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Hasten Land Acquisition For Irrigation Projects: CM



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday directed officials to complete land acquisition for all major irrigation projects in the undivided Mahabubnagar district on a war footing, stressing that project works could not progress as planned unless land acquisition and relief and rehabilitation (R&R) issues were resolved. He said the timely completion of these components was essential for meeting the deadlines set for irrigation projects aimed at transforming the drought-prone Palamuru region.

The Chief Minister, accompanied by irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, ministers Damodar Rajanarsimha and Vakiti Srihari, and senior officials, inspected the progress of ongoing irrigation works during his two-day visit to Mahabubnagar district aimed at fast-tracking key irrigation projects.

During a review meeting, Revanth Reddy instructed officials to expedite the completion of major irrigation projects in the region and made it clear that land acquisition should be treated as the highest priority.

He said project works could not move forward without completing land acquisition and directed district collectors to coordinate closely with local MLAs and MLCs to ensure the process was completed without delay.

The Chief Minister asked collectors to personally visit project areas and oversee the land acquisition process at the field level. He also assured officials that the government was ready to sanction funds whenever required for land acquisition and rehabilitation activities.

Briefing the media after the review, irrigation minister Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government would accord top priority to land acquisition and R&R issues in the implementation of the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme and other irrigation projects in the Palamuru region. He made it clear that civil construction works would be taken up on a large scale only after the completion of land acquisition-related components.

The minister said substantial progress had already been achieved in several components of the Palamuru-Rangareddy project. Nalapur Reservoir has reached 100 per cent completion, while works at Yedula Reservoir have crossed 95 per cent completion.

At Vattem Reservoir, bank works have been completed, and concrete and embankment works are progressing. In Karivena Reservoir, most embankment works have been completed, while a portion of the concrete works remains under execution.

Emphasising the need to focus on trunk infrastructure, Uttam Kumar Reddy directed engineers to utilise available resources for critical infrastructure that would yield maximum benefits. He asked officials to prepare realistic work plans linked to specific financial requirements and timelines and instructed them to act swiftly in pursuing court cases to ensure stays on project works were vacated. Officials were also directed to provide advance monthly fund requirement projections to facilitate better financial planning.

Reiterating the government's policy direction, the minister said officials had been instructed to first complete all land acquisition-related works. Quoting the Chief Minister, he said the focus should be on completing the Part-A component of the projects, which pertains to land acquisition and R&R. Once that phase is completed, the government would aggressively take up Part-B civil works. He observed that spreading resources across multiple fronts simultaneously would not serve any meaningful purpose.

PM Modi Meets Venezuela's Acting President Delcy Rodriguez

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Venezuela's Acting President Delcy Rodriguez in the national capital on Thursday.

The meeting took place at Hyderabad House. The leaders are expected to have discussed the full spectrum of India-Venezuela relations, with a focus on energy security, trade and investment, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, transportation and renewable energy.

Earlier in the day, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Rodriguez and reaffirmed India's commitment to strengthening ties with the South American nation.

In a post on X, Jaishankar said he was "pleased to call on Acting President Delcy Rodriguez of Venezuela in New Delhi today" and expressed appreciation for her longstanding com-



mitment to the India-Venezuela relationship.

"Deeply value her longstanding commitment to the India-Venezuela relationship," Jaishankar said, adding that Rodriguez's meeting with Prime Minister Modi would further strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

Rodriguez arrived in

New Delhi on Wednesday for a five-day working visit aimed at deepening bilateral ties between India and Venezuela.

Welcoming the Venezuelan leader, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the visit would provide an opportunity for both countries to strengthen cooperation and build on the momen-

tum in their bilateral partnership.

"A warm welcome to Acting President Delcy Rodriguez of Venezuela on her arrival in New Delhi. During her visit, Acting President Rodriguez will hold bilateral talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The visit will further deepen India-Venezuela ties and build on the mo-

mentum in the bilateral partnership," the MEA said in a post on X.

According to the MEA, Rodriguez's visit will continue from June 3 to June 7.

She was earlier scheduled to visit India to participate in the International Big Cat Alliance Summit on June 1, which was subsequently deferred.

