

KING

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Karnataka CLP to Meet at 4 PM Saturday to Elect D. K. Shivakumar as Leader

New Delhi, Bengaluru: After resigning from the post of Karnataka chief minister, Congress leader Siddaramaiah, accompanied by his son Yathindra, met party president Mallikarjun Kharge and past president Rahul Gandhi in the national capital on Friday. In other related developments, Karnataka governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot accepted Siddaramaiah's resignation, and the Congress has scheduled its legislature party meeting on Saturday evening in Bengaluru to elect the new leader.

Siddaramaiah's meeting with Gandhi at Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi's residence in the national capital is seen as significant because the former Karnataka CM is learnt to have told the former party chief that he has fulfilled his promise of resigning from the chief minister's post, paving the way for a transition in Karnataka. According to sources, Siddaramaiah only met Gandhi, as Mrs Gandhi was not present during the meeting.

At the meeting, Siddaramaiah, it is learnt, discussed his future plans and the formation of the new Karnataka government with Gandhi. He has already declined a Rajya Sabha nomination, offered by the party leadership. He also said that he wants to remain in Karnataka and is not keen on a central role, which the party high command had suggested to him. After the meeting, Kharge, in a post on X, praised Siddaramaiah's contribution to public life, de-



scribing him as a leader committed to social justice, equality and the welfare of marginalised communities.

Siddaramaiah also shared details of the meeting with the Congress top brass on social media and said senior Congress leaders K.J. George, Priyank Kharge and Yathindra were present during the interaction. He also had lunch with Shivakumar during the day. Meanwhile, the Congress legislature party (CLP) meeting to elect its new leader has been scheduled to be held on Saturday evening in Bengaluru to elect the new leader. The meeting is being seen as just a formality, as former Karnataka deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar is expected to be elected the new leader.

Amidst the CLP meeting preparations in Bengaluru, Shivakumar met Kharge in Delhi and sought his blessings by touching his feet before embarking on his new role as the chief minister. After the meeting, Shivakumar told the media, "I am still in the process of meeting leaders. So far, I have met seven leaders... They will take a call on the matter."

Mahalakshmi Smart Cards To Be Launched On June 2

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will launch the Mahalakshmi Smart Cards on June 2, coinciding with Telangana Formation Day, to modernise free bus travel for women in TGSRTC buses. The scheme will first roll out on a pilot basis in one mandal per district. Officials said it will be extended statewide only after technical glitches and operational challenges identified during the pilot phase are resolved. The Mahalakshmi zero-ticket scheme was introduced on December 9, 2023, allowing women to travel free in RTC buses by showing their Aadhaar card. However, manual verification of Aadhaar details by conductors during each trip proved time-consuming. The new smart card system aims to streamline the process and improve transparency.

Each Mahalakshmi Smart Card will feature an embedded chip along with the passenger's name, photograph, QR code, and other key details. The cards will be linked digitally to the user's Aadhaar. Passengers can simply scan the card while boarding, speeding up ticket issuance and making identity verification easier for conductors. Women can apply for the cards at MeeSeva centres or TGSRTC bus pass counters for a nominal fee of Rs.50. Applicants must submit their Aadhaar card, a passport-sized photograph, and a mobile number. Cards will be issued after processing.

Revanth Puts Leaders On High Alert Over SIR

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday sounded a note of caution to the party over the upcoming special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral roll in Telangana, expressing apprehension that the state could face a large-scale deletion of genuine voters as had happened in West Bengal. Revanth Reddy said a dedicated war room was being set up at the TPCC headquarters, Gandhi Bhavan, where party workers could report discrepancies, irregularities or suspected wrongful deletions identified during the SIR. Such developments should also be immediately brought to the notice of the state government, he said.

Addressing the state Congress political affairs committee meeting here, Revanth Reddy urged party leaders to remain vigilant and ensure that the names of genuine voters were not removed from the electoral roll during the SIR. The meeting, which lasted for more than four hours, was attended by ministers, MPs, MLAs, MLCs, senior party leaders, AICC Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan and TPCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud.

The PAC felt that the SIR had helped the BJP secure a landslide victory in the recent West Bengal Assembly elections and warned that a similar situation could arise in Telangana if the Congress



failed to remain alert. Revanth Reddy directed party leaders and workers to closely monitor the activities of booth-level officers (BLOs) involved in the revision process and activate the party's own booth-level network to safeguard voter rights.

Revanth Reddy warned that the SIR could become a major challenge for Lambadas, Adivasis and migrant workers. He pointed out that large numbers of people had migrated from some constituencies and stressed that special care must be taken to ensure that their names were not removed from the voter rolls. He also cautioned that women, Dalits and minorities could face the risk of losing their voting rights if the process was not carefully monitored.

The Chief Minister called for comprehensive awareness among party leaders regarding the problems that could arise from the revision exercise and the remedies available to address them. He welcomed the growing recognition among

Assembly constituencies and 17 Lok Sabha constituencies and insisted that Assembly constituency in-charges must remain stationed in their respective areas. If they functioned effectively, not a single genuine vote would be deleted, he asserted. The Chief Minister announced that he, too, would interact with party workers in the field every 10 days and earmark three days every month specifically for party affairs. "No exemptions should be given to anyone, including myself," he remarked. According to party sources, Revanth Reddy expressed dissatisfaction over the functioning of a few Congress MLAs, observing that they were behaving like "zamindars" and had become increasingly inaccessible to the public. He reportedly remarked that some legislators were focusing more on personal publicity through social media rather than promoting the party and government programmes. Emphasising the growing importance of digital outreach in contemporary politics, the Chief Minister reportedly suggested that the party leadership organise dedicated training programmes for MLAs on the effective use of social media. Such programmes, he said, would help legislators better communicate the government's initiatives, strengthen the party's presence online and improve engagement with the public.

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Yasangi Procurement: No Restrictions on Farmers in Selling Their Produce, Says Uttam

Hyderabad: Civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy clarified that there were no restrictions to farmers and, regardless of targets, they may sell their paddy produce as the state government was ready to buy without any limits. He said Telangana had procured 60 lakh metric tonnes of paddy, accounting for 60 per cent of the country's total yasangi procurement.

He was addressing a press conference along with ministers, Tummala Nageswara Rao, Ponnamp Prabhakar and Mohammed Azharuddin, MPs and senior officials.

Reddy said unlike the previous BRS government, whose inefficiency led to distress sales of 117.83 LMT and a loss of Rs 23,566 crore for farmers, the Congress government had actually procured more grains than the Centre's targets. Uttam Kumar Reddy said that in comparison, AP had procured 24 LMT, Tamil Nadu 11-12 LMT, Maharashtra 3 LMT, and Kerala nearly 2 LMT.

"We have procured 128.17 LMT against the Union government's target of 105.2 LMT in 2024-25 and 146.86 LMT against the target of 112.24 LMT in 2025-26. The MSP paid to farmers was more than three times of that paid during the BRS regime. During these two years we have paid '98,600 crore, in contrast to '1.35 lakh crores during ten years of BRS rule," he explained.

"By the time procurement concludes, Telangana is expected to account for nearly 75 per cent of the country's total yasangi paddy procurement. We are far ahead of



every other state in paddy procurement. We are also the number one state in supplying rice to the Food Corporation of India under the Central pool mechanism," he added.

Expressing concern over the Centre's procurement policy, Reddy said Telangana's paddy production has been increasing steadily year after year since the Congress government assumed office.

He said that the Union government's target for Telangana got shrunk, while production was growing. "Production grew by more than 28 per cent, but the Union government cut the target by 35 per cent from 79 LMT to 51 LMT. Telangana gets the lowest Union government target, only 38 per cent, despite being India's top Rabi procurement state," he explained.

Nageswara Rao and Prabhakar strongly criticised BJP and BRS leaders for what they described as these parties' "politically motivated campaign" over paddy procurement, asserting that the ongoing procurement drive was unparalleled in Telangana's history both in scale and execution.

Telangana Approves 1 Lakh Affordable Housing Flats, 12,000-Unit Pilot Cleared

The state government has granted in-principle approval for the construction of one lakh affordable housing flats under LIG and MIG categories across CURE (Core Urban Region Economy) areas and municipal corporations.

As per G.O. Ms. No. 23 issued by the Transport, Roads & Buildings (Housing) Department, the project will include 70,000 LIG (Low Income Group) and 30,000 MIG (Middle Income Group) flats, aligned with PMAY-Urban 2.0 norms.

The government has also permitted the Telangana Housing Board to take up a pilot project involving 12,000 flats in CURE areas.

Under the scheme, LIG beneficiaries will receive a subsidy of '25 lakh per unit, and the land cost will not be charged to them, being treated as government or board equity. The flats will be registered in the names of eligible beneficiaries along with an undivided share of land.

Authorities have been directed to identify suitable government land after ensuring clear title, land-use compliance and infrastructure feasibility. The Housing Board has also been authorised to issue demand surveys, notifications and operational guidelines for implementation.

The project will be executed without direct budgetary support, using the Housing Board's own resources, and will follow special tendering provisions similar to those adopted for the 2BHK housing scheme.

State Govt Clears All Employee Dues

Hyderabad: The state government on Friday released Rs 2,000 crore to clear pending dues of employees. It has fully cleared pending GPF dues owed to retired employees. Additionally, all commutation dues pending up to May 2025 for retired employees have also been fully settled.

In a media statement, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, holding the finance portfolio, said the Congress government had once again demonstrated its commitment to the welfare of its employees.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Bhatti had earlier assured leaders of the Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC) that long-pending dues of employees amounting to Rs 6,000 crore would be cleared within 100 days. Special chief secretary, finance, Sandeep Kumar Sultania issued orders on Friday, releasing Rs 2,000 crore in the first phase.

"This has been made possible through advance planning and a clear action strategy. As promised, the government is working at a fast pace to deposit the



remaining Rs 4,000 crore into employees' accounts within the stipulated timeline," Bhatti stated.

