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Ready for SIR, Revanth Tells Kharge

TELANGANA CM OUTLINES STRATEGY TO SAFEGUARD VOTERS AND BOOST CONGRESS ORGANISATION.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, PCC President Mahesh Goud, and State Affairs In-charge Meenakshi Natarajan paid a courtesy visit to AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge at the Novotel Hotel near the airport. Kharge subsequently departed from Shamshabad Airport for Gulbarga.

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday met AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge in Hyderabad and discussed the party's preparations for the upcoming Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls announced by the Election Commission and apprised him of other political developments in the state.

According to party sources, Revanth Reddy informed the AICC president about measures being taken to prevent wrongful deletion of voters' names during the forthcoming SIR exercise.

The Chief Minister also outlined the party's strategy for monitoring the Special Intensive Revision process. He said party leaders and workers had been instructed to closely monitor the functioning of booth-level officers (BLOs) and activate the Congress party's booth-level network to safeguard voter rights.

Highlighting sections that may face challenges during the revision process, Revanth Reddy reportedly said the exercise could pose difficulties for Lambadas, Adivasis and migrant workers.

He noted that migration from several constituencies could result in the deletion of genuine voters and stressed the need for special vigilance to ensure eligible voters are not removed from the electoral rolls. He also cautioned that women, Dalits and minorities could risk losing their voting rights if the process is not monitored carefully.

Revanth Reddy was accompanied by deputy chief minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, AICC Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan and TPCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud. The meeting was held at a hotel near the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Shamshabad, where Kharge was staying during a brief stopover in Hyderabad ahead of his flight to Gulbarga.

The meeting, which lasted over half an hour assumed significance as the Congress government in Telangana is set to complete half of its five-year term on June 7. Sources said Revanth Reddy briefed Kharge on the resolutions and decisions taken at the recent Political Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting of the Telangana Congress aimed at strengthening the party organisation across the state.

He said ministers assigned as constituency in-charges have been directed to devote one full day every 10 days exclusively to party activities and to interact with grassroots workers. The Chief Minister also informed Kharge that he would personally spend one day every 10 days in the field, engaging with party workers and earmark three days every month solely for organisational affairs.

Party sources said Kharge was briefed on the government's welfare and development initiatives as well as the Congress party's efforts to further strengthen its organisational structure across Telangana.

PM To Hold Key Talks With Prez Of Myanmar

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold talks with Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing in New Delhi on Monday, during which the entire gamut of bilateral ties will be discussed.

The Myanmar President, on a four-day visit to India, is accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising Cabinet Ministers, senior officials and business leaders. Myanmar is also a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

On Sunday, he participated in the Myanmar-India Trade and Investment Conclave organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry in New Delhi. The event, held in association with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, brought together government representatives and industry leaders to explore avenues for economic cooperation.

"CII along with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) , organised the Myanmar-India Trade and Investment Conclave in New Delhi on May 31. The Conclave was graced by H.E. senior general Min Aung Hlaing, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, who in his address spoke about bolstering bilateral ties between India and Myanmar across sectors like pharma, agriculture, manufacturing, logistics, and many more. The conclave brought together senior government representatives, industry leaders, and businesses from both countries to strengthen economic engagement and explore new avenues for collaboration."

The visit comes amid global scrutiny of the Myanmar leadership following the military coup in February 2021 that ousted civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi. The Myanmar Army, led by Min Aung Hlaing, has since been engaged in conflict with ethnic armed groups.

India has maintained engagement with Myanmar, citing strategic and security interests, particularly along the shared border and in the context of regional dynamics.

Ministry of external affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal described ties between the two countries as "multifaceted, historical and civilisational", and said that "we want to further strengthen ties".

"During his visit to New Delhi, President U Min Aung Hlaing will hold discussions with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 1 on further strengthening the historical and civilisational ties between the two countries."

The Myanmar President is also scheduled to visit Mumbai on June 2 for business engagements and site visits. He was earlier expected to attend the International Big Cat Alliance Summit, which has been postponed.

The two leaders had previously met on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in Tianjin and in Bangkok last year, where they reviewed bilateral ties and discussed cooperation in areas including development partnership, defence, border management and trade.

India has reiterated support for a Myanmar-led peace process, stating that dialogue and consultation remain the way forward.

State Rejigs School Education Dept Postings

Senior officer postings formed the main part of the transfer orders issued by the government. Five additional directors, seven joint directors and four deputy directors or district educational officers were moved on administrative grounds.

Among the additional directors, Ch. Ramana Kumar was moved from secretary, TGREIS, to additional director, MDM. P.V. Srihari, director, TOSS, was posted as additional state project director, Samagra Shiksha. K. Lingaiah, additional director, co-ordination, was posted as director, TOSS, and given full additional charge as director of government examinations, Hyderabad.

Radha Reddy was moved from additional state project director, Samagra Shiksha, to director, Government Text Book Press. G. Usha Rani, additional director, MDM, was posted as secretary, TGREIS.

The joint director transfers included P. Rajeev's posting as joint director, Telangana Open School Society, Hyderabad, and M. Somi Reddy's move to the regional joint director of the school education, Hyderabad. K. Satyanarayana Reddy was posted as joint director, model schools, with full additional charge as additional director (C).

P. Madan Mohan was moved to joint director (I), Samagra Shiksha, while A. Usha Rani was posted as joint director (II), Samagra Shiksha. B. Venkata Narasamma was moved to joint director (Services), office of the director of school education, and E. Vijaya Lakshmi was posted as regional joint director of school education, Warangal.

The government also changed postings of four deputy directors and district educational officers. P. Revathi Reddy was moved from deputy director, TET Cell, to deputy director, model school. R. Rohini, district educational officer, Hyderabad, was moved to Sangareddy. Venkatehwarlu was moved from Sangareddy to Rangareddy as district educational officer, while Yadaiah was transferred from Mancherial to Hyderabad.

The transfers followed GO 38 issued by the finance department on April 21 and a government memo dated May 20. Assistant directors and deputy educational officers were processed at the directorate of school education level. District educational officers, joint directors and additional directors were transferred at the government level.

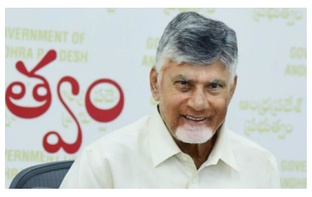
DK Shivakumar Lashes Out For Shifting IPL Final Venue to Ahmedabad

Karnataka Chief minister-designate DK Shivakumar on Sunday lashed out at Indian Premier League (IPL) organisers for shifting the venue for the final to Ahmedabad, saying it was an injustice to Karnataka, and alleged the move was politically motivated, according to news agency PTI. "The IPL final match should have happened in Bengaluru. Injustice has been done to us. Due to politics, they held it at a different venue. I won't speak much on it," he told reporters.

He also congratulated Royal Challengers Bengaluru for their second consecutive IPL title triumph. "I congratulate them on behalf of the RCB fans in Karnataka, and the state government," he said. In a separate post on X, Shivakumar said praised the RCB on the achievement, and hailed the players, support staff and fans for the triumph. "Tonight, Bengaluru rises again as champions! This year too, the cup belongs to us. RCB has created history by clinching a second consecutive IPL title. With grit, composure, and the heart of true champions, the team has once again made Bengaluru proud.

Congratulations to the players, coaches, support staff, and millions of fans who stood by the team every step of the way." he wrote on X. Royal Challengers Bengaluru clinched their second successive Indian Premier League (IPL) title after defeating Gujarat Titans by five wickets at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Sunday. Star batter Virat Kohli anchored the chase with an unbeaten 75 as RCB secured another historic triumph.

CM to Launch NTR Bharosa Pension Distribution at Chamavaram



Vijayawada: Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu will visit Chamavaram village in Tuni constituency of Kakinada district on Monday to launch the distribution of NTR Bharosa social security pensions and interact with people through a "Praja Vedika" programme.

The chief minister's day-long tour starts at 10am and will continue till 5pm. He will hear public grievances and receive representations from citizens. This is part of the government's efforts to strengthen grassroots governance and public outreach.

He would inaugurate the June distribution of NTR Bharosa pensions that are giving relief to lakhs of beneficiaries. The government has released Rs.2,728.67 crore for the disbursement of pensions to 62.34 lakh beneficiaries in June.

Naidu has highlighted the alliance's 94 per cent strike rate in the last assembly elections, crediting it for the prioritization of welfare schemes and efficient administration.

Minister for rural poverty alleviation and NRI empowerment, Kondapalli Srinivas, said the government had also sanctioned 5,606 new spouse-category pensions and allocated an additional Rs.2.24 crore for their payment. The spouse pension scheme ensures that the benefits are transferred immediately to the surviving husband or wife after the death of a beneficiary.

According to the minister, pensions will be distributed at beneficiaries' doorsteps from Monday morning through village and ward secretariat staff. The present government has spent a record Rs.65,886.57 crore on NTR Bharosa pensions since assuming office, reaffirming its commitment to the welfare of senior citizens, widows, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable sections.

Naidu is also expected to address the party cadre.

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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

Congress ignored weaker sections after elections, alleges KTR

BRS working president KT Rama Rao accused the Congress government of failing to fulfil promises made to SCs, STs, BCs and Minorities. He alleged favouritism in awarding contracts, demanded repeal of GOMs 17 and sought a white paper on contractor funds.