Rodriguez is accompanied by a high-level delegation that includes Venezuela's Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Economy and Finance, Science and Technology, Communication and Information, and Transportation. During the high-level discussions, both sides are expected to review the entire spectrum of bilateral relations and explore avenues to deepen cooperation in key sectors, including energy security, trade and investment, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, transportation and renewable energy.

TELANGANA SET TO SURPASS RABI PROCUREMENT RECORD: UTTAM

Hyderabad: Irrigation and civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy asserted that the state was on course to surpass last year's record Rabi procurement and set a new benchmark. The government has already procured over 70 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) and eyes cross previous year's 74.2 LMT. Reviewing procurement operations across the state at a meeting with officials, Uttam Kumar Reddy instructed district collectors and civil supplies officials to resolve bottlenecks on a war footing, particularly in districts where procurement was still in progress.

Expressing confidence in the state's procurement machinery, Uttam Kumar Reddy said Telangana was likely to close the season with procurement levels higher than those achieved last year despite challenges posed by weather conditions and shortage of hamalis. The minister said special attention should be given



to Nizamabad, Nirmal, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparthy and Vikarabad districts, where paddy arrivals were expected to continue for the next ten days. "Push the districts to finish procurement before the monsoon gains momentum. Farmers should not suffer because of weather-related disruptions," he said, directing the officials to ramp up the operations.

The procurement operations in several districts were nearing completion. Suryapet and Nalgonda districts are

going to complete the operations in a day or two. The minister also reviewed storage arrangements and directed officials to immediately address space constraints wherever they existed. He was informed that additional storage facilities had been identified in districts facing shortages. The minister also reviewed the movement of Custom Milled Rice (CMR) and directed officials to expedite transportation and storage operations to ensure smooth procurement of fresh arrivals. Uttam Kumar Reddy also reviewed the functioning of procurement centres and the welfare of workers engaged in procurement activities, including hamalis and support staff. He directed officials to examine proposals for improving their welfare measures, including insurance coverage and other social security benefits.

BRS questions presence of rival parties in Telangana activists' panel meet

The BRS has criticised the Congress government for inviting parties that opposed the statehood struggle to the Telangana Movement Activists Committee meeting.

Hyderabad: The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Thursday questioned the inclusion of political parties that opposed the statehood movement in the Telangana Movement Activists Committee meeting held at BR Ambedkar State Secretariat. The party also accused the Congress government of failing to honour its promises to Telangana movement activists.

Speaking to mediapersons after participating in the meeting, former MLC Karne Prabhakar objected to the invitation extended to parties such as the TDP, YSRCP and CPM, which opposed the formation of Telangana. He also criticised the government for constituting the committee without statutory backing, a fixed timeline or even a dedicated office.

He demanded that the government extend recognition and support to statehood movement activists on the lines of the previous BRS regime. He alleged that



despite election assurances, the Congress government did not provide clarity on measures for activists' welfare.

MLC Dasoju Sravan said the BRS government provided employment to 582 artistes and recognised 610 movement activists who received financial assistance. He urged the government to undertake a comprehensive survey to identify and support those who were yet to receive recognition.

Appreciating the government for the initiative two-and-a-half years after coming to power, he found fault with the government after former MLC Karne Prabhakar who is also a Telangana movement activist was stopped twice from entering the Secretariat to attend the meeting. He also urged the State government to include the history of the Telangana movement in school textbooks.



Friday 05, June, 2026

INDIA MUST REASSESS SEMICONDUCTOR STRATEGY

If India is to realise its dream of emerging as a major global player in the semiconductor sector, it needs to reassess its core strengths and craft suitable strategies. The stark reality is that the country imports 90-95% of the semiconductors it uses today, and the domestic demand is projected to exceed \$240 billion by 2035. India spent nearly \$150 billion importing semiconductor products between 2017 and 2025. In this scenario, it would be imprudent to reinvent the wheel and end up as an also-ran in the global race, particularly in the face of the widening gap between demand growth and limited domestic capability. Given the complex nature of the industry and the changing geopolitics surrounding it, the Centre must favourably look into a wide range of suggestions made by the NITI Aayog to make India an indispensable player in the global semiconductor value chain. One of the important recommendations made by the think tank is that India must stop trying to catch up with global leaders in cutting-edge semiconductor manufacturing and instead focus on areas where it can become irreplaceable within the global chip supply chain. It has been rightly argued that we should move away from the race to build the world's most advanced chips and focus instead on advanced packaging, system integration and manufacturing scale. Winning the semiconductor race will not be easy if India continues to run the existing race; instead, it should shift gears and target becoming the ecosystem player that the global semiconductor industry cannot run without.

