs and ensuring transparent and corruption-free governance
- Strengthening welfare delivery
- Restoring peace, harmony and democratic values.

My dear friends, this election is not just about changing the government... it is about saving the future of Keralam. Don't listen to Modi, Modi is a liar. I am not saying this just because he is our opponent. He promised 2 crore employment every year, it has been 12 years... has he given 2 crore jobs every year?

And he also said... he also promised several things... Notebandi... and he also said - I am the only man capable of running this government and this country... did he not say? You might have seen on TV. Always, he used to say- 'मेरी छप्पन इंच की छाती है... छप्पन इंच की छाती है'... means 56 inches my chest... what is the importance of your chest? Go and tell the tailor, he will stitch properly one jacket for you.

They are destroying the country; they are destroying our future generation; they are destroying unity.... RSS and BJP and its leader Modi, he will destroy, he will drive people into poverty and our people will suffer and now already suffering lack of LPG, inflation, unemployment... everything, but still some people say, even a few in Kerala... even one seat he will not get in Kerala. Are you going to vote for him? (Public said- No!).

And Pinarayi Vijayan, he is following the path of Modi. Modi is controlling Pinarayi Vijayan. He is not an independent man now. The only difference between him, his party and Pinarayi's party is that their flag colour is saffron, his colour is red... there are similarities. Don't misguide the people of Keralam. They are very clever, they are educated. Modi Ji, Vijayan.... you both can fool people who are illiterate in Gujarat or in other places, but you can't fool Kerala people. People of Kerala... not only in Kerala, throughout the world they are working, they are sending money to India. Whatever money comes is remitted to banks... now, Modi is afraid of that because he

will not get money from Dubai or other Arab countries or wherever our Kerala people are working. Now, the remittance will be less.

Therefore, my friends, I urge you to support the Congress party and the UDF to strengthen the democracy, and to bring back a government that works for you, works for women, works for youth, works for Dalits, works for backwards.... you will get that chance by doing this. Let us together build a Keralam that is prosperous and a learned state and also peaceful, and a very progressive state in the country.

Now, I request all of our... I will introduce our candidates, who are going to serve you and Keralam for 5 years - Adv. Thomas, Roy K Poullose then Adv. Senapathy Venu, then F. Raja, Apu John Joseph. And once again I wish you all Happy Easter.

Thank you very much for listening calmly, quietly... and I hope after winning, I will visit this area once again.

Now, you have to respond to me in what Jai Jaikar will do.

Jai Hind (people chanted- Jai Hind), Jai Hind (people repeated- Jai Hind).

Jai Congress, (people repeated- Jai Congress), Jai UDF (people repeated- Jai UDF), Jai Congress (people repeated- Jai Congress), Jai Keralam (people repeated- Jai Keralam), Jai Keralam (people repeated- Jai Keralam), Jai Keralam (people repeated- Jai Keralam).

Thank you very much for your response, and I also thank all our media people and also our workers and volunteers, those who have come here.

Thank you very much!

**Sd/-
Secretary
Communication Deptt.
AICC**