Hyderabad: Launching a scathing attack on the Congress government for its failure to fulfil promises made to the SCs, STs, BCs and Minorities, BRS working president KT Rama Rao said the agitating contractors were keen to dig a political grave for the grand old party in the State. He was speaking at a protest meeting organised under the aegis of the SC, ST, BC and Minority Contractors Association (JAC) at Indira Park here on Saturday.

Prior to the Assembly elections, the Congress had announced 13 declarations, six guarantees and made 420 promises to different sections. However, after the elections, the Congress left all sections in a lurch, he said. Under the Chevella and Kamareddy declarations, the Congress party had assured the implementation of 18 per cent reservations for SCs, 12 per cent for STs and 42 per cent for BCs in government contracts.

Leaving aside the promised 72 per cent reservations to these communities, the Congress government did not even provide 72 paise. Instead, it introduced arbitrary Government Orders (GOs), he pointed out.

The BRS working president alleged that conspiracies were hatched to hand over tenders to corporate companies by issuing GOMs 17. Through these orders, local and small-scale contractors were deprived of the opportunity to supply essential items such as vegetables, chicken, milk and bread to Gurukuls. "We will continue to fight until GOMs 17 is repealed and until contractors from marginalised and weaker sections secure their rightful share of contracts," Rama Rao said.

After the BRS government returns to power in 2028, all efforts would be made to groom nearly 50,000 youth from the downtrodden and weaker sections of society to become contractors. He also alleged that, currently, contracts within the State were being awarded to a select few, especially Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's brother-in-law and Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's son.

Revanth Reddy awarded the Kodangal-Narayanpet Lift Irrigation Scheme contract worth Rs.4,000 crore exclusively to his own associates. Apart from this, contracts worth Rs.1,300 crore were being awarded not only to their relatives but also to BJP MP CM Ramesh, he alleged.

"The Congress government has incurred a debt of Rs.4 lakh crore so far and not even a single rupee has been allocated to contractors belonging to the SC, ST and BC communities," Rama Rao slammed. He also demanded that the Revanth Reddy government release a white paper on the funds disbursed to small contractors and the debts incurred.

"Revanth Reddy ascended to power through the payment quota. He is not a regular CM but merely a 'Renewal CM'," Rama Rao ridiculed. Referring to the hardships being faced by the farming community, the BRS working president challenged Congress leaders to visit any village in the State. "People, especially farmers, are eagerly waiting for elections and are determined to bury the Congress government," Rama Rao maintained.

New CDS, Navy Chief Take Charge

New Delhi: In a major change in the country's top military leadership, General N.S. Raja Subramani on Sunday took over as India's third Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), while Admiral Krishna Swaminathan assumed charge as the new Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS). They took charge at a time of heightened global instability and against the backdrop of India's conflict with Pakistan during Operation Sindoor.

General Subramani, regarded as a Pakistan and China front expert, succeeded General Anil Chauhan, who demitted office on Saturday after completing his tenure as the country's senior-most military commander. "I'm honoured to assume charge as the Chief of Defence Staff. We are grateful to the nation for the trust reposed in the Armed Forces. We, the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force, Ministry of Defence, strategic institutions and all stakeholders, stand united as part of the whole-of-nation approach to strengthen India's security," General Subramani said.

He said the armed forces were committed to implementing the Prime Minister's vision of "JAI" — Jointness, Atma Nirbharta and Innovation. "Transformation of the armed forces and organisational reforms to enhance jointness, synergy and integration will be the primary focus. Atma Nirbharta is a central pillar of our national security. We will accelerate the development, induction and integration of indigenous weapons in our armed forces," the new CDS said.

As CDS, General Subramani's primary task will be to implement the theatreisation model by rolling out integrated military commands. General Subramani had retired as Vice Chief of the Army Staff on July 31, 2025. Before taking over as CDS, he was serving as Military Adviser in the National Security Council Secretariat, which reports to National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, from September 1, 2025. He was commissioned into the 8th Battalion of the Garhwal Rifles on December 14, 1985.

Meanwhile, Admiral Swaminathan assumed charge as the 27th Chief of the Naval Staff. He succeeded Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, who superannuated after 41 years of service. "The Indian Navy is deeply committed to jointness, Atmanirbharata and indigenisation, and that will also be one of my key result areas. I'm extremely grateful to have this opportunity to work with the men and women of the Indian Navy, whom I consider the finest professionals anywhere in the world. Their welfare, well-being, professional performance and personal growth shall be of the highest importance to me," Admiral Swaminathan said. "I will devote every single day of my life to making the Navy a better, stronger, sharper and more impactful service so that it can serve the interests of national security, national development and national economic prosperity to the best of its ability," he added. Admiral Swaminathan was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 1, 1987. A communication and electronic warfare specialist, he has held several operational, staff and training appointments in a career spanning nearly four decades. His sea commands include the guided missile vessels INS Vidyut and INS Vinash, guided missile corvette INS Kulish, guided missile destroyer INS Mysore and aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya. Before assuming charge as Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Swaminathan headed the Western Naval Command.

Fulfill 420 promises before contesting elections: KTR dares Revanth Reddy

BRS working president KT Rama Rao challenged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to fulfil all Congress election promises before seeking votes again. He alleged that the proposed Rythu DISCOM would weaken free power for farmers and criticised the government's development record

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao challenged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to publicly announce that he would contest future elections only after implementing the 420 promises and six guarantees made by the Congress party to the people of Telangana. He said the Chief Minister was attempting to mislead people by claiming that he would not contest elections if electricity meters were installed on agricultural pump sets.Geographic Reference

"Instead of making such statements, Revanth Reddy should announce that he will not seek votes unless all promises made to the people of Telangana are implemented, including housing under the Indiramma scheme, welfare guarantees and other commitments made during the Assembly elections," he said while addressing a gathering of BRS leaders from the Secunderabad Cantonment constituency on Sunday.

On the proposed Rythu DISCOM, the former Minister said it was being created with the sole objective of eventually scrapping the 24-hour free power supply to farmers. He recalled that while in opposition, Revanth Reddy had publicly stated that three hours of electricity was sufficient for farmers and argued that the current proposal was designed to translate that mindset into policy.

"The real intention behind the Farmers' DISCOM is to dismantle the historic 24-hour free power supply introduced by KCR. The Congress is concealing its anti-farmer agenda while claiming the initiative is meant to benefit farmers," he said, adding that Revanth Reddy had no concern for farmers and that the proposed DISCOM was a death noose for Telangana's farmers.

Recalling the power situation before Telangana's formation, Rama Rao said six decades of Congress rule had left the State plagued by severe shortages, frequent outages and industrial power holidays. He credited former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao with transforming the power sector within six months of assuming office and delivering uninterrupted 24-hour electricity.

"KCR is the first leader in independent India's history to provide free round-the-clock power to the agricultural sector. But the Congress government is now attempting to erase that legacy," he remarked. Stating that the Congress had deceived every section of society by failing to implement its electoral promises, he said farmers and citizens should remain vigilant against policies that could adversely affect their interests.

The BRS working president criticised the Congress government for failing to deliver any meaningful development in Hyderabad in the past two-and-a-half years. He reminded the gathering that Ministers, including Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, had promised 6,000 houses in Cantonment during the by-election campaign. "But not a single house has been delivered since then, in Cantonment or anywhere else in Hyderabad," he added.Geographic Reference

Rama Rao listed the BRS government's achievements, including the construction of major flyovers, underpasses and bridges, 20,000 litres of free drinking water per household, one lakh double-bedroom houses, and distribution of government land to poor families under GO 58 and GO 59. However, he said that after coming to power, the Congress government focused on demolishing houses of the poor under the HYDRAA initiative rather than building new ones.

He also recalled the previous government's sustained pressure on the Union government for the transfer of defence lands in Cantonment and the construction of elevated corridors towards Karimnagar and Nizamabad. He said the previous BRS government consistently intervened whenever defence authorities abruptly closed roads, ensuring residents' grievances were addressed.

During the meeting, Rama Rao gave a presentation to party workers on the ongoing Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls. He cautioned that any negligence on their part could deprive genuine BRS supporters of their voting rights and eventually affect the party's prospects. He urged Cantonment constituency leaders and cadre to remain united and continue their fight against the Congress government's anti-people policies. He remarked that while the Congress had been rejected across much of the country, it had unfortunately returned to power in Telangana.

Former Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav and several senior party leaders also attended the meeting.

Revanth to Launch Indiramma Housing Phase II, Address Public Meeting in Kagaznagar

ADILABAD: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will attend a series of official programmes in Komaram Bheem Asifabad district on June 1, with arrangements completed for a public meeting at Kagaznagar X Road.

According to officials, the Chief Minister will arrive by helicopter at Kothaguda village at 5.45 pm. He will participate in a mass housewarming ceremony of Indiramma houses in Kolam Kotari gram panchayat of Kerameri mandal and launch the second phase of the housing scheme. He will also interact with beneficiaries in the district before proceeding to the public meeting at Kagaznagar.

Minister for housing and revenue Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy will attend the programme.

Congress leaders have undertaken mobilisation efforts for the meeting, including participation of self-help group members. The meeting has been scheduled in the evening in view of prevailing high temperatures.

Mancherial MLA Kokkirala Premsagar Rao coordinated party leaders in the district for the event.