India's semiconductor demand is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 19%. This demand is expected to be driven by electronics manufacturing, rapid expansion of data centres, increasing semiconductor content in vehicles, particularly electric vehicles and advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS), and the rapid adoption of artificial intelligence across consumer and enterprise applications. Given the rising demand, excessive dependence on imported chips poses risks not only to economic growth but also to national security, as many semiconductor components used in defence systems are sourced from abroad. The global chip supply chain is currently undergoing massive geopolitical pressure as the United States and its allies are trying to reduce their dependence on Chinese semiconductor players and their markets. Though India traditionally had a strong base for the semiconductor design industry, hardware manufacturing has remained elusive. Over the last two decades, several consortia made multiple attempts at chip-making, but things never worked out. It is estimated that India will require between \$135 billion and \$180 billion in capital expenditure over the next decade to build infrastructure for semiconductor manufacturing, packaging, design and related ecosystem capabilities. The Centre must consider NITI Aayog's key recommendations, including setting up National Fab Academy, semiconductor-focused engineering curriculum, large-scale technician training programmes and a global talent initiative, to attract experienced semiconductor professionals.

Hyderabad Ebola scare: Sudan traveller isolated at Gandhi Hospital after symptoms flagged

A passenger from Sudan exhibiting symptoms consistent with Ebola has been shifted to Gandhi Hospital in Hyderabad after arriving at RGIA Shamshabad. Samples have been sent to NIV Pune for testing, while authorities have strengthened surveillance at entry points. Geographic Reference



Hyderabad: A passenger from Sudan who arrived at RGIA Shamshabad on Thursday and displayed symptoms consistent with the Ebola virus, was shifted to Gandhi Hospital.

Following the established emergency response plan, the passenger from Sudan was

swiftly transferred to the isolation ward at Gandhi Hospital via a dedicated ambulance.

Doctors have collected samples from the patient, which have been dispatched to the National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune for diagnostic testing. Officials are currently awaiting the lab results to confirm the diagnosis.

In light of the ongoing Ebola situation in several African nations, the Telangana Medical and Health Department has strengthened surveillance across all entry points. AP News Updates

Gandhi Hospital has been officially designated as the nodal center for Ebola management in Telangana, with specialized isolation facilities and medical teams kept on standby to handle any potential cases.

Odisha mulls 'e-hundi' facility for online donations to Puri Jagannath temple

Odisha government is planning an 'e-hundi' system called Samarpan to enable secure online donations to Shree Jagannath Temple. The proposal aims to modernize offerings, ensure cyber safety, and channel funds toward temple development and conservation

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha government is mulling introducing 'e-hundi' facilities for devotees keen to make online donations to the Jagannath temple in Puri, officials said.

The idea was discussed at a meeting chaired by Law Minister Prithviraj Harichandan here, following donation requests from devotees in the country and abroad, they said.

"The Odisha government and the Shree Jagannath



Temple Administration (SJTA) receive a lot of request from devotees for introducing online payment facility for donations to the 12th century shrine," an official said.

The proposed 'e-hundi' mechanism, tentatively named 'Samarpan', will allow devotees to securely make donations, he said.

Discussions were also held at the meeting regarding making such online donations tax free, and spending the amount on infrastructure development and conservation of the Jagannath temple in Puri, the official said.

The minister, however, said the authorities should ensure that online transactions to the temple are protected from cyber fraud.

LPG Cylinder Blast at Central Delhi Food Stall, Four Injured

New Delhi: Four people sustained burn injuries after an LPG cylinder burst at a small food stall operating from a house in central Delhi's Nabi Karim area on Thursday morning, police and fire officials said. The incident was reported at 9.29 am at a house in Amarpuri, following which personnel from Delhi Police and Delhi Fire Services (DFS) rushed to the spot.