Saturday 30, May, 2026

INDIA'S SEMICONDUCTOR DREAMS GET A PUSH

Though India aspires to become a global semiconductor hub, it lacks a robust and integrated supply chain for the semiconductor industry, which involves the availability of raw materials, equipment, components, testing facilities, and skilled manpower. It imports all chips, and only a few elements of the semiconductor supply value chain are available indigenously. The complexity and capital intensity of semiconductor manufacturing are major barriers, with a new fab costing over \$1 billion to build. It is here that the cooperation with the Netherlands assumes strategic significance, as the Dutch company ASML is an undisputed global titan of semiconductor lithography equipment and occupies a near-monopoly position in the global chip ecosystem. It is no wonder, then, that cooperation in the semiconductor sector formed the key focus during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to the Netherlands. India's dream of becoming a global chip manufacturing superpower is fundamentally tethered to the goodwill and supply chains of this Dutch enterprise. Without ASML, the mega-fabs currently breaking ground on Indian soil cannot produce most semiconductors. The visit came at a time when semiconductors have become the new geopolitical currency of power, shaping economic competitiveness, military capability, artificial intelligence, and digital sovereignty. With Dutch companies facing increasing restrictions on exports to China under pressure from Washington, India has emerged as an attractive hub because it is a democratic, politically stable, and strategically aligned alternative manufacturing destination within the broader "China-plus-one" framework. Dutch semiconductor firms are actively exploring diversification opportunities outside China, while Indian officials are encouraging the Netherlands to view India as a long-term production and innovation base.

During Modi's visit, Tata Electronics signed an MoU with ASML to support the establishment and ramp-up of its upcoming 300 mm semiconductor fabrication plant in Gujarat's Dholera, marking a giant step in India's semiconductor manufacturing ambitions. The significance of this partnership extends beyond hardware and manufacturing. The Netherlands offers India access to an entire ecosystem of semiconductor innovation involving research universities, photonics clusters, precision engineering firms, and advanced design capabilities. Such collaboration could help India avoid the mistake of becoming merely a low-cost assembly base. Instead, India aims to move up the value chain toward chip design, semiconductor R&D, advanced materials, and AI-integrated manufacturing systems. India's foreign policy has now shifted from traditional diplomacy centred on trade and politics towards what is being called "technology diplomacy". Triggered by widening trade restrictions linked to the ongoing technology rivalry between the US and China, European equipment manufacturers are increasingly looking for stable, neutral territories. India has been aggressively pitching a China-plus-one manufacturing strategy to these suppliers, inviting them to view India as their primary alternative production hub. India's lucrative subsidy programme, which covers up to 50% of project costs from the central government, alongside an additional 20% to 25% from State governments, makes the proposition financially irresistible for the ecosystem of suppliers

Karnataka CLP to Meet at 4 PM Saturday to Elect DK as Leader

Bengaluru: The resignation of Siddaramaiah to the post of Chief Minister has been accepted by Governor Thaaarchand Gehlot on Friday on his return from his visit to Madhya Pradesh. In Governor's absence, Siddaramaiah tendered his resignation letter to Special Secretary to Governor Prabhu Shankar on Thursday.

The resignation tendered by Siddaramaiah stated "I hereby tender my resignation as the Chief Minister of Karnataka. Please accept it."

On accepting the resignation, Governor in a notification stated the resignation tendered by Siddaramaiah has been accepted and the dissolved Council of Ministers headed by him with immediate effect. He, however, said Siddaramaiah shall continue to function as Chief Minister until alternative arrangements are made.

Siddaramaiah on Thursday announced his decision to step down from the post of Chief Minister on the direction of Congress party high command and that his resignation was "voluntary." Immediately after the announcement, Siddaramaiah headed to Lok Bhavan to tender his resignation letter to the Governor who was then unavailable at the headquarters. Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister D.K.



Siddaramaiah is slated to succeed Siddaramaiah as Chief Minister to complete the remaining two-years. Siddaramaiah served as Chief Minister for three years before he resigned.

Congress MLA Allamprabhu Patil on Thursday said "So far he has not received any direction from Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah to convene a CLP meeting to elect a new leader to initiate the process of selection of new Chief Minister."

Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar left Bengaluru to reach New Delhi to hold talks with central leaders to finalise the Council of Ministers, swearing-in ceremony date and to decide on Deputy Chief Minister to be appointed in the new cabinet.

Karnataka developments delay Telangana cabinet expansion, aspirants remain in wait

Political developments in Karnataka have delayed Telangana's cabinet expansion, leaving aspirants for ministerial berths in suspense. With the Congress high command prioritising Karnataka, the Telangana leadership is expected to take up cabinet-related discussions only after the situation stabilises.



Hyderabad: In the wake of developments in the Karnataka Congress, the anxious wait for cabinet berth aspirants in Telangana continues. Given the party high command's focus on Karnataka affairs, leaders in the Telangana believe that those aspiring for Ministerial positions may have to wait a little longer. City & Local Guides

For the past 10 days, the Congress high command has been preoccupied with developments in Karnataka.

Though the leadership issue has been settled and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar is set to take over as Chief Minister, discussions over cabinet changes are expected to continue for some more time.

This is particularly due to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's insistence on accommodating his supporters in the proposed cabinet reshuffle.

Amid these developments, aspirants for cabinet berths in Telangana are expected to remain in wait for a few more days. "For the party high command, Karnataka is now the top priority and Telangana affairs will be handled later," a senior leader from Gandhi Bhavan said.

Policy Address: Kerala Plans Three-Day Menstrual Leave for Schoolgirls

Thiruvananthapuram: Three days of monthly menstrual leave for schoolgirls is among the women and child-friendly initiatives planned by the UDF government in Kerala, along with ensuring that all workplaces with more than 50 employees provide safe, high-quality daycare centres and creches. The women and child-friendly initiatives were part of the policy address of the new VD Sathesan-led government, read out by Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar in the State Assembly on Friday.

"Our commitment to girl students is reflected in Project "Menstrual Dignity", under which we intend to make educational institutions and public spaces friendly for girls and women.

"My Government also plans to announce upto three days of monthly menstrual leave for school students, along with weekend catch-up classes, so that these girls do not fall behind in their studies," said the Governor in the address.

He said the government proposes to put in place Child Care Rules, as mandated under the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 ensuring that all public offices, industrial establishments, IT parks and all establishments with more than 50 employees run safe, high-quality daycare



centres and creches.

The governor said that under the Destitute and Orphan-Free Kerala Initiative, the government plans to promote adoption campaigns and build a network of trained, well-paid foster families based on the Juvenile Justice Act, aiming to make Kerala India's first "orphan-free" state.

"My Government will transform Kerala into the most woman-friendly State in the country. Steps will be taken to implement equal pay for women in workplaces. Public restroom facilities will be arranged in all major towns across Kerala," he said.

The governor said special benefits will be extended to women working in the unorganised sector, and six months of maternity leave will be granted to women employed in the unorganised sector.

"Steps will be taken to make sanitary napkins, footwear and other necessities available to women," he said.

Jailed for Protesting Against Belt Shops?

- A Fight for Justice, Not a Crime
- People's Voice Cannot Be Silenced: RS Praveen Kumar
- BRS Leaders' Arrest Sparks Massive Outrage
- Midnight Jail Transfer Without Station Bail Raises Serious Questions
- Belt Shops Accused of Destroying Rural Families and Youth
- Police Conduct Under Fire as Complaints Reach Higher Authorities
- BRS Vows Relentless Fight Until Justice is Delivered

Hyderabad, May 29:

BRS General Secretary RS Praveen Kumar has strongly condemned the alleged illegal arrest and imprisonment of BRS



leaders who protested against belt shops in defense of public welfare. He accused the government of suppressing democratic voices and targeting those who are standing up for the safety and well-being of rural communities.

Addressing the media, Praveen Kumar said the people of Telangana, particularly women and families in villages, are united in their opposition to belt shops. He stressed that no family wants alcohol addiction to destroy their homes.

"Wherever we go, people clearly say they do not want belt shops in their villages. Our mothers, sisters, and elders are asking the same question — who wants their husbands or children to consume alcohol? No family wants this poison to enter their homes," he said.

He described the spread of the 90 ml liquor culture as a dangerous social menace that is slowly consuming village life.

"This 90 ml culture has spread like an epidemic. Alcohol is poison. It destroys homes, shatters relationships, and pushes young people toward self-destruction. Entire rural communities are suffering because of it," he said.

Praveen Kumar said local youth themselves had demanded the removal of belt shops and were determined to protect their villages from this destructive influence.

He alleged that despite this genuine public concern, the police chose to file false cases against BRS workers instead of acting against those running illegal liquor outlets.

According to him, the FIR falsely accused BRS activists of entering a liquor counter, assaulting people, and attempting to seize Rs.90,000.

However, he pointed out that all the sections mentioned in the FIR were bailable at the police station level, making the subsequent arrest procedure highly questionable.

"If the sections were bailable, why was station bail not granted? Why were they taken directly before a magistrate at 2 a.m.? This was clearly done with malicious intent," he questioned.

He alleged that the late-night court production was a deliberate strategy to deny legal representation.

"At that hour, no lawyer would be available. The intention was obvious — to ensure they were sent to jail immediately. This was not law enforcement; it was abuse of power," he said.

Praveen Kumar further stated that he personally questioned police officials regarding the matter.

"When I asked them directly, they admitted that the activists were indeed protesting against the belt shop. If that is true, why were cases not registered against the belt shop operators? Why were those raising public concerns targeted instead?" he asked.

He also alleged that police officials failed to even properly acknowledge complaints filed against the belt shop operators.

"The complaints submitted against those operating the belt shops were not even formally accepted. Not a single signature was taken. This clearly reflects institutional bias and selective action," he alleged.

He said he, along with Janardhan Reddy, held discussions with the DSP, SI, and other senior police officials regarding the incident.

Praveen Kumar made it clear that the issue would be escalated to the highest levels of the administration and that the BRS would continue its agitation until strict action is taken against those responsible.

"We will not remain silent. We will take this matter to senior authorities, and we will continue our struggle until justice is done and those responsible are held accountable," he said.

He emphasized that the movement against belt shops is not a political campaign but a broader social struggle aimed at protecting rural society.

"This is not about politics. This is about safeguarding families, protecting women, and saving the future of our youth. Belt shops are weakening the social fabric of villages," he said.