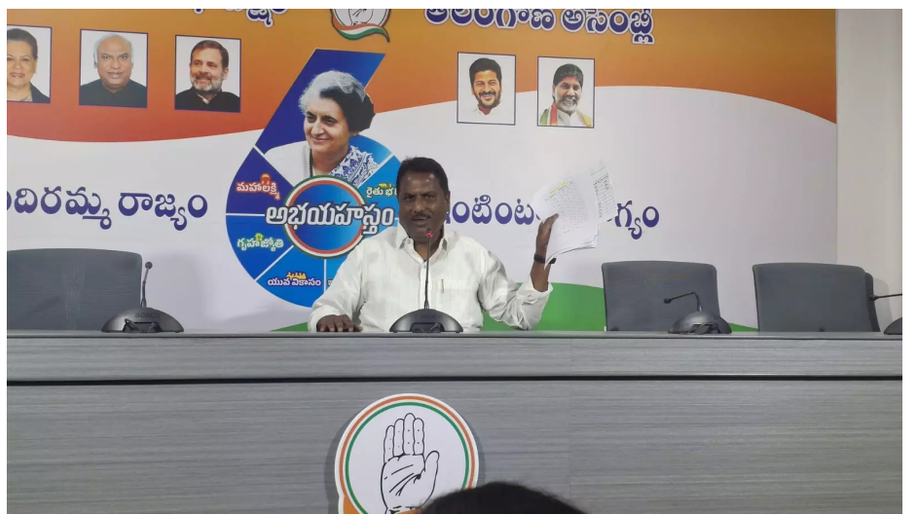
Tourism minister Jupally Krishna Rao inspected arrangements at Kagaznagar on Sunday. He was accompanied by MLA Gaddam Vinod, MLC Dande Vittal, former MLA Atram Sakku, district collector K. Haritha and superintendent of police Nitika Pant.

The Chief Minister is expected to lay foundation stones for works worth ?112.14 crore, including a solar power plant at Nambala village in Rebbena mandal, development works in Asifabad and Kagaznagar municipalities, and five 33 kV substations in the district.

Police have made security arrangements in Kothaguda village in view of the visit.

After the meeting, the Chief Minister will proceed to the residence of MLA Kokkirala Premsagar Rao in Mancherial before returning to Hyderabad by road.

Adluri: BRS Neglected Gurukuls



HYDERABAD: SC and ST welfare minister Adluri Lakshman Kumar on Sunday accused the BRS of neglecting Gurukul institutions during its tenure and challenged its working president K.T. Rama Rao to show that even one Gurukul school building was constructed under the previous government.

Addressing a press conference at the CLP office, he said the BRS had no basis to question the Congress government on Gurukuls, alleging that welfare schools functioned from rented premises without adequate facilities. He said the previous government had announced 104 Gurukul buildings but did not complete them.

He said the present government, under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, had initiated construction of 119 integrated residential educational institutions across the state, each planned on 20 to 25 acres with an estimated cost of about ?200 crore.

Defending the common procurement system, the minister said it had reduced expenditure from ?806.66 crore to ?643.13 crore, saving ?163.53 crore. He said items such as uniforms, school bags, shoes, bedsheets and utensils would be supplied at uniform quality and price across institutions.

"Why does saving ?163.53 crore of public money bother KTR? Should the government protect contractors' interests or students' welfare?" he asked, rejecting allegations of corruption and stating that no agreements had been signed.

He said diet charges for students had been increased after 16 years and cosmetic charges had risen by over 212 per cent. Meals were being designed to provide around 2,200 calories and 40–50 grams of protein daily, based on recommendations of the National Institute of Nutrition. He added that pending bills left by the previous government had been cleared and payments were now being released in the first week of every month.

Citing outcomes, he said Gurukul institutions recorded a 99.12 per cent Class X pass rate and enabled 1,935 SC students to secure seats in professional courses. He added that six candidates cleared the UPSC Civil Services examination, 35 qualified in Group-I, 27 in Group-II and 236 secured State government jobs through SC Study Circles.

Peddapalli MP Flags Voter Deletion Concerns

ADILABAD: Peddapalli MP Gaddam Vamsi Krishna on Sunday called upon people to safeguard their voting rights, urging them to draw inspiration from B.R. Ambedkar. Addressing a party meeting in Adilabad, he alleged that the BJP-led Centre was manipulating electoral outcomes by removing voters sympathetic to regional parties and the Congress. He criticised the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, alleging that policies had adversely affected students and unemployed youth. He also referred to issues such as the NEET paper leak and CBSE revaluation controversy.

He said BJP leaders were misleading youth and inciting divisions for political gain, while sending their own children abroad for education. The MP said the meeting was organised to strengthen the party at the grassroots and activate Booth Level Agents (BLA-2) in Adilabad, where he was recently appointed in-charge. He also alleged that the BJP had not responded to allegations raised by Rahul Gandhi regarding electoral practices, and claimed that the BJP and BRS were aligned in their functioning. He criticised BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao in this context. MLA Vedma Bojju, DCC president Naresh Jadhav and other party leaders were present.

Tummala Seeks Speedy Munneru Wall Works

Nalgonda: Agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Sunday directed officials to expedite construction of the Munneru retaining wall in Khammam to mitigate flood risks.

Inspecting the works, he said residents in low-lying and catchment areas had faced hardships over the past two years due to flooding of the Munneru stream. The government had taken up the retaining wall project at an estimated cost of ?690 crore to address the issue.

The minister said land acquisition for about 240 metres was pending and instructed officials to complete works on both sides of the stream — from the bypass road to the cable bridge

India–Oman trade pact to kick in from June 1: What CEPA means for trade, jobs and markets

India and Oman will implement their Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement from June 1, granting wider market access and boosting trade, services, and investments. The pact is expected to strengthen India's presence in the Gulf region while benefiting key export sectors

New Delhi: India and Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) will come into force from June 1. The two countries will formally announce the decision on Monday.

This will be the fifth free trade agreement (FTA) implemented under the Modi government. Since 2014, India has implemented four trade pacts withÂ" Mauritius (April 2021 implemented), Australia (December 2022 implemented), UAE (May 2022 implemented), and EFTA (implemented in October 2025 – Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway).

India has signed similar deals with the UK (July 2025) and New Zealand (April 2026). It has announced the conclusion of talks with the European Union (27-nation bloc) on January 27 this year.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CEPA AND FTA

Both abbreviations are often used interchangeably. Modern trade agreements typically comprise around 20 chapters covering areas such as trade in goods, trade in services, investment, intellectual property rights, customs procedures, and dispute settlement mechanisms.

Other abbreviations commonly used for such trade agreements include Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA), Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA), and Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA).

INDIA-OMAN TRADE

During 2025-26, the bilateral trade was USD 11.18 billion (exports USD 4.02 billion and imports 7.16 billion) as compared to USD 10.61 billion in 2024-25.

Services exports to Oman rose from USD 397 Million in 2020 to USD 665 Million in 2024. The top sectors of export have been telecommunications, computer, and information, transport and travel. The imports grew from USD 101 Million in 2020 to USD 197.7 Million in 2024. The top sectors of import have been transport, travel, telecom, and other business services.

GAINS FOR INDIA

India gets 100% duty-free market access for its exports to Oman, covering 98.08% of Oman's tariff lines (or product categories) covering 99.38% of the trade value (average of 2022-23).

Exports from India to Oman that currently face a 5% duty on goods worth USD 3.64 billion. The pact will give a boost to India's price competitiveness.

Key sectors poised for strong gains include textiles, agricultural goods, transport equipment, precision instruments, processed food and gems & jewellery.

All zero-duty concessions kick in from "Day One" of the agreement's entry into force.

Presently, only 15.33% of India's export value (11.34% of tariff lines) based on the 2022-2024 average, enters the Oman at zero duty under the MFN (most favoured nation) regime.

CEPA will create new export opportunities in minerals, chemicals, base metals, machinery, plastic/rubber, transport/auto, instruments/clocks, glass/ceramic/marble, paper.

KEY SECTORAL GAINS

Zero duty access will be granted by Oman to host of Indian sectors such as Iron and steel, electric machinery, marine products, industrial machinery and copper goods.

Removal of the 5% tariff will improve the competitiveness of Indian vehicles. The pact will grant binding zero duty access for key finished medicines and vaccines.

PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE SECTORS

India has placed 2,789 tariff lines in the exclusion list under the CEPA, protecting key domestic sectors such as transport equipment, major chemicals, cereals, fruits and vegetables, spices, coffee and tea, and animal-'origin products.

Sensitive value chain industries including rubber, leather, textiles, footwear, petroleum oils, and mineral-based products are also shielded to safeguard manufacturing competitiveness and farmer interests.

Strategic agricultural segments including dairy products, meat, cereals, oilseeds, vegetable oils, sugar, and residues of the food-processing industry remain excluded.

GAINS IN SERVICES SECTORS

Oman's total global services imports in 2024 were USD 12.52 billion, with India accounting for 5.31%, indicating significant untapped potential for Indian service suppliers.

Oman has undertaken strong commitments on temporary entry and stay for natural persons supplying services. The ICT (Intra-Corporate Transferees) ceiling has been raised from 20 per cent to 50 per cent, enabling Indian companies to deploy more managerial and specialist staff.

For the first time under any FTA, Oman has also undertaken commitments for a defined category of professionals, including those in accounting, engineering, medical, IT, education, construction, and consulting services.

GAINS FOR INDIA'S AGRI SECTOR

Items like natural honey, cashew, potatoes, boneless meat and bakery products, will get duty-free access to Oman. Oman has offered to remove duties on various animal products, such as cheese, curd, milk and cream, frozen fish, butter, meat, yoghurt, processed food like bread, pastry, cakes, chocolate, sugar confectionery, and mineral water; and animal and vegetable fats and oils. At present, these items attract duty in the range of 5-100 per cent in Oman.