According to police, the incident occurred in a small room on the ground floor of the house that was being used by Sarita, 35, to prepare and sell tea and simple meals such as dal-riice.

Preliminary enquiry revealed that Sarita had asked a man, identified as Krishan, 37, to replace an LPG cylinder. While the regulator was being opened, a sudden fire broke out.

Fire officials, however, said an LPG cylinder blast occurred in the food stall, measuring approximately 6x8 square feet, resulting in burn injuries to four people.

All the injured were shifted to Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital by PCR and CATS ambulances before the arrival of fire tenders and were admitted under the supervision of Dr Shruti, officials said.



The injured have been identified as Sarita, wife of Ram Sevak, who sustained around 50 per cent burns; Ajay, 19, son of Ram Kishan, who suffered about 40 per cent burns; Zakir, 35, son of Irfan, who sustained around 30 per cent burns; and Krishan, son of Ramji, who suffered about 40 per cent burn injuries.

Police said Ajay was present at the stall for tea when the incident occurred, while Zakir, a resident of Amarpuri, was passing through the area at the time.

A fire officer who inspected the site said the blaze originated in the food stall area and was linked to the LPG cylinder blast.

IMD Predicts Heavy Rainfall in Parts of Telangana, Orange Alert Issued

Hyderabad: With the Southwest monsoon likely to hit Kerala and Tamil Nadu states by Thursday, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted medium to high rainfall in parts of Telangana on Wednesday and Thursday.

The state-wide forecast in Telangana has indicated Orange alert in many areas with high rainfall and thunderstorms in districts including Adilabad, Kumaran Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Jagtial, Rajanna-Sircilla, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Mahabubnagar, Warangal, Hanamkonda. The weather body has noted that the mentioned districts will receive heavy rainfall with thunderstorms on Wednesday and Thursday.

Meanwhile, several districts had received heavy rainfall on Tuesday, with Enkoor mandal of Khammam district alone recording 7.9 cm of rainfall. Similarly, Aswaraopet in Bhadradi Kothagudem and Venkatapuram Mandal of Mulugu district received 4 and 1.7 cm of rainfall, respectively. Also, 27 districts of Telangana recorded temperatures hovering between 40.2 and 44.7 °C on Tuesday.

BJP Slams Rahul for Saying PM Modi Will Be out of Power in a Year



New Delhi: The BJP on Thursday hit back at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his claim that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will no longer remain in office in a year's time, accusing him of spreading propaganda.

The ruling party also noted that the only Emergency imposed in the country was by former prime minister Indira Gandhi.

Gandhi, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, claimed on Wednesday that Modi will not be the prime minister in a year's time as the "system that he once controlled is now shaken and collapsing internally".

He further alleged that the Modi government may try to suppress the public pressure and impose something like an Emergency.

Reacting sharply to the remarks, BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla said Gandhi's comments reflect the Congress party's own history and mindset.

"Rahul Gandhi Has Family History of Emergency"

"Rahul Gandhi comes from a family with a history of the Emergency. That is why he believes everyone is out to impose an Emergency. The Constitution was crushed only once in India, and that was done by Indira Gandhi. The way she undermined constitutional institutions and interfered with them is well known," Poonawalla said in a video statement.

The BJP spokesperson alleged that the real "emergency" is within the Congress party.

"Rahul Gandhi, who places dynastic rule above democracy, continues to see an Emergency everywhere even today. There is an emergency of sorts, but it is within the Congress. There is institutional collapse and revolt within the Congress. There is a systemic breakdown, but it is in the Congress party," he said.

Claiming that Congress leaders are deserting the party one after another, Poonawalla said the opposition party is "facing a revolt" against dynastic politics.

"After losing 99 elections, the Congress institution itself is now rising in revolt against dynastic politics. That is why Congress leaders are leaving the party one after another. They are revolting against you," he said.

The BJP spokesperson also accused Gandhi of repeatedly making allegations against India's institutions and harming the country's image abroad.

"LoP - Leader of Propaganda"

"But you are the LoP -- the leader of propaganda. Spreading lies, creating panic and profiteering -- that is your model," he charged.

"You speak against India's democratic institutions abroad. If anyone has undertaken an agenda to defame India internationally, it is you," he added.

