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Opposition Raises National Security and Electoral Integrity Concerns Ahead of Parliament Session

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As India gears up for its Parliament Monsoon session, an all-party meeting convened by the government, intended to foster cooperation, quickly shifted focus, with opposition parties raising serious concerns. Key among the issues flagged were the recent terrorist attack in

Pahalgam, the credibility of ceasefire claims made by United States President Donald Trump, and allegations of electoral roll manipulation in Bihar under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process.

The meeting, attended by leaders across the political spectrum, was led by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju and Minister of State Arjun Ram Meghwal. The government urged a collaborative approach during the session, but opposition leaders made it clear that meaningful participation would depend on the government's responsiveness to pressing national matters.

Congress representatives Gaurav Gogoi and Jairam Ramesh insisted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi must directly address the nation through Parliament. Gogoi emphasized that the Prime Minister should clarify Trump's repeated assertions of having negotiated a ceasefire between India and Pakistan, a claim that has raised questions about national sovereignty and the valor of the Indian Armed Forces. "The dignity of the country and the bravery of our soldiers deserve a firm response," Gogoi said during a press briefing after the meeting.

In addition to security concerns, Congress also highlighted the unresolved status of the Pahalgam terror attack, where the perpetrators remain at large. They argued that a government statement is long overdue, particularly in light of recent comments made by Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor, which have only deepened public unease.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) also brought attention to what it termed a "poll scam" in Bihar, questioning the integrity of the Special Intensive Revision, a process undertaken by the Election Commission to update voter rolls. AAP Member of Parliament Sanjay Singh called for an immediate halt to the exercise, stating, "If the government doesn't respond, we will escalate this both within and outside the House." Singh further criticized the recent demolition of slum settlements in Delhi and demanded accountability.

The opposition's unified stance indicates that the Monsoon session will likely be contentious unless the government takes steps to address these concerns head-on. With national security and electoral transparency at the forefront, the pressure is mounting for the administration to provide clear, public answers.