On the other hand, Indian consumers will get cheaper dates from Oman, as India will provide zero-duty access to 2,000 tonnes of the commodity every year.

India is also giving concessions to Oman's two traditional products, Gum Arabica (used in food, medicines and cosmetics) and Frankincense (used in the incense and perfume sector).

GAINS FOR OMAN

India is offering duty concessions on 77.79 per cent of its total tariff lines (12,556), which covers 94.81 per cent of India's imports from Oman by value.

For products of export interest to Oman and those that are sensitive to India, the offer is mostly a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) based tariff liberalisation, which includes products like dates, marbles and petrochemical items.

INDIA STRENGTHENING PRESENCE IN MIDDLE EAST

In May 2022, India implemented a pact with the UAE and will soon start talks with Qatar. These nations are members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). India and GCC (Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain) have also inked terms of reference to start trade pact negotiations.

Though Oman is a small country, it has strategic importance as it borders the Strait of Hormuz, an important maritime chokepoint. Asian companies use this passage for oil trade. Oman is an important strategic partner in the region for India, as it is a key gateway for Indian goods and services to the wider Middle Eastern and African nations.

Nearly 7 lakh Indian nationals reside in Oman, and India receives about USD 2 billion in remittances from Oman annually.

Indian enterprises have built a strong presence in Oman, with over 6,000 establishments operating across sectors. India has received USD 615.54 million in foreign direct investment from Oman between April 2000 and September 2025.

This is the first bilateral agreement that Oman has signed with any country since the US in 2006. Oman is the third-largest export destination for India among the GCC countries.

Understanding of functioning of legislatures is necessary from the student stage itself:

District Collector Bhavesh Mishra.

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : As part of the "Democracy - Progress Plan", a model parliament of students organized as part of women's week celebrations and friendship program was held in the conference hall of the Collectorate on Saturday.

District Collector Bhavesh Mishra participated in this program. They watched the Mock Parliament conducted by the students. Speaking on the occasion, he said that students should have full understanding of the country's constitution, democratic systems, and the functioning of the legislature from the stage of being a student. He said that such programs will help them to become better leaders in the future. Students played the role of Prime Minister, Speaker, Leaders of Opposition and Union Ministers very effectively in this model Parliament. As part of the Mahila Sneha program, a bill was introduced in the House on women's safety, education and equal rights in the society and discussed in depth. Students in the roles of ministers gave answers to the questions asked by the students in the roles of opposition parties on public issues.

Regarding the sample parliament programme, the collector asked the students various questions and tested their knowledge. The Collector congratulated the students who participated enthusiastically and showed talent in the Model Parliament.

Vijayalakshmi, officer of District Rural Development Organization, other officers, staff and others participated in this Program.

Revision of Special Comprehensive Electoral List (SIR) should be carried out armed:

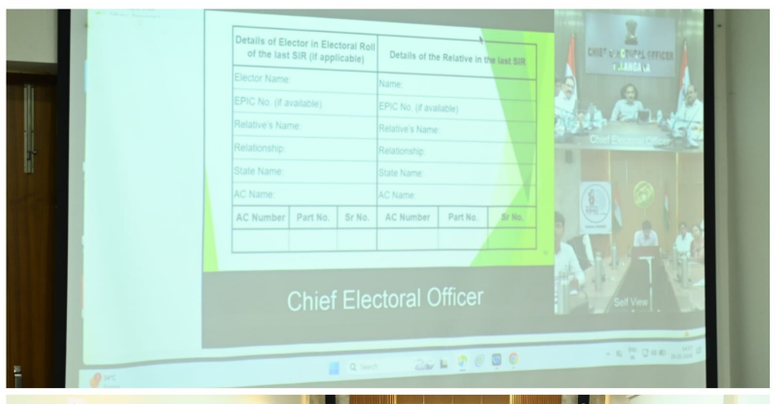
State Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharshan Reddy

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : State Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C. Sudharshan Reddy ordered the officials. .On Friday, a video conference was held with the Collectors and Election Officers of all the districts from Hyderabad to review the progress of SIR-2026.

On this occasion C. Sudharshan Reddy said that steps should be taken to ensure that there are no errors in the voter list revision process. Officials have made it clear that everyone who is eligible should have their name in the voter list.

Booth Level Officers (BLOs) must go door to door to distribute the enumeration forms and collect the completed details. He said that voters have been provided the facility to register their details online through the Election Commission's integrated network without visiting the offices. The supervisors were directed to visit the field continuously and closely monitor the SIR process.

District Collector Bhavesh Mishra participated in the video conference with the Chief Electoral Officer from the Collectorate meeting hall. Later, a review



meeting was held with the district officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector suggested that the SIR process should be conducted in a hundred percent transparent manner in the district. The concerned officials have been directed to complete the comprehensive voter list revision process within the deadline set by the Election Commission by working in coordination with each other. It has been clarified that the officials should go to the field level and perform their duties responsibly.

Additional Collector (Revenue) Kishore Kumar, RDO Ratnakalyani, AEROs (Assistant Electoral Registration Officers), officials of other departments and others participated in this video conference

The first 1000 days of a child's life are the most crucial

Warangal District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada

Warangal Bureau ; The first 1000 days of a child's life are the most crucial and lay a strong foundation for their future, said District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada.

The District Collector attended the "A Thousand Steps to a Strong Childhood" program organized at Paidipally Government High School in Warangal Mandal as a part of the 99-day action plan of the Public Administration Progress Plan.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector suggested that it is very important for pregnant women and lactating women to eat healthy food, undergo regular health check-ups, and pay special attention to the growth of children.

He said that the period from the beginning of pregnancy to the completion of two years of a child is very crucial for the physical, mental, emotional, and intellectual development of a child.

The District Collector explained the issues of early childhood development including mother-child care, proper nutrition, health check-ups, vaccinations, and loving care.

As part of this program, Karthik, District Coordinator of the Nutrition Abhiyan, screened videos of Alana Ghal and made pregnant women, lactating women, and parents aware of the importance of the first 1000 days through TPT.

As part of Early Child Development, toys and learning materials were made available with low-cost resources available locally. Exhibitions were held on manufacturing.

Parents and guardians were made aware of methods to enhance creativity, thinking power and learning ability in children.

On this occasion, Anganwadi teachers set up exhibitions of low-cost toys and learning materials related to early childhood development made by children in special stalls. Later,

the District Collector visited the stalls and appreciated the talent of Anganwadi workers and children.

Additional Collector G. Sandhyarani, DRO Vijayalakshmi, MRO Srikanth, District Medical and Health Officer Dr. Sambasiva Rao, District Welfare Officer B. Rajamani, CDPO P. Vidya, Supervisor Lavanya, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, village elders, parents, pregnant women, lactating women and officials of relevant departments participated in the program.

Gram Panchayats should be developed as model villages

Dumping management and waste segregation should be effective
Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai

Warangal Bureau; Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai has instructed the officials to develop at least three to five gram panchayats in each mandal in Hanumakonda district as model gram panchayats.

On Friday, the District Collector inspected the segregation shed and dumping yard operated under Shanigaram Gram Panchayat of Kamalapur Mandal. The Collector personally inspected the waste management, garbage separation system, compost preparation process and other aspects in the village and inquired from the officials.

The Collector questioned how compost manure is prepared and where it is used. Similarly, Panchayat Secretary Pravalika and District Panchayat Officer Lakshmi Ramakanth were asked about where plastic and other waste materials are being sold and how much income is being generated by their sale to the Gram Panchayat. The District Collector inspected the records related to this.

Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector suggested that special priority be given to sanitation management and scientific waste management in the villages. He instructed the officials to ensure that the management of dumping yards is clean and systematic.

He instructed the District Panchayat Officer to prepare an action plan to select and develop at least three to five Gram Panchayats in each mandal in the district as model Gram Panchayats and submit a report by the 15th of next month.

Village Sarpanch Kothapalli Raju, DRDO Mena Srinu, MPDO Babu, Tehsildar Suresh Kumar, other officials and villagers participated in this program.

GITAM to Organise Residential Training Program for Physics Teachers

SANGAREDDY : GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, will organise a three-day Residential Professional Development Program (RPDP) for Physics teachers from June 1 to 3 on the theme "Advanced Concepts, Teaching Methodologies and Educational Tools."

The programme is being conducted by the Department of Physics, School of Science, in collaboration with the Indian Physics Association (IPA) and GITAM School of Education.

The initiative aims to make Physics more engaging and accessible for students by equipping teachers with innovative teaching methods and modern educational tools. It seeks to strengthen Physics education at school and undergraduate levels through conceptual understanding, practical learning and contemporary pedagogy.

Experts from premier institutions including IIT Madras, IISc Bengaluru, BARC and other reputed organisations will participate as resource persons. Sessions will cover advanced Physics concepts, low-cost experimental methods, ICT-based teaching, simulations, student assessment strategies and innovative classroom practices.

Faculty members from GITAM School of Education will also conduct special sessions on pedagogy and learning theories to enhance participants' teaching skills.

Key topics include electromagnetism, photonics, quantum computing, superconductivity, magnetism, nuclear radiation, experimental demonstrations, DIY Physics kits, classroom teaching strategies and assessment techniques.