AP Aims To Emerge As Major Textile Hub: Giriraj Singh

Vijayawada: Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh on Friday said the Centre would extend full support to develop Andhra Pradesh into a major textile manufacturing hub, while emphasising the need to improve cotton productivity and promote advanced textile manufacturing in the state. The Union minister arrived

here on Friday on a two-day stay in Andhra Pradesh and visited the Spintex India unit at Mallavalli Industrial Park in Bapulapadu mandal of Krishna district. State textiles minister S. Savitha and Spintex India managing director Vallabhaneni Sudhakar Chowdary received the Union minister at the industrial unit.

Giriraj Singh held discussions with industrialists on establishing silk and textile-related industries in AP. Addressing the media, Singh said he would hold discussions with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu on ways to develop AP into a prominent textile manufacturing state. Andhra Pradesh, he noted, has the potential to perform



strongly in various industrial sectors and stressed the need to improve cotton productivity.

“Globally, cotton yield averages nearly 2,000 kg per hectare, while India produces only around 450 kg per hectare. We need focused policies on seeds and modern cultivation practices to substantially improve cotton production,” he said. The Union minister said AP was already recognised for

its handloom sector and that the Centre recently approved one textile cluster for the state, while another cluster proposal was under consideration. Coordinated efforts by the Centre and the state government were necessary to strengthen the handloom sector further. Stating that the Centre aimed to make Andhra

Pradesh a major destination for both handlooms and modern textiles, Giriraj Singh said technical textiles were witnessing rapid global expansion. He cited emerging opportunities in sectors such as glass fibre, carbon fibre and graphene. Singh would inaugurate a glass fibre unit in Visakhapatnam on Saturday.

AP Eyes Global Leadership in Green Energy Sector: CM Naidu

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has said Andhra Pradesh aims to emerge as a global hub for green energy, digital transformation and cyber security.

Reviewing the power sector performance at the secretariat on Friday, he directed the officials to accelerate development of power infrastructure and renewable energy projects.

The Chief Minister was informed that proposals worth nearly Rs 22,000 crore had been prepared under the Green Energy Corridor Phase-III to connect around 18gw of green energy to the main power grid. The proposed capacity in-

cludes 11gw of solar power and around 7gw of pumped storage projects.

To support the integration, the government would lay 2,261km of transmission lines and establish five major pooling stations with a combined capacity of 9,500mw at Mudigubba, Talupula, Ramayapatnam, Porumamilla and Koppaka.

Naidu said Andhra Pradesh had set a target of generating 160gw of green energy and stressed the need to build future-ready infrastructure. He noted that the Green Energy Corridor would support upcoming data centres and improve investment opportunities.

The review also covered implementation of the PM Surya Ghar and PM-KUSUM schemes and progress in solarisation of government buildings. Officials informed the CM that solarisation works for government buildings with a capacity of 200mw had commenced under the RESCO model with net metering systems. As part of a pilot initiative, 78 Gurukul schools and hostels in Chittoor district have been selected for solarisation. In addition, 2,898



schools and hostels across the state have been identified for conversion into Net Zero and healthy campuses, they said.

The chief minister directed the officials to speed up installation of solar panels in all government

buildings, hostels and schools. Greater use of solar energy would significantly reduce the electricity burden on the state.

Officials informed the CM that Andhra Pradesh currently ranks fourth in implementation of the PM Surya Ghar scheme. Naidu instructed the departments to strive for the top position.

It was noted that solar panels had been installed in 1,35,821 SC and ST households. The CM said the remaining eligible households should be covered by the end of August. Under a subsidy programme for BC communities, the government aims to install rooftop solar systems in 10 lakh homes with Rs 20,000 subsidy support.

Naidu instructed officials to accelerate establishment of EV charging infrastructure across the state. Officials said work had commenced for 577 EV charging stations at 131 locations.

During the review, officials briefed the CM on initiatives being undertaken with support from Pravah, an organisation associated with Stanford University, and an Artificial Intelligence Lab to reduce technical power losses in the APEPDCL

region. AP is also developing the country's first Digital Twin Grid for power supply management, they said.

WEF delegation: A delegation from the World Economic Forum met the chief minister to discuss the implementation roadmap for the country's first Thematic Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) in Andhra Pradesh. The centre will undertake studies in green energy, energy transition and cyber resilience.

The CM directed the officials to ensure the C4IR delivers measurable results and said Andhra Pradesh's progress should be showcased at the next Davos summit.

Set Hard Deadlines for Infra Projects, Leverage RTC Assets: Andhra Pradesh CM Naidu

AMARAVATI: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Friday directed officials to fast-track major infrastructure projects across the state by fixing clear deadlines and ensuring strict adherence to timelines.

Reviewing the progress of the Investments and Infrastructure (I&I) Department and the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) at the Secretariat, the Chief Minister said delays in crucial projects such as ports, airports, and fishing harbours would no longer be acceptable.

Naidu reviewed the status of major port projects, including Mulapeta, Ramayapatnam, and Machilipatnam, along with fishing harbour works at Juvaladinne, Nizampatnam, and Machilipatnam. He asked officials to adopt a mission-mode approach from approvals and technical clearances to tenders and execution.

Pointing out that the government had already announced completion schedules for irrigation projects, Naidu said the same discipline should be followed in the infrastructure sec-



tor. He said industrial projects were being pushed to start operations within 18 months and infrastructure development should move with similar urgency.

The Chief Minister asked departments to focus on removing hurdles, arranging funds, and ensuring that projects do not remain stuck for years.

During the review, Naidu also discussed the progress of proposed airports at Dagadarthi, Kuppam, and Srikakulam. Officials were instructed to speed up land acquisition, mobilise financial resources, and pursue pending approvals with the Centre.

The meeting also reviewed plans to expand electric mobility in public transport, including procurement of more electric buses for APSRTC.

Focusing on strengthening the transport corporation, Naidu directed officials to prepare a long-term strategy to improve its financial position. He suggested effective utilisation and commercial development of vacant RTC lands and assets to create additional revenue sources.

Fresh Steps to Stabilise Essentials' Prices in AP



VIJAYAWADA: The state government has initiated more steps to check price rise and ensure essential commodities remain available to people at affordable prices.

Civil supplies minister Nadendra Manohar said on Friday that he directed officials to continuously monitor fluctuations in prices and take corrective steps to prevent undue burden on consumers. There have been frequent hikes in prices across the board as traders took advantage of the shipping disruptions and fuel price hikes.

The minister was speaking after the eighth meeting of the ministerial committee on price stabilisation held at the secretariat. Finance minister Payyavula Keshav and agriculture minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu also attended the meeting.

Officials reviewed the demand and the prevailing wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities, including pulses, rice, edible oils, tomatoes and onions.

Manohar said the state government was fully prepared to contain the Iran war's impact and would protect consumers.

He noted that edible oil prices had increased across the country and assured

that the government would take all necessary measures to ensure availability of cooking oils at reasonable prices in AP.

The ministers said the agriculture and civil supplies departments were jointly preparing advance plans for the forthcoming Kharif-2026 season. Special awareness programmes would be conducted to encourage farmers to cultivate priority paddy varieties with better market demand.

They pointed out that farmers were facing difficulties during procurement due to cultivation of low-demand paddy varieties. In particular, varieties such as 1010 and PR-126 were yielding a high percentage of broken rice, making them less suitable for consumption and resulting in losses to farmers.

The ministers said field-level officials had been instructed to create awareness among farmers on the issue. Clear guidelines had also been issued to departments for preventive measures over the next three months to keep prices under control.

Ex-officio special chief secretary Budithi Rajasekhar, civil supplies commissioner K. Kannababu, civil supplies corporation managing director Dilli Rao, oil fed MD Balaji Naik and others were present.

TD'S 33% QUOTA FOR WOMEN IN LEGISLATURES A HISTORIC MOVE



VIJAYAWADA: Andhra Pradesh home minister Vangalapudi Anitha on Friday described the Telugu Desam's decision to provide 33 per cent reservation for women in legislative bodies as a significant step towards women's political empowerment.

Addressing the media in Amaravati, she said the party, since its inception, had remained committed to women's empowerment and aimed to transform women from voters into decision-makers and leaders.

The minister said former chief minister N.T. Rama Rao had introduced several reforms for women, including equal rights in family property,

and had supported women's participation in politics and governance through reservations in local bodies.

She said these measures enabled a large number of women to enter public life as elected representatives.

Anitha said Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu further strengthened women's economic empowerment through DWCRAs groups, enabling rural women to become financially independent.

She added that the government was also encouraging women to take up entrepreneurship and become job creators.

Referring to the Mahanadu resolution on 33 per cent reservation for women in legislatures, the minister said the decision would mark a new phase in women's political participation and leadership.

She said the large turnout of women at the Mahanadu despite high temperatures reflected their confidence in the party and reiterated the TD's commitment to women's safety, dignity, economic development and political representation.

750 ELECTRIC BUSES TO HIT AP ROADS SOON UNDER PM E-BUS SCHEME

VIJAYAWADA: Andhra Pradesh is set to witness a major transformation in its public transport system with the introduction of 750 electric buses across 11 cities under the Prime Minister Electric Bus Seva scheme.

In this regard, union Rural Development and Communications minister of state Pemmasani Chandrasekhar chaired a review meeting with officials of APSRTC, AP Transco and power utilities at his camp office in Guntur on Friday to discuss the implementation plan of the project. The electric mobility initiative is jointly backed by the central and state governments to modernise urban transport, reduce pollution,



and provide commuters with eco-friendly and comfortable travel facilities.

At the meeting, officials pointed out that Andhra Pradesh has been sanctioned a total of 750 electric buses. Among them, 621 buses are of 12-metre length with a seating capacity of 35+1. Another 129 buses are of nine-metre length whose seating capacity is 25+1.

The buses will be distributed across major urban centres, with Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Guntur and Nellore receiving 100 buses each. Kurnool, Kakinada, Rajamahendravaram, Kadapa, Amaravati, Tirupati, and Anantapur will receive 50 buses each.

Officials discussed infrastructure requirements, charging stations, power sup-

ply arrangements, and depot facilities required for operation of the electric buses.

AP Transco officials submitted reports on the electricity load capacity and charging infrastructure readiness.

Pemmasani Chandrasekhar directed officials to expedite all procedures and ensure that the buses are running by the end of 2026.