Prominent experts participating in the programme include Prof. S. Anantha Ramakrishna, Dean of Sciences at GITAM; Prof. B.V.R. Tata, Distinguished Visiting Professor; Prof. T.S. Natarajan from IIT Madras; Prof. Vibhor Singh from IISc Bengaluru; Prof. G. Ravi Kumar of GITAM; former BARC scientist Prof. G.A. Rama Rao; Prof. Vanaja from MANUU; and Prof. Deepa Chari from Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education.

The programme is intended for school-level Physics and Science teachers and aims to create a collaborative platform for sharing best practices and innovative approaches in Physics education.

The training programme is being coordinated by Dr. G. Sai Preeti and Dr. T. Vishwam. Interested participants may contact coordinators Shamabi at 77802 74121 or Gopikrishna at 87120 18815 for registration and further details.

Permanent Solution Sought for* Sundarayya Nagar Flood Woes

Residents Submit Representation to MLA

Residents of Sundarayya Nagar in Manuguru Municipality have appealed to the local MLA to provide a permanent solution to the flood, drainage, health, and financial problems they have been facing for the past ten years. The residents submitted a representation highlighting their long-standing grievances.

According to the residents, even a minor spell of rain inundates the entire colony during every monsoon season. Roads are submerged with overflowing drainage water, causing severe inconvenience to the public. They stated that sewage water frequently enters houses, damaging household goods, furniture, electrical appliances, and other essential belongings.

The residents expressed concern that children, pregnant women, senior citizens, and patients are suffering the most due to the unhygienic conditions. They alleged that diseases such as dengue, viral fevers, skin infections, and other communicable illnesses have become common because of stagnant sewage water. Sending children to schools during the rainy season has also become a major challenge.

They further stated that floodwater entering homes every year is damaging walls, floors, furniture, and household equipment, forcing many families to spend heavily on repairs and incur debts. Despite repeatedly approaching officials and public representatives over the past decade, no permanent solution has been provided, they alleged.

With the monsoon season approaching once again, residents said fear and anxiety have gripped the colony. They warned that if the situation remains unchanged, there could be serious threats to public health, property, and safety.

The residents urged the MLA to immediately intervene and initiate flood prevention measures, thoroughly clean and upgrade the drainage system, complete pending road works, and ensure a permanent solution to prevent rainwater from entering houses. They also requested special sanitation drives and medical camps to safeguard public health.

The people of Sundarayya Nagar appealed to the authorities to respond without delay and relieve them from years of recurring hardship and suffering.This version is suitable for publication in an English newspaper or news portal.

Who Is Destroying the Forest for Self-Interest..?

- ***Massive Trees Felled for Road Construction in Manuguru Gutta Mallaram Forest***
- ***Trees uprooted using heavy machinery***
- ***Is this road meant only for sand-lorry movement..?***
- ***Forest laws allegedly violated by miscreants***
- ***Criticism against Forest Department officials for remaining silent spectators***

Manuguru Correspondent: Large-scale destruction in the Gutta Mallaram forest area of Manuguru has triggered serious concern among local residents. Massive trees are reportedly being cut down and uprooted with heavy machinery for the construction of a road inside the forest region.

Despite strict environmental protection laws imposed by the government, locals allege that certain groups are destroying the forest for selfish interests. Residents suspect that the road is being developed mainly to facilitate the movement of sand-laden lorries, raising doubts about the involvement of a larger illegal network.

People are also questioning the silence of Forest Department officials, who are expected to safeguard forest resources. "Officials say cases will be filed even if a single tree is cut, then why are they not reacting when such large-scale destruction is happening?" locals

asked angrily.

Criticism is mounting against the alleged negligence of the Forest Department, with environmental activists and residents demanding immediate action. Locals are urging higher authorities to conduct a thorough investigation and take strict action against those responsible for the illegal destruction and road construction in the forest area.

Collective Effort Vital to Make NTR District Drug-Free: Collector, CP

VIJAYAWADA: NTR district collector Dr G. Lakshmisha and police commissioner S.V. Rajasekhar Babu have called for greater public participation in efforts to eliminate narcotics abuse and make NTR district drug-free.

The appeal was made at the district-level coordination meeting of the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan and Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) held in Vijayawada on Saturday. The meeting reviewed the implementation of anti-drug initiatives, including the "Drugs Pai Dandayatra" campaign, EAGLE operations, de-addiction services, awareness programmes, NGO participation, Operation Safe Campus Zone and inspections at identified hotspots.

Addressing the meeting, Dr Lakshmisha said substance abuse had serious consequences for individuals, families and society. He noted that drug addiction could lead to health complications, including heart, liver and lung ailments, weakened immunity, depression, memory loss and reduced concentration, apart from causing financial and social problems.

The collector said coordinated efforts by EAGLE teams and the police, revenue, education and health departments had produced encouraging results. He directed officials to strengthen surveillance at nearly 150 identified hotspots and utilise night-vision drones to monitor vulnerable locations during night hours.

Emphasising community involvement, he called for wider publicity of the anti-drug helpline number 1972 and instructed officials to intensify awareness campaigns through outreach programmes and EAGLE stalls.

Police commissioner Rajasekhar Babu said stringent action was being taken against those involved in the supply and consumption of narcotics. He stated that enhanced surveillance at hotspots, railway stations, bus stands and other public places had yielded positive results.

The commissioner said awareness campaigns were being conducted to educate young people about the dangers of drug abuse and to encourage community participation in prevention efforts.

Naidu Wants 33% Women's Quota Propagated in Every AP Household

Vijayawada: Telugu Desam national president and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has called upon party leaders and cadre to vigorously take the Mahanadu resolution on 33 per cent reservation for women to the grassroots, describing it as a landmark initiative capable of bringing about significant changes in Indian politics.

Addressing TD general secretaries, zonal in-charges, and senior leaders through a video conference, the Chief Minister reviewed the success of the party's annual Mahanadu conclave held in a hybrid format for the first time, apart from organisational issues and the party's future action plan.

Congratulating party leaders, organisers and cadre for making the Mahanadu a grand success, Naidu said the party's decision to provide 33 per cent reservation for women has now become a topic of discussion throughout the country. The Chief Minister disapproved remarks made by senior Telangana TD leader Bakkani Narsimhulu. He said leaders must exercise caution while speaking about regions with a rich historical background and ensure that public sentiments are not hurt.

"Telugu people are one community wherever they live. Telugu Desam had been born on Telangana soil and continues to enjoy a strong cadre base there. The party has played a significant role in promoting social justice and development in Telangana," Naidu maintained. Speaking informally to media at the NTR Bhavan later, the TD national president launched a fresh attack on the YSRC, alleging that its perception within public as a "hatchet party" is growing stronger. Referring to the murder of former minister Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy, he said the legal battle being pursued by Viveka's daughter Sunitha is justified and has kept the case alive.

"Sunitha has every right to know who killed her father. Her fight has ensured that the case remains in the public eye," he remarked. On the Central Women's Reservation Bill and delimitation of constituencies, Naidu said the Narendra Modi government appears determined to move ahead with both the measures, which could bring about far-reaching political changes. He maintained that the two issues should not be viewed separately. He felt opinions of former critics may have changed over time.

The Chief Minister observed that Andhra Pradesh could face disadvantages whether delimitation is based on the 2011 Census or on fresh population figures. Increasing the existing number of Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies by 50 per cent, he suggested, would ensure that no state suffers losses. Later, several aspirants seeking Rajya Sabha tickets met Naidu at NTR Bhavan. They included Varla Ramaiah, Kambhampati Ram Mohan Rao and Reddappagari Srinivasa Reddy.

CM Pushes Amaravati Urban Mobility With Rs.547 Cr Infra Near High Court

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, in a major push towards developing Amaravati as a future-ready capital city, on Saturday directed officials to focus on comprehensive urban mobility planning and sustainable infrastructure development. Addressing the 61st meeting of the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) held at the CM's Camp Office, he approved 18 agenda items aimed at accelerating the development of the capital region. Among the key decisions is the approval of infrastructure works worth ?547.07 crore near the High Court complex in Amaravati.

Naidu green signalled construction of a Giant Observation Wheel under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model on a Design-Build-Operate-Transfer basis to promote tourism in the capital city. Approval has been granted for the establishment of ATMs, kiosks and other public utility facilities in the Land Pooling Scheme (LPS) layouts wherever suitable road-front spaces are available. To strengthen urban services, the Chief Minister approved the development of a City Gas Distribution Network through PPP or joint-venture mode. Further, he directed officials to develop housing complexes for lower- and middle-income groups in line with the guidelines of the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. He further approved the establishment of a dedicated Building Tribunal to resolve disputes relating to buildings and unauthorised constructions in Amaravati.

In addition, a mediation centre will be set up to facilitate amicable settlement of disputes. In another significant move, the CRDA has been authorised to establish its own Fire Services wing and fire regulatory mechanism for issuing no-

objection certificates (NOCs). The meeting approved cancellation of the existing Tabreed agreement for the proposed district cooling system and decided to invite fresh tenders. Relief has been extended to 495 farmers in LPS layouts through exemption of registration fees arising from changes in allotment codes.

Naidu approved preparation of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for planning the Amaravati Economic Region, which spans nine districts from Eluru to Prakasam. He directed officials to prepare integrated development plans aimed at generating economic activity across the region. Emphasising Amaravati's vision as a "Blue-Green City," the Chief Minister advocated a centralised cooling system for all government buildings and offices, with chilled air distributed through duct-based networks. He pointed out that Andhra Pradesh already hosts bulk chilling equipment manufacturers and urged officials to leverage local capabilities.

Naidu directed that every township in the capital region should support work-from-home facilities and function as a hub for residential, commercial and economic activity. He instructed officials to ensure accommodation facilities for attendants in hospitals and expedite the establishment of hotels and convention centres in the capital region.

Those who attended the meeting included municipal administration and urban development minister P. Narayana, Chief Secretary G. Sai Prasad, principal secretary (municipal administration) S. Suresh Kumar and ADC and CRDA officials

Irrigation Advisory Board Decides To Release Water Into Canals From Today

Kakinada: The Irrigation Advisory Board (IAB), which met in Rajamahendravaram on Saturday, has decided to release water into canals from Sunday in a phased manner for taking up agriculture operations and for drinking water purposes.

When the Water Resources department superintendent engineer G. Srinivasa Rao presented the proposal to release the water into canals at the meeting presided over by East Godavari district in-charge collector Y. Megha Swaroop, Anaparthi MLA Nallamilli Ramakrishna Reddy suggested it would be better to release the water from June 15, as the canal maintenance and repair works have not yet been completed.

However, SE Srinivasa Rao maintained that canal works can go on even when the water is being released.

Tourism minister Kandula Durgesh intervened to say that due to prevailing weather conditions, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu

Naidu feels that water should be released one month ahead on Sunday, May 31, instead of July 1. This would enable farmers to raise paddy for transplantation for an early harvest, keeping in mind the potential impact of El Nino.

The minister asked officials to take proactive measures to ensure that farmers do not face any difficulties in irrigating their crops, as the Kharif season is about to commence. Durgesh advised farmers not to rely solely on rainfall but formulate plans to undertake early transplantation of crops. He maintained that contingency plans are in place in case any shortage of water is felt due to adverse conditions.

The minister thanked the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan, and Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu for sanctioning Rs 147 crore to repair the 175 gates of Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowleswaram, and Rs 100 crore for protecting Godavari River from pollution.

BJP MLC Somu Veerraju said efforts are being made to get funds from central government's Jal Shakthi Mission for the upcoming Godavari Pushkaralu.

Rajamahendravaram Rural MLA Gorantla Buchaiah Chowdary suggested that more responsibilities be handed over to water distributary committees for ensuring fair supply of irrigation water.

Andhra Pradesh First to Operationalise Industry Partnership Under PM-SETU

Vijayawada:Andhra Pradesh has become the first state in the country to operationalise an industry partnership under the Centre's Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) scheme, following approval of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) for the Visakhapatnam ITI Cluster.

The approval was granted by the National Steering Committee (NSC) of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), making the Visakhapatnam cluster the first project cleared under the Rs 60,000-crore PM-SETU programme.

The proposal was submitted by ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India in partnership with the New Age Makers Institute of Technology (NAMTECH), positioning Andhra Pradesh at the forefront of industry-led vocational education reforms.

The decision was taken at the third meeting of the National Steering Committee held at Kaushal Bhawan in New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and attended by senior officials from the Directorate General of Training, representatives of Central

ministries, state governments, industry bodies and development partners, including the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank.

Officials described the approval as a significant step towards transforming government Industrial Training Institutes into modern, industry-managed institutions aligned with emerging technologies and workforce requirements.

With Andhra Pradesh becoming the first state to onboard an Anchor Industry Partner under PM-SETU, the Visakhapatnam ITI Cluster is expected to serve as a model for strengthening industry participation in vocational education across the country.

The committee also reviewed the implementation of PM-SETU nationwide and discussed measures to strengthen industry-led governance, improve institutional management, ensure financial sustainability and accelerate project execution.

PM-SETU aims to upgrade 1,000 government ITIs across the country through a hub-and-spoke model based on partnerships between governments and industry. The programme seeks to modernise infrastructure, improve employability outcomes and establish National Centres of Excellence in high-growth sectors.

According to the ministry, 32 states and Union Territories have constituted State Steering Committees, while 12 states have invited proposals from industries to participate as Anchor Industry Partners. Several proposals are at advanced stages of evaluation and approval.

Kannuri Krupavaram, Adivarampet Village from Ramagiri Mandal, has made it into the Guinness Book of World Records.

Peddapalli Correspondant, May 30,: Kannuri Krupavaram, from Adivarampet village of Ramagiri district, performed simultaneously keyboard music by about 2000 keyboard players from 22 countries at a musical event coordinated by Halleel Music School under the auspices of Guinness representatives at the Zoroastrian Club in Hyderabad.It is remarkable that a few people whose talent was spotted were chosen for the Guinness Book of World Records. The selected one,Kannuri Krupavaram, was presented with the Guinness World Records Certificate by Augustine Dangangi, founder of Halleel Music School during a "Guinness Achievers Meet" event at the Victor Memorial Hall, Gachibowli, Hyderabad on Friday, February 29.

Police should work with ethics and honesty Telangana DGP C.V. Anand

Warangal Bureau; The Telangana DGP said that every police officer should work with ethics and honesty. After taking charge as the Telangana State DGP, the DGP held a video conference with the state police officers from Hyderabad. Warangal Police Commissioner Sunpreet Singh participated in the video conference from the camp office. On this occasion, the DGP directed the police officers and issued several orders on the duties to be performed by the police officers for the maintenance of law and order, as well as the manner in which the officers and staff should follow the working hours. DCPs, Additional, ACPs, Inspectors, SIs from the Warangal Commissionerate participated in this video conference meeting from their offices.

People should co-operate fully with the house listing survey: District Collector Koy Sriharsh

The information given in the survey will not create any difficulty with the welfare schemes

The District Collector involved in the house listing survey at the Camp Office

Peddapalli Correspondant May-30: On Saturday District Collector Koay Sri Harsha took part in the house listing survey that was conducted at his camp office and handed over the details necessary to the enumerator. The enumerator stated that the process of the survey is to help the government in planning the future of the country. The house listing survey is a key step in the census. The Census Officer, Koay Sri Harsha, stated that the details of the structure of the house, domestic amenities, drinking water accommodation, sanitation facilities, electricity, cooking fuel, communications facilities were to be recorded in the survey. The enumerator was requested to co-operate with the enumerators and enumerators' assistants and to give no false information. The enumerators and enumerators' assistants were requested to co-operate with the enumerators and enumerators' assistants and to give no false information. The enumerators and enumerators' assistants were requested to co-operate with the enumerators and enumerators' assistants and to give no false information. The enumerators and enumerators' assistants were requested to co-operate with the enumerators and enumerators' assistants and to give no false information. The enumerators and enumerators' assistants were requested to co-operate with the enumerators and enumerators' assistants and to give no false information.

Senior Congress leader joins BJP Dr. Kali Prasad Rao invites him with a scarf

Warangal Bureau : Senior Congress leader Damerupula Veeresh from Narlavai village in Sangem mandal of Warangal district joined BJP. BJP state executive member Parakala constituency contested MLA Dr. Pagdal Kali Prasad Rao cordially invited him to the party and gave him membership in the party by covering him with a scarf.

BJP Sangem Mandal Party President Chandramouli, District Council Member Butti Kumaraswamy, Minority Morcha President MD Rahmatullah, Narlavai Polling Booth President Rajamouli and others participated in the program.

Comprehensive Arrangements Must Be Made for Godavari Pushkaralu: Endowments Principal Secretary Shailaja Ramaiyer

Bhadradri Kothagudem District Correspondent: Endowments Department Principal Secretary Shailaja Ramaiyer directed all departments to work in coordination and take comprehensive measures to ensure the successful conduct of the Godavari Pushkaralu scheduled for 2027, while ensuring that devotees do not face any inconvenience.

On Saturday, she, along with Endowments Commissioner Hanumantha Rao, conducted a video conference from Hyderabad with the Collectors of Godavari basin districts to review the preparations required for the mega religious event.

Speaking on the occasion, Shailaja Ramaiyer stated that lakhs of devotees are expected to visit the Godavari River for holy dips during the Pushkaralu. Therefore, all departments should prepare in advance and coordinate effectively to provide seamless services to pilgrims. She emphasized the need to focus on the development of bathing ghats, road connectivity, parking facilities, drinking water supply, sanitation, medical services, and security arrangements.

She instructed officials to prepare detailed proposals for providing all necessary facilities at bathing ghats and submit them to the government. District Collectors were directed to continuously monitor the progress of works in their respective jurisdictions and coordinate with concerned departments to ensure the successful conduct of the festival. She assured that priority works would be taken up on a priority basis after examining the proposals received from the districts.

Speaking during the meeting, District Collector Ankith briefed the officials on the works proposed by the Irrigation, Roads & Buildings, Panchayat Raj, and Endowments Departments in connection with the Pushkaralu. He informed that proposals for the development of bathing ghats, infrastructure creation, road widening, and construction of new roads had already been prepared and submitted by the concerned departments. Additional proposals relating to roads and other infrastructure requirements would also be sent to the government shortly, he added.

Bhadrachalam Devasthanam Executive Officer Damodar Rao, ZP CEO Nagalakshmi, CPO Sanjeeva Rao, and officials from various departments participated in the video conference.

MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Extends Support to Fire Victims

Immediate Financial Assistance Provided, Assures Indiramma Houses

Pinapaka Correspondent : Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu visited and consoled families affected by a recent fire accident in Ippalagumpu village, under Pandurangapuram Gram Panchayat of Pinapaka Mandal, on Saturday.

The houses of Goggela Abbaiah and Komaram Rambabu were completely destroyed in the accidental fire, leaving the families in severe distress. Upon learning about the incident, the MLA personally visited the affected area, interacted with the victims, and enquired about the circumstances surrounding the mishap.