For creating the EV infrastructure, Guntur has been sanctioned ₹27.49 crore, ₹16.3 crore for civil works and ₹11.19 crore for electrical infrastructure. Mangalagiri has also been allotted funds for creating the civil and electrical infrastructure for the e-buses allotted to it.

Russia Seeks More Indian Students, Stronger Education Ties



New Delhi: Russian ambassador to India Denis Alipov on Thursday called for strengthening education ties with India and urged more Indian students to pursue higher studies in Russia. He was speaking at the India-Russia Education Summit in New Delhi, attended by representatives of over 30 Russian universities. Highlighting Russia's academic strengths, Alipov said, "Russia's long-standing academic traditions and accessible, high-quality education have made its universities a preferred destination for Indian students for generations. Thousands of Indian graduates who studied in Russia have gone on to contribute across various sectors in India, serving as enduring bridges of friendship between the two countries. Russia's education system is known for its strong scientific schools, rigorous academic

standards, practical training, and expertise in fields such as engineering, medicine, artificial intelligence, nuclear science, industrial innovation, and advanced research."

He said Russia currently hosts around 300,000 international students, including nearly 40,000 from India, and aims to increase the number to 500,000 by 2030. "The continued growth of academic exchanges, joint research initiatives, and university partnerships between Russia and India is creating new opportunities for students and scholars while fostering innovation and addressing global challenges," he said. The remarks come amid ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine and ahead of the proposed visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin to India for the BRICS Summit in September. The event focused on expanding academic collaboration and student mobility between the two countries.

Telangana's Kazipet Rail Manufacturing Unit to be Operational Soon: Vaishnaw



New Delhi: Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday reviewed the progress of the Kazipet rail manufacturing unit in Telangana and expressed satisfaction, saying that the versatile railway rolling stock manufacturing unit will soon be operational with the production of intercity trains.

"To begin with, Kazipet will manufacture 200 intercity trains over the next five years," Vaishnaw said.

Officials said these trains will be deployed across the country for short-distance travel of up to 300 km, with frequent stops. Each trip will include multiple halts, enabling citizens to commute conveniently between towns and cities.

"Whether students travelling to nearby towns for higher education or common people commuting for healthcare and work-related needs, these trains will provide a new affordable option for intercity travel," the Ministry said.

"These intercity trains will function like shuttle services connecting adjacent towns across India. With the production of these trains, a significant amount of local traffic is likely to shift from roads to railways," it added.

Speaking about the features, officials said the intercity trains will be equipped with modern facilities such as automatic door closing systems, superior ventilation, and a safe coach design with a 20-coach configuration.

"In addition, these intercity trains will feature modern jerk-free couplers and bogies. These trains will be designed to run at a speed of 130 kmph," they added.

The railway ministry also highlighted the trains' unique energy-efficient features, stating that they will have regenerative braking technology. This means that when the trains apply the brakes, they will generate electricity and feed the regenerated power back into the grid.

"This is a greener mode of transport and will result in significantly lower carbon emissions compared to road transport," the ministry said.

"The introduction of such a large fleet by the Railways will enhance green and clean transport capacity across the country," it added.

EV Buses Roll Out To Clean Hyderabad Air

Hyderabad: Telangana took a major step towards cleaner transport on Wednesday, with Transport minister Ponnababbar Prabhakar flagging off 60 electric buses at the Kukatpally depot. The rollout is part of 500 buses being inducted into TGSRTC, aimed at serving new colonies along the Outer Ring Road and cutting urban pollution. Prabhakar announced that 2,200 more electric buses would soon be added. Of the 10,000 buses in the RTC fleet, 1,000 are already electric. "We are operating 960 electric buses initially, of which 580 are on inter-city routes. If we expand to 3,000, carbon dioxide emissions can be cut by 600 tonnes," he said.

The state has introduced policies to curb vehicular emissions, including rebates of up to 20 per cent on EV purchases for government employees, which has boosted sales. The flagging-off ceremony was attended by Madhavaram Krishna Rao MLA, Naveen MLC, Medchal district collector Manu Chaudhary, TSRTC managing director Nagi Reddy and other officials. Diesel commercial and private vehicles remain major contributors to nitrogen oxides and particulate matter, with activists repeatedly warning of deteriorating air quality.

TGSRTC figures show that 35 lakh passengers use RTC services daily in the Twin Cities. Addressing the gathering, Prabhakar said, "We launched these buses with the noble objective of reducing pollution and with the aim of deploying electric buses across the network by 2027. Electric vehicles were introduced to ensure Hyderabad does not face the severe pollution issues currently plaguing Delhi. Everyone is aware of the impact of petrol and diesel prices on public transport."

He noted that reforms had been introduced since the Congress government assumed office. "Currently, we are operating 545 electric buses in Hyderabad. Under a Central Government scheme, we will add 2,200 more across the state," he said. Plans are also under way to expand the Kukatpally depot, with instructions issued to officials to propose a new facility on a five-acre plot. On employee issues, Prabhakar said, "We will meet RTC unions immediately after the elections to understand and address their concerns. A hearing will be held on the second Tuesday of every month to listen to grievances."

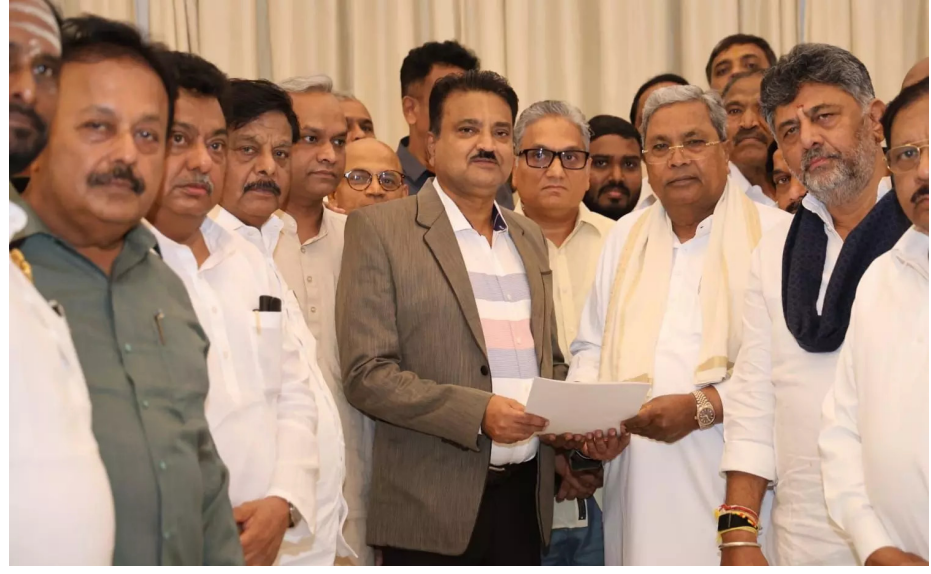
Siddaramaiah Quits as CM, DKS to Take Charge

Ending days of suspense and the power struggle,

Mr Siddaramaiah on Thursday finally relented and resigned from the post of chief minister of Karnataka, paving way for his deputy Mr D.K. Shivakumar to take charge from him. Accompanied by Mr Shivakumar and other ministers of his cabinet, Mr Siddaramaiah handed over his resignation to the special secretary of Governor Mr Thawarchand Gehlot who was out of station at that time.

Shortly after that, both Mr Siddaramaiah and Mr Shivakumar dashed to New Delhi to hold discussions with the Congress high command with regard to the formation of a new cabinet under the new CM. Sources said Mr Siddaramaiah's son Yathindra and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's son Priyank may be among the four deputy chief ministers likely to be placed under Mr Shivakumar. The oath ceremony for the new CM is expected to be on Sunday.

Mr Siddaramaiah's resignation was part of the Congress "rotational power sharing formula" in the state, finalised in May 2023, under which he and Mr Shivakumar had to share the CM's



post for 2.5 years each. However, with Mr Siddaramaiah's reluctance after three years and mounting pressure from Mr Sivakumar camp the Congress top brass had to step in to resolve the political crisis in the state and the CM was asked to step aside. Karnataka will go for assembly polls in 2028. The 78-year-old was the longest serving CM of Karnataka and during his second term as the CM, Mr Siddaramaiah surpassed the record of veteran Congress leader Mr Devaraj Urs.

"Today, I went to Raj Bhavan and submitted my resignation letter as Chief Minister to the Governor's special officers in his absence. I, who was born and raised in a village, never even dreamed that one day I would become the ruler, minister, leader of the

opposition, and twice the Chief Minister of this state... In my thirty-eight years of political life, I feel a sense of fulfillment from having worked honestly for the state's deprived, exploited, and poor people. I am eternally indebted to the party's legislators who selected me as the leader of the legislative party and provided me the opportunity to serve the people as Chief Minister until now; to my cabinet colleagues who worked shoulder to shoulder with me; to the party's senior leaders Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge who gave me this opportunity; and to the warm-hearted Kannadigas who filled my political life with love, admired me, and guided me hand in hand until here... My resignation is limited only to the post of

Chief Minister, not to active politics. Until my last breath, I will continue to fight for social justice and against forces of communalism that oppose the Constitution," Mr Siddaramaiah posted on X.

Prior to his resignation, the outgoing CM hosted a breakfast meeting for his ministers including Mr Shivakumar, where he announced the decision to quit. Mr Shivakumar hugged and touched his feet. "We have no difference and we stand united," said Mr Siddaramaiah about his deputy.

Later, addressing media Mr Siddaramaiah said he is out of CM office but not from politics. He clarified that the decision to step down was as per the direction of the Congress high command. He later reached Delhi to meet Congress top brass.

"The high command directed me two days ago to step down, and accordingly I submitted my resignation today. I got the opportunity to serve the people of Karnataka twice, for which I thank Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge," he said.

Mr Siddaramaiah ruled out his entry into national politics and stated he will confine himself to state politics since has two-years as an MLA to serve people and the state. "I was offered a Rajya Sabha berth by the high command during a meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday wherein the offer was politely declined. I will continue in active politics and continue to fight communal forces. I am a firm believer in the Constitution and till my last breath I will continue my fight against communal forces and forces against the Constitution," he said.