During the visit, he comforted the family members and assured them that both the government and he would stand by them during this difficult time.

As the fire completely gutted their houses, household belongings, and essential items, the MLA provided immediate financial assistance from his personal funds to the two affected families. He also announced that new houses would be sanctioned to them under the Indiramma Housing Scheme.

Speaking on the occasion, Payam Venkateswarlu said that he had already discussed the matter with concerned officials and directed them to assess the losses and ensure that all eligible relief and compensation, including assistance under government norms and disaster relief provisions, are provided at the earliest.

Addressing the victims, the MLA said, "It is my responsibility as a public representative to support families who have lost their homes in such unfortunate incidents. We will ensure that they receive Indiramma houses and all possible assistance from both the government and my personal side so that they can rebuild their lives and return to normalcy."

Several Congress Party leaders, local public representatives, village elders, government officials, party workers, and villagers participated in the visit.

Impressive Mock Parliament of Teenage Girls

Contribution to the enhancement of democratic values
Warangal District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada

Maha Warangal Bureau; As part of the Mahila Shakti Week organized as part of the Public Administration and Progress Plan, the Mock Parliament program organized by the Rural Poverty Eradication Organization Warangal District at the GWMC Council Hall on Saturday impressed the children.

In the Mock Parliament, discussions and question and answer sessions were held on topics such as education, health, safety, facilities in government schools, transportation, infrastructure, anemia among teenage girls, the need for friendship groups, and empowerment of girls.

The girls effectively played the roles of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, members of the ruling party, reporters, and members of the Resolutions Committee, demonstrating the procedures of the Parliament.

District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada participated in this program and congratulated the girls.

Speaking on the occasion, District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada said that as part of the 99-day action plan of the Public Administration Progress Plan and as part of the Women's Week celebrations, the Sneha Maa Parliament was organized on Saturday and the parliament was organized by these Sneha groups.

Programs like Mock Parliament are very useful in developing leadership qualities, self-confidence, and awareness of democratic values among teenage girls. He said that it is commendable that girls fearlessly express their opinions on key issues such as education, health, security, and infrastructure. He said that by identifying problems and suggesting solutions to them, their thinking ability and leadership skills are very necessary for the future development of society and nation building.

Sneha is a concept of safety, nutrition, education and health.

This Sneha program was started as a pilot project in Warangal district under the auspices of UNICEF and is being implemented in 33 districts. Children were also provided with awareness through this group. In addition to making it a flat sheet program in our district, it is being implemented nationwide

The government is giving special priority to the empowerment of girls. The Collector addressed the children on this occasion and said that girls should focus on education, health and skill development and achieve high goals.

He said that they have learned good things through this mock parliament. He said that it is commendable that children fearlessly mention the problems they are facing and express their opinions on their solutions.

He said that such programs enhance democratic values, leadership qualities, problem-solving skills and the ability to speak boldly. Everyone was delighted to hear that steps would be taken to bring the resolutions proposed in the mock parliament to the attention of the government.

On this occasion, volunteers and learners who showed talent in the 'Ullas-Ammaku Aksharamala' program were honored.

Later, medical examinations were conducted for teenage girls and women with the help of the medical department.

Next, Rani Rudramadevi District Women's Association held a special general meeting and suggested that women should take advantage of government welfare schemes and develop economically.

Additional Collector G Sandhyarani, ZP CEO Ram Reddy, DMHO Sambasiva Rao, DEO Rangayya Naidu, DWO Rajamani, DPMs, APMs, SC RP staff, and VOAs from various villages participated in the program.

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

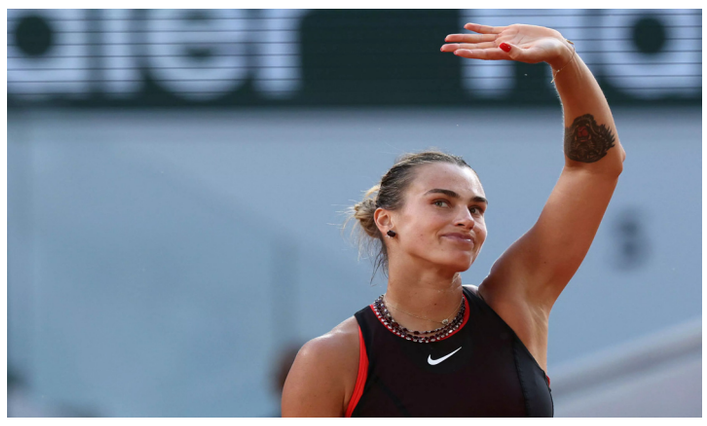
Paris: French teenager Moise Kouame thrilled home fans by reaching the third round of the French Open after beating Adolfo Daniel Vallejo 6-3, 7-5, 3-6, 2-6, 7-6 (8) on Thursday. The 17-year-old Kouame held firm in a contest lasting just under five hours on a sun-drenched Court Suzanne-Lenglen. He clawed 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 starKouame 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.

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.

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.

RR GUILLOTINED: Gujarat storm into finals against RCB, Royals crushed in 7-wicket loss

Shubman Gill's majestic century and Sai Sudharsan's fluent fifty powered Gujarat Titans to a seven-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals in Qualifier 2, securing their third IPL final in five seasons. Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's 96 was the lone highlight for Royals

Mullanpur: Shubman Gill produced a conventional batting masterclass in the age of muscle on the way to a majestic hundred here on Friday, leading Gujarat Titans to a dominating seven-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals and a third final in five seasons of the Indian Premier League.

First it was boy wonder Vaibhav Sooryavanshi who played some astonishing shots in a brilliantly paced 96 off 47 balls to steer Rajasthan Royals to 214 for six after Royals opted to bat on a used surface in the Qualifier 2.

The target was in the range of a top-heavy Titans but they ended up making short work of it courtesy a special 167-run stand off 77 balls between the prolific opening duo of Gill (104 off 53) and Sai Sudharsan (58 off 32).

Freakishly, Sudharsan lost the control of his bat for the second game in a row to be hit wicket. Titans coasted to the target in 18.4 overs.

Titans will meet defending champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the final in Ahmedabad on Sunday, days after being hammered by the same team in Dharamsala.

Highlighting their remarkable consistency, Titans have entered the final thrice since their inaugural season in 2022 when they lifted the trophy.Merit Prizes & Contests

Rajasthan Royals have two X-factor players in Sooryavanshi and Jofra Archer and both had to deliver to take their team to the final. Sooryavanshi did but on a rare occasion Archer went wicket-less in the powerplay and the others failed to step up.

The manner in which Gill and Sudharsan batted in the chase was a treat for the purists of the game. Piercing the field with proper cricketing shots is their strength and that is what they did to perfection.

Gill loves the pull shot and he executed it with ease even against the express pace of Jofra Archer. He used the feet against spinners for boundaries and used the same tactic to reach his hundred, picking Jadeja for a four over extra cover.

With the kind of season Gill has had, he has made a strong case for his inclusion in the India T20 squad after being dropped in the lead-up to the World Cup. He collected 15 fours and three sixes in his classy knock.

There was a bigger crowd in attendance than on Wednesday night, and the majority of them turned up to watch 15-year-old Sooryavanshi go about his belligerent business.

They got more than their money's worth with Sooryavanshi continuing to boss the best bowlers around, including Kagiso Rabada and Jason Holder on this occasion.

Having lost Yashavi Jaiswal and Dhruv Jurel inside the second over, Sooryavanshi needed to adapt on a used surface where Mohammed Siraj, Rabada and Prasidh Krishna came with a clear plan: bowl back of a length into the body and throw in the odd bouncer to contain Sooryavanshi.

With the same pitch picked for the second game in a row, the ball did not come on to the bat as nicely as it did in the Eliminator.

Sooryavanshi was not able to time the ball early on with the bowlers not giving him anything to free his arms. Despite the challenges thrown at him, Sooryavanshi was still able to play awe-inducing shots with the best one being a straight six off a 153 kmph back of length delivery from Rabada.

Promoted to number four considering the situation, Ravindra Jadeja (45 not out off 35) played his part perfectly by going after the pacers, particularly Krishna, who bowled too short in his opening over. Struggling with a tennis elbow, Jadeja got retired hurt after the eighth over before returning to support Ferreria in the death overs (38 not out off 11).

Sooryavanshi also had luck going his way as he was dropped by Sudharsan on 46. However, he went on to complete his sixth fifty of the tournament and made GT pay by going on the offensive in the middle overs.

After dominating Rabada despite being hit on the helmet by the South African, Sooryavanshi played a couple of audacious forehands off Jason Holder, who again was impressive in the middle overs.

A well deserved century was there for the taking like it was on Wednesday night, but Sooryavanshi was holed out in third man for the second game in a row, off a short ball from Rabada.

GT were on course to limit Royals under 200 but the decision to hand the ball to Rashid in the final over did not pay off. On a forgettable night, Ferreira picked him for a barrage of sixes for a 27-run over.

French Open 2026: Mirra Andreeva Sweeps Into Last 16

Paris: Women's eighth seed Mirra Andreeva blew past Marie Bouzkova 6-4, 6-2 in the third round at the French Open on Friday. The 19-year-old Russian survived a break point in the sixth game of the match before breaking herself in the ninth. She then served out comfortably for the set. Andreeva immediately broke the Czech again to start the second set and then broke again, to love, in the seventh game as she won in one hour 35 minutes.