Mr Siddaramaiah further said that during his political career spanning five decades, he never went after power or money adding his life was an open chapter. "I never compromised with my values and ideologies. Only a leader who enjoys people's support can sustain in public life," a visibly emotional Siddaramaiah said.

Pradhan, Rahul Clash Over CBSE Evaluation Row

New Delhi: Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Thursday traded charges over alleged irregularities in the CBSE examination process. The exchange followed Gandhi's demand for an independent judicial probe and a Special Investigation Team into what he termed an "entire scam" in the evaluation system. He also alleged that a firm with a controversial background was awarded a contract for digital evaluation of answer scripts.

Responding, Pradhan accused Gandhi of politicising the issue and said he appeared "frustrated" due to electoral setbacks. "But as far as Rahul Gandhi is concerned, he seems to have reached a different state of mind. Due to continuous electoral defeats, he appears frustrated. He opposed SIR, he used to oppose EVMs, and he opposed Digital India. He does not seem to stand with India's scientific progress," he said.

The minister said CBSE's actions



were in line with government procurement policy and assured that any irregularities would be addressed. "As far as this issue is concerned, I take responsibility on behalf of the government for any inconvenience, and I request everyone that this is not the time for politics. I have said this earlier as well. Politics can be done later," he said. Gandhi responded, "Dharmendra Pradhan ji, you can attack me all you want, but it won't absolve you of your crimes. Nor will it stop me from demanding answers for 18.5 lakh children."

In a post on X, he questioned the awarding of the CBSE On-Screen Marking (OSM) contract to a firm he identified as COEMPT, and asked, "On whose orders was it done? Why were no background checks done? What is the connection between COEMPT's management and the

Modi government?" He added, "Either you ran a background check and went ahead anyway - or you didn't run one at all. Either way, you are complicit."

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh also criticised the minister, alleging mismanagement in the education sector. Earlier, Pradhan said certain issues had emerged in the Class 12 evaluation process and that re-evaluation would be undertaken. He said about 17 lakh students appeared for the examination and that nearly 98 lakh answer scripts, amounting to around 40 crore scanned pages, were evaluated through the OSM system. Describing OSM as a "progressive and student-centric" system, he said it enhances transparency by allowing students to access scanned copies of their answer sheets. He acknowledged discrepancies and said corrective measures would be taken to address concerns. The issue centres on the CBSE's digital evaluation system, with the government maintaining that safeguards are in place while the opposition has sought an independent probe.

Harish Urges TGERC To Reject Govt's Rythu Discom Proposal

Hyderabad: Former minister and senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao on Wednesday demanded that the Telangana Electricity Regulatory Commission (TGERC) reject the government's application for creating a third power distribution company (discom) to serve farmers. In a letter to TGERC, Harish Rao, listing out the reasons why the application for a licence to start the 'Rythu discom' should be rejected, said to start with there was no demand for such an entity from farmers, or any other section of the society.

He said the commission should be aware that the government was putting pressure on it announcing that the new discom will begin operations on June 2, even before the public hearing process is completed. There



was also no cabinet sub-committee recommendation for the third discom. Urging the commission to hold widespread public hearings in all districts, Harish Rao expressed serious concerns over manpower shortages in the proposed discom. He said the government claims that nearly 29 lakh agricultural consumers in 32 districts and 584

mandals would be managed with only 2,000 employees, including barely 1,000 field staff such as linemen and artisans. "How can such limited staff maintain 5.5 lakh transformers and 2.6 lakh kilometres of LT lines?" Harish Rao asked. Harish Rao said that the GO No. 44 that declared the intention to set up the new distribution company, admitted that the existing two discoms were under financial stress due to the gap between billing rates and cost of service. This makes it clear that the third discom is financially driven and not meant for farmers' welfare

Treat rowdy sheeters strictly Warangal Police Commissioner Sunpreet Singh

Warangal Bureau; The Warangal Police Commissioner has directed the officers to act with a repressive attitude towards rowdy sheeters who commit illegal acts and cause trouble to the common people. As part of the monthly crime review meeting, a crime review meeting was held under the auspices of the Warangal Police Commissioner at Kits Kalasha on Friday. In this meeting, which was attended by police officers from the Warangal Police Commissionerate, the Police Commissioner first mentioned issues related to law and order and said that one hundred percent of the rowdy sheeters should be present in the counseling organized for rowdy sheeters within the limits of each police station. Once every month, the station officers will have to personally visit the houses of the rowdy sheeters and check them. In this regard, I have instructed the Police Commissioner to inquire into their status and collect details on the movements of rowdy sheeters who were not present during the inspection period. As part of maintaining peace and security in crime control, belt shops should be closed at night, and



if they do not do so, cases should be registered or binders should be made, especially the responsibility of closing shops at fixed times lies with the concerned station officer, areas with heavy traffic at night should be identified and patrolled intensively, henceforth legal action should be taken against those who celebrate birthdays on the roads at night, and to curb thefts, the local police should collect details of those who come from other areas and work in houses and other business establishments, as well as details related to the management of hostels. The Police Commissioner made several suggestions on the performance of the officers and warned that every police station officer should be available to the public from 9 am onwards, and that departmental action should be taken if the officers are negligent in arresting criminals. The Warangal Police Commissioner said that if a two-wheeler is stolen, a case should be registered immediately, and that the officers should review the performance of patrolling vehicles at the field level. If you do justice to your job, you will have done justice to the people.

Later, the Police Commissioner inquired from the concerned officers about the pending cases, arrest of criminals, progress of investigation in cases, steps being taken within the station limits to control crime, and steps taken by the officers to overcome traffic problems.

DCPs Akinth Kumar, Dara Kavitha, Rajamahendra Nayak, Additional DCPs Ravi, Prabhakar Rao, Balaswamy, Suresh Kumar, along with ACPs, Inspectors, and SIs participated in this meeting.

Mokshith Secures Place in Genius World Record

Earlier entered Guinness Book.. now achieves another rare feat
Becomes part of world record through simultaneous piano performance



Bhadradi Kothagudem District Representative, May 29:: Shetty Mokshith Rishi Nihar, a young boy from Venkatapuram village of Kukunoor mandal, has once again earned international recognition with his extraordinary talent. He became part of a Guinness World Record achievement by participating in a simultaneous piano music performance, bringing pride to his village and district.

Currently studying in 9th class, Mokshith has been showcasing exceptional talent in music from a very young age and winning appreciation from all quarters. He is the second son of journalist couple Gopi and Mary from Venkatapuram village.

In February this year, Mokshith participated in a massive music event held in Hyderabad. Around 2,000 musicians from several countries across the world took part in the programme and created a world record through a simultaneous piano performance.

Mokshith displayed remarkable piano skills during the event and earned special recognition for his performance.

Recently, at a special programme conducted in Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Mokshith received the Genius World Record certificate from International Music School chairman Augustine Dandangi. Several dignitaries congratulated him on his achievement.

Notably, Mokshith had already secured a place in the Guinness Book of World Records last year. By continuously earning recognition at the global level, he is proving his immense talent and dedication to music.

Teachers, villagers, and public representatives expressed hope that the young talent, who is moving forward with dedication and constant practice, would achieve even greater heights in the future.

People said that Mokshith's achievement is a matter of pride not only for Venkatapuram village but also for the entire Bhadradi Kothagudem district. They expressed confidence that the young boy, who gained international recognition at such a young age, would bring even more fame to the district in the coming years.

Not Rythu Bandhu... It's a Betrayal Bondhu": Rega Kantha Rao Fires at Congress Government

BRS workers who trusted Congress are now regretting their decision

Manuguru Representative: Bhadradi Kothagudem District BRS President Rega Kantha Rao launched a sharp attack on the Congress government, accusing it of betraying farmers in the name of welfare. He alleged that the Congress, which came to power promising support to farmers, is now deceiving the very community it claimed to protect. He criticized the Rythu Bandhu scheme, saying it has now turned into a "Dagabandhu" (betrayal scheme), and strongly targeted Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.

Speaking at a media conference held on Friday, Rega Kantha Rao said the Congress government had abandoned all the promises made before the elections and was misleading the public. He alleged that while the govern-



ment claims to provide investment support to farmers, in reality it is pushing them deeper into debt through political drama.

"BRS workers who left the party and joined Congress are now holding their heads in regret. They have realized that there is neither respect nor a future for them in Congress. The doors of BRS will always remain open for our

old party workers," he stated.

He further said that the previous BRS government had brought crores of rupees in development funds for the Pinapaka constituency, but the present rulers were unable even to utilize those funds properly. Instead of focusing on development, Congress leaders are only busy criticizing the previous government, he alleged.

Rega Kantha Rao also claimed that no section of society — farmers, youth, unemployed people, or women — is happy under Congress rule. He warned that the people who were "deceived" into supporting Congress would soon teach the party a strong lesson.

Several BRS leaders and party workers participated in the meeting in large numbers.

Strict action against smoking in public places

People should be made aware of the harmful effects of tobacco products
Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai

Warangal Bureau : Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai said that legal action should be taken against those who smoke in public places.

On Friday, the District Collector conducted a meeting of the National Tobacco Control Act District Coordination Committee organized under the auspices of the District Medical Health Department as part of the National Tobacco Control Program at the District Collectorate Mini Conference Hall.

Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector advised the officials to create widespread awareness among the people about the serious health problems caused by the use of tobacco and tobacco products. According to government regulations, the sale of cigarettes, gutka and other tobacco products is prohibited within 100 meters of schools and strict action should be taken against those who violate the rules.

Stating that smoking is prohibited in temples, schools, parks, government offices and other public places, he ordered the relevant officials to take legal action against those who violate the law.

Awareness of the public on the ill effects

He suggested that rallies, awareness seminars and campaign programs be organized to involve the youth on the ill effects of tobacco consumption. The Collector stated that smoking in public places also has a serious impact on those in the vicinity.



He instructed the officials to take up widespread awareness programs in the district to mark the World Tobacco Control Day to be held on the 31st of this month.

Speaking on the occasion, renowned cardiologist and founder of Srinivasa Heart Foundation, Dr. Ramakrishna Srinivas, suggested that curricula be designed to make students aware of the ills caused by tobacco right from the school level. He asked that prohibited boards be installed in government offices, commercial establishments, industrial areas and public places. He opined that there is a need to control tobacco cultivation in the district.

District Medical and Health Department Officer Dr. A. Appaiah disclosed details about the tobacco control programs being undertaken in the district.

District Rural Development Officer Mena Srinu, District Industries Department General Manager Naveen Kumar, GWMC Chief Medical Officer Dr. Raja Reddy, District Intermediate Education Officer Gopal, NCD Program Officer Dr. Srinivas, District Transport Officer Venugopal, Girl Child Development Officer Sunitha, Excise Superintendent Chandrasekhar, representatives of various NGOs, police officers and others participated in this meeting.

Grain procurement should be expedited

Warangal District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada

Warangal Bureau : District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada has instructed the officials to expedite the process of grain procurement in Warangal district and immediately move the purchased paddy to the rice mills.

In a review held at the District Collectorate Conference Hall on Friday, District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada, Additional Collector G. Sandhya Ramugur, along with rice millers, contractors, Mandal APMs (DRDAs) and Nodal Officers (DCOs) held a meeting.

On this occasion, it was suggested that the grain procurement should be completed on time as per the orders issued by the government.

He ordered that the purchased grain should be moved to the rice mills immediately without delay and that the millers should import the grain immediately so that the farmers do not face any difficulties.

Instructions were given to the concerned in-charges to expedite the OPMS process so



that farmers are paid on time.

The officials were instructed to take preventive measures to ensure that there is no shortage of grain bags or transport vehicles anywhere in the district. ZP CEO Ram Reddy, Warangal Narsampet RDO Suma Umarani, District Transport Officer Shobhan Babu, DMCS Sandhyarani, DCSO, Kishtiaiah, Tahsildars and concerned officials participated in this meeting.

After the meeting, District Collector Dr. Satya Sarada, Additional Collector G Sandhyarani and concerned officials inspected the Bollikunta PPC Center. Instructions were issued to the concerned officials to move the grain bags stored in the PPC to the mills by tomorrow. The District Collector was accompanied by the concerned department officials and farmers.

Inetum launches Inetum India, in partnership with AIONOS, to accelerate delivery capabilities and support international growth

Hyderabad, May 28, 2026 – Inetum, a leading European digital services company, announces the launch of Inetum India, a strategic initiative powered by AIONOS, an AI-native technology leader in India. This initiative aims to strengthen Inetum's delivery capabilities, particularly in the EUROMED region (France, Belgium), Growing Markets one (Bulgaria, Poland and UKI) and to support its international growth trajectory.

Jacques Pommeraud, Chairman and CEO of Inetum, commented: "With this project, we are building much more than offshore capacity: we are laying the foundations of a new growth accelerator for Inetum. By leveraging AIONOS to structure and rapidly scale Inetum India, we are choosing a demanding model: a capability center designed from the outset to integrate artificial intelligence at the core of delivery. Our ambition is clear: to deliver more value, faster, to our clients."

"We are proud to be Inetum's exclusive partner in establishing Inetum India, and the mandate reflects exactly the kind of engagement AIONOS was built for," said CP Gurnani, Co-Founder & Vice Chairman, AIONOS. "We are bringing our full AI-native capability that includes our people, our technology stack, and our delivery IP; to architect a centre that operates with intelligence embedded at its core. Built on strong foundations of operational continuity, progressive capacity ramp-up, and closeteam integration, Inetum India is designed from the grounds up to be a global, scalable, AI-powered delivery engine that will serve Inetum's clients with a level of speed and precision that traditional models simply cannot match."

A growth lever serving international markets

Inetum India aims to:



- Expand Inetum's delivery capabilities to support growth across Inetum EUROMED and Growing Markets.

- Enhance competitiveness and the ability to address large-scale global programs,
- Access top-tier technology talent, particularly in artificial intelligence,

- Support business development through increased scalability.

Designed to serve as a key driver of growth, this model enables Inetum to align business development with delivery capacity: the more new contracts the Group wins, the better equipped it is to handle and grow them through its entity in India.

Hemant LAMBA, CEO of Inetum Solutions added: "The Inetum India initiative is a strategic milestone that strengthens our Inetum Solutions capabilities at scale and reinforce our COBORGT framework initiative. With this unique model that combines the best AI and technical expertise, local agility, and client proximity, we are accelerating our ability to deliver high-value, end-to-end solutions to our clients worldwide."

Indira women's power building to be ready for inauguration by June 2: District Collector Koy Sri Harsha

District Collector inspecting work of Indira women's power building under construction at Raaghavapur

Peddapalli Correspondant May 29: The work of the Indira Women's Power district-level building that is being constructed by the government at Nautana in Raaghavapur Mandala was examined by the district collector Koay Sri Harsha on Friday. On the occasion, the district collector Koay Sri Harsha said the government was building a district-level Indira Women's Power building with the intention of women's associations having their own building. It was mentioned that the building would be inaugurated on the eve of the state's anniversary. Officials were instructed to take steps to ensure that drinking water, electricity, sanitation, facilities necessary for the conduct of meetings were available in the buildings. It was indicated that in the construction work the quality standards should be strictly adhered to and every task supervised and completed within fixed time limits. The surroundings of the buildings were directed to be kept clean. The Collector directed that



all the infrastructure in the district-level Indira Women's Power Building should be provided to facilitate the development of women's associations and that the pending work should be expedited so that the act should be completed and the building opened on June 2. The district rural development officer Kalindan, E E Panchayatiraj Shankarayya and other officials concerned were present at the tour.

LANXESS confirms guidance despite subdued start to the year

- Sales of EUR 1.378 billion, down 13.9 percent from the same quarter last year
- EBITDA pre exceptionals of EUR 94 million, down 29.3 percent from the previous year
- Conflict in the Middle East alters market conditions
- Positive momentum since March
- Guidance for full-year 2026 confirmed: EBITDA pre exceptionals between EUR 450 million and EUR 550 million

Mumbai, May 29, 2026 – A persistently weak economic environment, ongoing geopolitical uncertainties and prior year's portfolio divestments characterized the first quarter of the 2026 financial year for specialty chemicals company LANXESS. Sales amounted to EUR 1.378 billion, which was 13.9 percent below the sales of EUR 1.601 billion in the same quarter of the previous year.

EBITDA pre exceptionals reached EUR 94 million, down 29.3 percent from the EUR 133 million recorded in the same quarter of the previous year. The EBITDA margin pre exceptionals for the first quarter was 6.8 percent, compared with 8.3 percent in the same quarter of the previous year.

In a market environment that remained weak, lower input prices for raw materials and persistent price pressure from the Asian region in some businesses led to lower selling prices. Furthermore, exchange rate movements and the portfolio effect resulting from the sale of the Urethane Systems business as of April 1, 2025, had a negative impact on the results.

"The start of the year was weak, but since March we have seen a slight positive momentum. Due to the conflict in the Middle East, the supply chains of many Asian competitors have been disrupted, causing customers to turn back to European suppliers such as LANXESS. Supply capability is currently a significant competitive advantage. At the same time, we have raised prices for many of our products to pass on the increased costs of raw materials, energy and logistics," said Matthias Zachert, CEO of LANXESS.

State Chief Electoral Officer Issues Key Directions on Special Voter List Revision

Every Eligible Voter Must Be Included in the Electoral Roll – C. Sudharshan Reddy

Bhadra d r i Kothagudem : State Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharshan Reddy directed officials to speed up and effectively implement the Special Intensive Revision (SIR)-2026 voter list revision programme in a transparent manner. He stated that clean and accurate electoral rolls are the foundation of a strong democratic system.

A video conference was conducted from Hyderabad on Friday with election officials of all districts regarding the SIR-2026 Special Intensive Revision programme. District Collector Ankith participated in the meeting from the IDOC Camp Office, while Additional Collector Venugopal also attended the conference.



Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Electoral Officer said that every eligible citizen's name must be included in the voter list and officials should ensure that no eligible voter is left out. He informed that BLOs are conducting door-to-door distribution and collection of enumeration forms.

He further explained that voters have also been provided the facility to register and update their details online through the Election Commission Integrated Network system. Officials were instructed to coordinate effectively at the field level to include all eligible voters and remove ineligible names from the electoral rolls.

Kothagudem RDO Madhu, Election Superintendent Rangaprasad, and other concerned officials participated in the video conference.

Six arrested in attempted murder case

Strict action if peace is disturbed
Matwada Inspector N Karunakar Rao

Warangal Bureau: The police have arrested six accused in a very clever manner in the Matwada police station limits of Warangal sub-division, who were involved in the crime of murder, disturbing peace and security. Cases have been registered under sections 109, 189 and 190 of the Indian Penal Code BNS as crime number 254/2026. According to the details given by the inspector

The accused identified as Siliveru Chandu (A-1), Middepaka Abhinand alias Siddu (A-2), Mohammed Ghaus Khan alias Abbu (A-3), Middepaka Paulson (A-4), Cheruku Shivasai (A-5) and Erukonda Vinay (A-6) were arrested by the police near Modern Dhobi Ghat in Pothanaganar on Friday. On May 24, 2026, at around 11:00 pm, near Sri Karthikeya Iron Hardware Shop at Seven Morila on Hunter Road,



keeping old feuds in mind, all these accused formed a gang and severely attacked the complainant Bathuka Uttam Kishore and his friends with a vegetable cutter, sticks and a beer bottle and committed an attempt to murder. On this occasion, Sub-Inspector D Sambaiha, who registered a case on the basis of the victim's complaint, and his investigation team not only arrested all the accused on May 29, but also recovered the blood-stained knife used in the attack. After medical examination, the accused were produced before the III Additional Judicial First Class Magistrate Court in Warangal and sent to 15-day judicial remand, the inspector said. Moreover, all the antecedents of this case have been included in the file 254-26 Remand Matwada 109 BNS.DOC. In the wake of this incident, the Warangal Police Department has issued warnings to the rowdy sheeters and rioters in the city that strict action will be taken if they engage in illegal activities. He made it clear that the police will take an iron fist against anyone who disrupts peace and order in the city, intimidates people, or engages in street brawls, taking strict legal action and even sending them to jail immediately.

District Collector Ankith Conducts Surprise Inspection of Julurupadu Maize Procurement Centre

Bhadra d r i Kothagudem : District Collector Ankith conducted a surprise inspection of the maize procurement centre at Julurupadu mandal in Bhadradri Kothagudem district on Friday. The Collector reviewed the ongoing maize procurement process in the district and paid special attention to the condition of the maize stocks in view of the heavy rains that lashed the area on Thursday night.