"I was very happy I was able to close the first set despite missing some shots," said Andreeva on court at the end. "Very happy I was able to play aggressive throughout the match." Andreeva said the first-week heat wave suited her game and she preferred playing in the afternoon before the courts cooled. "When it's hot and its sunny I feel I have an advantage because when the ball is bouncing I can get a better shape on it," she said. In the last 16, Andreeva will face either another Czech, 10th-seeded Karolina Muchova, or Swiss Jil Teichmann.

CINEMA

Itlu Arjuna: Aniesh's Hai Re Moment With Anaswara

Adding to the curiosity is S Thaman's music, which is expected to bring an energetic yet soulful touch to the track.

The upcoming coming of age love entertainer Itlu Arjuna marks the launch of Aniesh as a lead actor and also introduces Mahesh Uppala as director, while Venky Kudumula backs the project under the What Next Entertainments banner. Adding to the curiosity is S Thaman's music, which is expected to bring an energetic yet soulful touch to the track.

With the first single Hai Re, Itlu Arjuna seems to be tapping into the innocent side of love that often goes unnoticed- the quiet admiration, the stolen glances, and the happiness found in someone's mere presence. The makers unveiled a breezy new poster and it instantly strikes a chord with its calm and heartfelt vibe. Set to release on May 28th, the song appears to carry the tenderness of first love in the most relatable way.

What makes the poster appealing is its natural charm. Anaswara Rajan is seen immersed in her own peaceful moment near the window, while debutant Aniesh watches her from outside with a smile that says more than words ever could.

Rather than going for dramatic expressions, the design banks on subtle emotions, making Hai Re look like a melody that celebrates the beauty of unexpressed affection.

Rashi Singh is setting social media ablaze with her latest look, delivering a flawless masterclass in traditional poise.

Tollywood's rising powerhouse Rashi Singh is setting social media ablaze with her latest look, delivering a flawless masterclass in traditional poise. Captured through the lens of TDF Studioz, the frame highlights her striking ethnic features against a warm, rustic backdrop. In the photograph, referenced verbatim as, Rashi strikes a poetic, candid pose while biting her lip thoughtfully, creating a moment of pure elegance.

Styled brilliantly by Shalu Jaiswani, Rashi slips into a gorgeous olive-green raw silk sleeveless blouse from Padmaja Reddy Design, featuring a structured scoop back and delicate minimalist embroidery. The top seamlessly complements a beautiful matching olive tissue saree woven with golden checks and adorned with pink floral motifs along the pleats. Makeup artist Reshma gives her a sun-kissed look, highlighted by a subtle black bindi and soft mauve lips. At the same time, hairstylist Arkaa Makeovers pulls her tresses into a textured, wavy long ponytail. To anchor the look in pure royalty, she accessorizes with a pearl choker, matching earrings, a structural gold ring, and a heavy stack of gold and olive glass bangles from The Jewel Gallery.

On the work front, the Sashi actress is navigating a stellar career phase. Following critical acclaim for Prasanna Vadanam and Bhoothaddam Bhaskar Narayana, she recently dominated the box office with the crime thrillers Blind Spot and Paanch Minar. Audiences are also heavily praising her recent lead roles in the OTT space, including 3 Roses Season 2.

"People Don't Feel It's My First Film" – Pavan Kalyan Battula

The movie Purushaha is getting a positive response from audiences after its release on May 22. The film stars Pavan Kalyan Battula in the lead role and is produced by Battula Koteswara Rao under the Kalyan Productions banner. Battula Saraswathi presented the movie, while Veeru Vulavala directed it. Actors Sapthagiri, Kasireddy Rajkumar, Rayancha Kokkura, Vishika, and Hasini Sudhir also played important roles in the film.

As the movie is receiving good appreciation from viewers, the team organised a Thank-You Meet on Saturday to celebrate the success and thank audiences for their support.

Speaking at the event, hero Pavan Kalyan Battula became emotional while talking about his journey. He said, "Thanks to the media for supporting Purushaha. I trained under Satyanand Master, but I didn't reveal this earlier because I wanted people to first judge my acting honestly. Today, after getting appreciation from audiences, I feel proud to say that I am his student."

He also praised director Veeru Vulavala for believing in him and supporting him throughout the film. Pavan Kalyan said, "From the premiere shows itself, we received positive talk. Everyone who watched the film has been congratulating us."

The young actor thanked Sapthagiri and Kasireddy Rajkumar for encouraging him during the project. He also appreciated heroines Rayancha, Vishika, and Hasini for their support. He thanked music director Shravan for giving beautiful songs and background score, and cinematographer Satish for presenting him in a fresh way.

Pavan Kalyan humbly requested audiences to share both positive and negative feedback.

He said, "Please tell me both my strengths and weaknesses. If you point out my mistakes, I will work harder and improve myself."

Producer Battula Koteswara Rao thanked the media and audience for encouraging the movie. He praised the performances of all three heroines and appreciated director Veeru for making the film without compromise. He also spoke proudly about Pavan Kalyan Battula's performance.

"Many people called me and appreciated my decision to introduce Pavan Kalyan Battula as hero. At no point did he look like a newcomer. I liked his performance very much," the producer said.

Director Veeru Vulavala shared that the movie reached audiences only because of the hard work of the entire team. He specially thanked producer Koteshwara Rao and Saraswathi garu for supporting the project from beginning to end.

Talking about the hero, the director said, "Pavan Kalyan attended workshops for two months and practiced every scene many times. That is why audiences never feel like he is a new actor."

Actor Kasireddy Rajkumar also praised the hero and said Pavan Kalyan is very humble and hardworking. "I told him that people should not feel this is his first film. Today audiences are saying exactly that, and I am very happy," he said.

Actress Rayancha expressed happiness over the positive response and thanked the media for supporting the film from day one. Vishika said women audiences are especially appreciating Purushaha and asked viewers to watch the film in theatres. Hasini Sudhir also thanked audiences for encouraging the movie.

Actress Sandhya shared that she is receiving a wonderful response for her role and thanked the makers for giving her the opportunity.

Bengali actress Swastika Mukherjee questioned over FIR on post-poll violence in 2021

Kolkata: Bengali actress Swastika Mukherjee on Saturday appeared for questioning at Gariahat Police Station in connection with an FIR registered against her and actor Parambrata Chatterjee over allegations of inciting post-poll violence in 2021 through a social media post.Geographic Reference

Recently, an FIR was lodged against Parambrata Chatterjee and Swastika Mukherjee at Gariahat Police Station.

The complainant, lawyer Joydeep Sen, had demanded a speedy investigation against the two actors.

Following the complaint, police registered an FIR and summoned the actress, asking her to appear before investigators within seven days.

Swastika Mukherjee appeared at Gariahat Police Station on Saturday afternoon.

After being questioned for nearly an hour regarding her alleged support for Parambrata's social media post, she left the police station.

The actress did not speak to journalists present outside the police station before leaving in her car.

Incidentally, in 2021, Joydeep Sen had lodged a complaint over a post made by Parambrata on Twitter, now known as X.

According to the complainant, Parambrata had made provocative political comments on social media after the Assembly election results were declared. Swastika had allegedly supported the post and commented on it.

Lawyer Joydeep Sen claimed that on May 2, 2021, when the Trinamool Congress had crossed the majority mark in the West Bengal Assembly elections by around 4 p.m., Parambrata had written on social media: "Today should be declared as a thrashing day."

Actress Swastika had allegedly responded to the post by writing: "Hahaha, let it be!"

According to the complainant, such comments contributed to political violence.

The complainant further alleged that such posts and comments by the actor and actress amounted to an offence under Section 107 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

According to the complaint, several incidents including attacks, murders, rapes, arson and physical assault on BJP workers took place in different districts of West Bengal during that period.

The complaint also referred to the murder of BJP worker Abhijit Sarkar of Beliaghata in Kolkata.Geographic Reference

After the FIR was registered, neither Parambrata Chatterjee nor Swastika Mukherjee publicly reacted to the matter.

Swastika appeared directly at Gariahat Police Station on Saturday in connection with the summons.

It remains to be seen when Parambrata Chatterjee will appear before the investigators.

Pooja & Mrunal's Glam Up Varun's Film

Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai is the upcoming film that features Varun Dhawan in the lead, and is directed by his father, David Dhawan.

Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai is the upcoming film that features Varun Dhawan in the lead, and is directed by his father, David Dhawan. The most important feature of the film is that it features both the struggling heroines, Pooja Hegde and Murnal Thakur, in an ultra-glamour avatar. While the songs have already gone viral on the internet, especially with the 'Wow' song becoming a chartbuster, here's how the trailer is.

The trailer of Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai is finally out, and it looks like the film is a hilarious ride. An estranged husband, Varun, loves to impregnate his wife, played by Mrunal Thakur, and as she's not interested in kids, she seeks a divorce. Later, when the hero falls in love with another girl, Pooja Hegde, she gets pregnant even before getting married. Now the wife comes back saying she's also carrying a child. The trailer has lots of jokes, cringeworthy elements, and glamour. Both Pooja and Mrunal competed with each other in the glam department, unlike their previous comments about not being interested in glamorous roles.

On the other hand, all the remix songs and the new songs in this film have struck a chord with the youth. But then, the film is hitting cinemas on June 5th, a day after "Peddi" arrives in theatres. In the mass pockets of the North, the film might not find as much attention, as its urban appeal is quite high due to its London backdrop. When these two factors are combined, the film would feel pressure in mass centres, but might get admired in A-centres, if the reviews are good.

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