During the inspection, the Collector enquired whether the stored maize bags had been affected by the rains. Officials informed him that no damage had occurred as adequate protective measures were taken using tarpaulin covers.

The Collector personally examined the maize bags stored at the centre and inspected their quality. Officials informed him that around 3,600 maize bags were currently ready at the procurement centre and that the entire loading process would



be completed by the end of the day. The Collector instructed officials to speed up the loading operations further.

He also sought details regarding the number of lorries loaded on Thursday and the quantity of maize transported to warehouses so far. Officials stated that nearly 28,000 maize bags had already been shifted to warehouses.

The Collector directed officials to ensure that the procurement process is carried out transparently and swiftly without causing any inconvenience to farmers.

Tahsildar Srinivas, procurement centre officials, and officials from various departments participated in the inspection.

76th Junior Nationals: Haryana edge Rajasthan 87-80; Chhattisgarh eves beat Karnataka 67-62

Haryana men survived a fierce fourth-quarter comeback from Rajasthan to win 87-80, while Chhattisgarh women relied on a dominant third-quarter defensive display to edge Karnataka 67-62, booking their spots in the 76th Junior National Basketball Championship finals



Hyderabad: Dominant Haryana men and high-flying Chhattisgarh women registered contrasting semifinal victories to book their spots in the gold-medal games of the 76th Junior National Basketball Championship at the Rajiv Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Puducherry on Thursday. City & Local Guides

In the men's section, Haryana became the first team to enter the final, surviving a furious late-game onslaught from Rajasthan to secure an 87-80 victory.

Haryana asserted their dominance from the opening whistle, deploying a suffocating defensive press to claim a 19-18 lead in the first quarter. Their execution sharpened further in the second period, outscoring Rajasthan 21-15 to head into the halftime break with a comfortable 40-33 cushion.

Haryana continued their offensive efficiency in the third frame, extending their lead to 65-47. However, Rajasthan flipped the script entirely in the fourth quarter, exploding for 33 points to stage a massive comeback. Despite Rajasthan's aggressive transition scoring, Haryana relied on crucial late free throws and their early cushion to seal the 87-80 win.

Ajay spearheaded the Haryana attack with a stellar 27 points, heavily supported by Mayank Kanchi's 22. Rajasthan's Mohammed Raza Khan matched the game-high with 27 points in a losing cause. Haryana will face the winner of the second semifinal between Chandigarh and Karnataka in the grand finale.

In the women's semifinal, Chhattisgarh displayed elite defensive resilience to edge past a gritty Karnataka side 67-62.

The match began as a neck-and-neck battle, with Chhattisgarh taking a slim 14-11 lead in the opening quarter. Karnataka fought back fiercely in the second period, locking down Chhattisgarh to carry a 31-24 advantage into halftime.

The third quarter proved to be the turning point of the match. Chhattisgarh executed a suffocating defensive press, holding Karnataka to a mere 7 points while exploding for 17 of their own to snatch a 42-37 lead. Chhattisgarh managed to maintain their composure in the final minutes to lock down the victory. Divya Rangari was unstoppable for the winning side, dropping a massive 27 points, while Karnataka's effort was led by Shravani Shivanna with 16 points.

Chhattisgarh now awaits the winner of the second women's semifinal between Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

SPORTS



Sindhu, Lakshya Sail Into Singapore Open Quarters, Prannoy Out

Singapore: Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen advanced to the quarterfinals with contrasting wins, while HS Prannoy bowed out after paying the price for a string of errors in the closing stages of the USD 1 million Singapore Open Super 750 badminton tournament here on Thursday. Sindhu, a former world champion, took just 37 minutes to get the better of Riko Gunji of Japan 21-9 21-12 in her second round match.

But a stern test awaits Sindhu as she is pitted against top seed An Se Young of Korea in the last-eight round. Sindhu has never beaten the Olympic champion but lost eight times with the last defeat being at the China Open last year.

Lakshya Sen, a 2021 world championship bronze winner, also progressed to the quarterfinals after second seed Kunlavut Vitidsarn, an opponent against whom he had a 4-8 record, retired after just two points due to a back problem.

The Almora shuttler will now take on Japan's Koki Watanabe next.

The fourth seeded Indian men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, however, had to sweat it out to progress to the quarterfinals, beating Chinese Taipei duo of Lee Jhe-Huei and Yang Po-Hsuan 21-15 11-21 21-18 in a contest that lasted exactly an hour.

Satwik and Chirag, the Asian Games champions, will next face Malaysia's Khai Xing Kang and Aaron Tai.

The Indian mixed doubles pair of Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto too progressed to the quarterfinals, beating the Japanese combination of Yuta Watanabe and Maya Taguchi 8-21 21-17 21-16.

They will next meet the winner of the match between Korean pair of Kim Jae Hyeon-Jang and Ha Jeong and third seeded Malaysian combination of Chen Tang Jie and Toh Ee Wei.

Prannoy, however, was left to rue a dramatic collapse in the decider as he went down 18-21 21-16 15-21 to home favourite Loh Kean Yew in a 61-minute contest.



The 33-year-old Indian looked in control after opening up a 14-11 lead in the third game, but a sudden rush of unforced errors, mostly at the net, allowed Loh to win 10 of the next 11 points and seal the match.

Prannoy made a strong start, opening up an 11-7 lead at the interval in the opening game. However, Loh gradually took control of the rallies by cutting down on his lifts and forcing the Indian to play from awkward positions. The Singaporean moved ahead 14-12 and earned six game points. Prannoy saved four of them before eventually spraying one wide.

The Indian also had to contend with a noticeable sideways drift inside the arena and misjudged his length on a few occasions early in the second game despite racing to a 6-4 lead with some crisp winners.

The pace of the rallies increased thereafter as Loh unleashed a series of steep smashes to close the gap. But Prannoy remained in control at the mid-game break, leading 11-6 after repeatedly capitalising on weak returns from the Singaporean.

Prannoy continued to pressure Loh by targeting his forehead corner and stretched the lead to 16-10 as the home favourite struggled with his smashes and net play.

Loh attempted a comeback with a series of deceptive returns to narrow the deficit to 12-16, but Prannoy responded with a timely backhand smash before sealing the game with a sharp cross-court winner.

The Indian looked set for victory after surging to an 8-4 lead in the decider with Loh conceding too many cheap points. However, a string of unforced errors allowed the Singaporean to claw back to 8-9 despite losing both his challenges.

An intense rally helped Loh draw level at 10-10 before the home favourite edged ahead at the interval amid loud cheers from the crowd.

Prannoy again regained momentum after the change of ends, moving to 14-11 as Loh committed a few tactical errors, including giving away easy lifts. But the Indian soon lost his rhythm, repeatedly finding the net to allow Loh to level at 14-14.

Five more unforced errors from Prannoy dramatically changed the complexion of the contest as Loh reeled off points to move to 19-14. The Singaporean soon earned five match points and converted the first to complete the comeback win.

French Open 2026: Defending Champion Coco Gauff Reaches Third Round



Paris: Coco Gauff continued her French Open title defence with a straight-sets victory over Egyptian qualifier Mayar Sherif in the second round on Thursday. The American fourth seed was too strong for the world number 129 on Court Suzanne Lenglen, winning 6-3, 6-2. Gauff will next face either in-form Austrian 28th seed Anastasia Potapova or Britain's Katie Boulter in the last 32. "It was a physical match, a tough match, my patience was really tested today," said Gauff.

The 22-year-old, who has reached at least the quarter-finals at Roland Garros in each of the past five years, was not at her best but was never in danger of suffering an upset defeat. "No expectations," she insisted when asked if winning the title last year raised her hopes this time around. "I'm just having fun." She broke Sherif seven times in total during a match in which both players struggled on serve, but sealed the win after an hour and 50 minutes. Sherif has still never reached the third round at a Grand Slam tournament, after losing in round two for the fourth time in five years in Paris.

French Open 2026: World No 1 Aryna Sabalenka Sweeps into Third Round



Paris: World number one Aryna Sabalenka eased into the third round at Roland Garros on Thursday with a 7-5, 6-2 win over France's Elsa Jacquemot. Sabalenka snatched a tight opening set with a break in the final game and then swept Jacquemot aside to set up a meeting with Australia's Daria Kasatkina. The Belarusian has reached the final at five of the past six Grand Slams. She finished runner-up to Coco Gauff at last year's French Open.

French Open 2026: Teenager Moise Kouame Delights Home Crowd By Reaching Third Round

Paris: French teenager Moise Kouame thrilled home fans by reaching the third round of the French Open after beating Adolfo Daniel Vallejo 6-3, 7-5, 3-6, 2-6, 7-6 (8) on Thursday. The 17-year-old Kouame



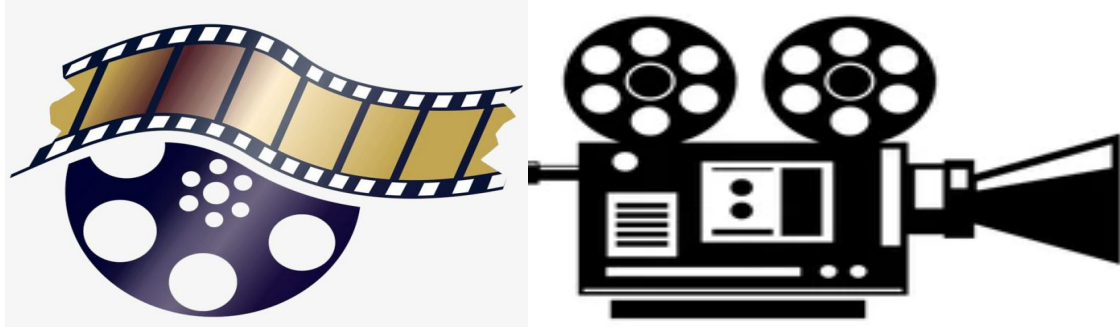
held firm in a contest lasting just under five hours on a sun-drenched Court Suzanne-Lenglen. He clawed back from 5-3 down in the fifth set to force a decisive tiebreaker, and rallied again from 8-7 down in the tiebreaker.

He won with a drop shot that his Paraguayan opponent got his racket to but could only pat into the net. Kouame dropped onto his back and, when he got back up, put both hands on his head in disbelief. Then he thumped his chest and pointed to all sides of the crowd. The No. 318-ranked Kouame was overcome with emotion. He slumped back in his chair with a towel on his head as joyful fans chanted

"Merci Moise, Merci Moise," at Roland Garros.

Before his on-court speech, Kouame bent over with cramps and emptied a water bottle over his head. "This win is for you," he told the crowd. "Thank you because without you, honestly, I would never have won this match. I don't think you don't even realize how much you carried me with the way you kept shouting for me. When I found myself 5-3 down in the fifth, I never stopped believing." Kouame next faces Chilean Alejandro Tabilo.

Rising star Kouame beat Marin Cilic in straight sets in the first round on Tuesday and became the first man born in 2008 or later to win a Grand Slam match. Cilic won the 2014 U.S. Open, was runner-up at two other majors, and reached the French Open semifinals in 2022. Cilic said after his defeat that he was impressed with Kouame's ability to stay focused at key points in their match. In March, Kouame was the youngest match winner in Miami Masters history in the first round, earning a congratulatory message from 24-time major winner Novak Djokovic.



CINEMA

Peddi celebrates Indian Spirit on Global Canvas - Ram Charan

He expanded stating that Indian Cinema is known for telling the stories of the soil and Peddi is a great inspiring tale.

Mega Power Star Ram Charan's upcoming epic rural sports drama, Peddi is garnering huge buzz and building anticipation with each passing day. Now, the makers have conducted a National Media Press Conference in Delhi. Ram Charan remarked that movie as a representation of "True Indian Spirit on Global Canvas".

He expanded stating that Indian Cinema is known for telling the stories of the soil and Peddi is a great inspiring tale. He stated that he had to work hard for each transformation but he felt most tough to achieve wrestler body. He called his efforts as his responsibility to bring a great tale on screen.

He praised director Buchi Babu Sana's screenplay and conviction of producer Venkata Satish Kilaru to debut with such a film. Ram Charan expressed his excitement to be working with AR Rahman for this film. Leading Lady Janhvi Kapoor stated that she is mesmerised with Charan's explosive screen presence as he conserves all his energy off-screen.



She expressed her gratitude to the team for trusting her and giving such an opportunity. Producer Satish stated that the film should be watched by parents with their children as it inspires them to achieve big in life. With massive anticipation, Peddi is releasing on 4th June.

Itllu Arjuna Hai Re: Thaman music and Ani vocals give an Instant Chartbuster

S Thaman is composing music for the film and he collaborated for the first time with Rockstar Anirudh Ravichander for the first single, Hai Re.

Itllu Arjuna starring Aniesh, Anaswara Rajan made a good impact with New Boy in the Town promotional announcement teaser. With Venky Kudumula producing the film in the direction of Mahesh Uppala, the movie created high curiosity and buzz about this silent man's violent love story.

S Thaman is composing music for the film and he collaborated for the first time with Rockstar Anirudh Ravichander for the first single, Hai Re. Anirudh enhanced the fresh melodious composition of Thaman in his style. The two giants of music collaboration stands out as a big chartbuster.

Krishna Chaitanya's meaningful lyrics make it a must listen for everyone. Aniesh with his ease in dance, expressions and charm on screen is sensational. For a debutant to be so confident to pull off a mute person's character with just expressions is outstanding. His body language and screen presence, make the pleasant song even more visually appealing.



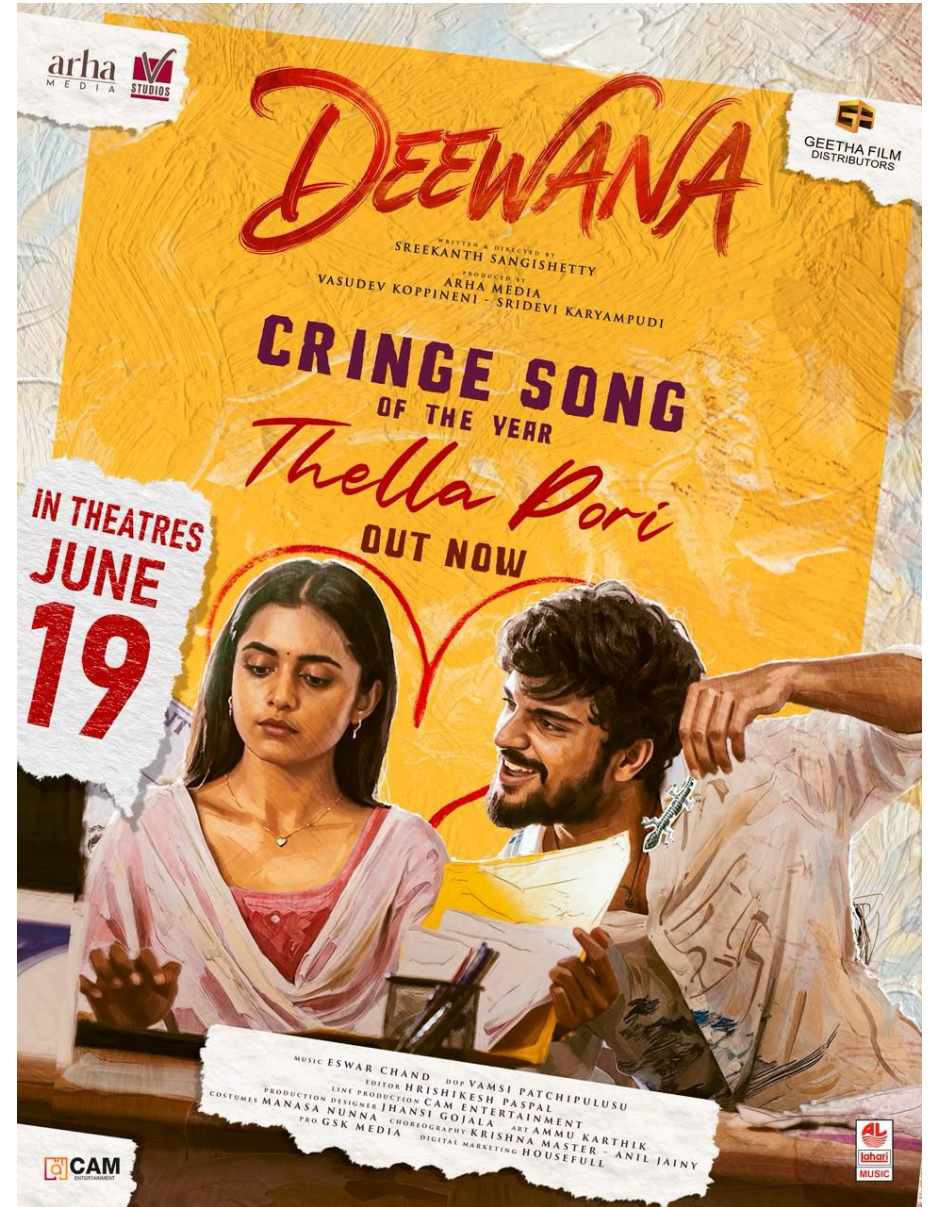
His chemistry with Anaswara Rajan and the hints at her being religious and Aniesh's small gestures to shower his love on her raise further curiosity about the story and movie. On the whole, Itllu Arjuna, did not just bring two giants for his first song but also made a chartbuster debut with this song. Movie is set to release later this year.

Smart Sithara Locks The Independence Day Weekend

Like we have been telling from days, already there's buzz in the trade circles that the films that have actually locked the August release are actually struggling to come on time. Though there is a good two months' time already, there's no chance that Nani's upcoming big-budget bonanza "The Paradise" will hit cinemas on August 21st. Catching on to this buzz, ace production house Sithara Entertainment made its mighty move already.

Already the teaser of "Viswanath and Sons" fetuarnng Tamil hero Suriya in the lead, and directed by proven filmmaker Venky Atluri has worked out well. The film deals with the love relationship of an older man with a younger woman, played by Mamitha Baiju. As the teaser has already set up the debate well, now the success of Suriya's Karuppu (Veerabhadru in Telugu) has given more momentum for the Suriya starrer. As that film collected ?250 crores gross already, surely the expectations on the hero's next will be high.

Owing to all of this, with August getting empty, to cash on the Independence Day weekend, Suriya's Viswanath and Sons got moved from tentative July to August 14th release now. While the 14th is Friday, the 15th we have Independence Day weekend on Saturday, and that gives a stunning advantage for the movie. Hope they won't change the release date based on other biggies, if at all those biggies confirm the date.



Deewana: Tella Pori is packed with teasing lyrics and chartbuster vibe

Young actor Harshith Reddy, who earned appreciation for his performance in Subham, is gearing up for his next outing with the romantic drama Deewana.

Young actor Harshith Reddy, who earned appreciation for his performance in Subham, is gearing up for his next outing with the romantic drama Deewana. The film's story poster, pre-teaser, teaser, and especially its chartbuster first single have created strong buzz among audiences with soulful music and emotionally charged dialogues.

Starring Harshith Reddy alongside Sneha Manimegalai, the film promises an intense and heartfelt love story centered on a young man torn between pain and unrequited love.

Directed by Sreekanth Sangishetti, the movie is produced by Vasudev Koppineni and Sridevi Karyampudi under the banners Arha Media and V Studios.

Deewana will have a grand worldwide theatrical release on June 19, 2026, through Geetha Film Distributors. The release date poster gives the Blockbuster Vibes promising intense one side love story showcasing pain and pleasure in it.

Today, the makers released an energetic and teasing track titled Tella Pori. The song beautifully portrays the special affection and playful romance that Harshith Reddy shares with Sneha, adding a lively charm to the film's musical promotions.

The track is composed, written, and sung by music director Eshwar Chand. Carrying the quirky tagline "The Cringe Song of the Year," the number embraces a fun and humorous style with playful lyrics and an entertaining composition, making it a catchy and enjoyable listen.

With cinematography handled by Vamsi Patchipulusu and editing by Hrishikesh, the film aims to deliver a visually rich and emotionally engaging cinematic experience for audiences this summer.