Poonawalla alleged that Gandhi has earlier made misleading statements on issues ranging from the economy and Covid vaccines to national security matters.

"You have repeatedly said the economy is dead when India is the fastest-growing major economy. You spread misinformation against India's vaccines so that foreign-made vaccines could be sold.

"You weaken the morale of India's armed forces by speaking against Operation Sindoor and India's actions in Galwan. Even the Supreme Court has rebuked you," he said.

Poonawalla said the Congress leader should stop "panic to profit" politics.

"Stop this agenda of maligning India. Stop this 'panic to profit' politics. And remember that LoP does not stand for leader of propaganda," he said.

Addressing tribal leaders from across the country at an event organised by the Adivasi Congress at the Indira Bhawan here, Gandhi on Wednesday warned that while an "economic tsunami" is coming, the system is also revolting due to public pressure.

Russian Firms Invited To Invest in AP's Steel, Transport, Digital Infrastructure



Vijayawada: Education and IT minister Nara Lokesh continued his investment outreach in Russia on Thursday with industrial, investment and transport sector leaders, inviting investments in AP's manufacturing, logistics, mobility and technology segments.

During a meeting with Ivan Demchenko, chairman of Russian metallurgical company Novostal-M, Lokesh urged the firm to establish an Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) steel plant in AP for the manufacture of premium-grade rebars and wire rods.

He also proposed setting up a structural section and railway track rolling mill at Sri City, citing its railway connectivity and proximity to the Chennai-Bengaluru industrial corridor.

The minister sought investment in a galvanised hardware wire manufacturing unit catering to the automotive and ship-building sectors. He also proposed a joint venture for developing a raw-material logistics hub with dedicated waterfront berths and suggested collaboration in low-carbon steel production linked to renewable energy corridors.

Demchenko said Novostal-M produces 2.8 million tonnes of steel annually and exports to more than 60 countries. He said the company is exploring opportunities in India and would examine the proposals presented by the AP government.

Lokesh also met Tagir Sitdekov, president of Russian investment conglomerate Sistema, and proposed partnerships in electric river metro projects, green hydrogen and ammonia initiatives, satellite and ground-station facilities, autonomous maritime technologies, AI-powered coastal surveillance and smart EV charging networks.

He invited Sistema to participate in AP's Quantum Valley initiative and explore cooperation in cybersecurity, biometric systems and AI-based urban governance solutions. Sitdekov said Sistema is already engaged in the digital ecosystem and SME financing initiatives in India and expressed interest in studying the proposals.

In another meeting, Lokesh held discussions with Moscow's transport minister and deputy mayor Maksim Likutov on technical cooperation for metro rail development, AI-based transit tracking systems, smart traffic management, electric bus fleets and integrated transport command centres.

The minister also proposed collaboration on digital freight corridors, multimodal logistics hubs and advanced cargo-tracking platforms to strengthen connectivity between ports and rail networks.

The meetings were part of the state government's efforts to attract global investments and advanced technologies into AP's infrastructure, manufacturing and digital economy sectors.

Visakhapatnam Port Authority Accredited As L2 Green Port



Visakhapatnam: Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) has been accredited as an L2 Green Port by the Centre of Excellence on ESG and Circularity, recognising its efforts in environmental protection, sustainable development and community welfare.

According to a port release, the certification is awarded to ports demonstrating significant initiatives in energy efficiency, renewable energy, waste management, pollution control and sustainable infrastructure.

VPA met the evaluation criteria through several green initiatives. It became the first major port in the country to operate entirely on solar power, achieving 100 per cent green power utilisation. The port has also launched a One Million Plantation Drive (2024-2027) to strengthen ecological sustainability.

The authority operates a 10 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant and two 400 KLD Effluent Treatment Plants, with treated water being reused for dust suppression. VPA has also collected 1,398 metric tonnes of floating waste, achieved 95 per cent railway electrification, and promoted alternative energy initiatives as part of its sustainability efforts.

Cabinet Okays Amaravati Eye

Vijayawada: In a bid to radically alter the urban, industrial and social landscape of Andhra Pradesh, the state Cabinet gave its green signal to a string of transformative projects on Thursday.

These included a giant observation wheel named 'Amaravati Eye' on the banks of River Krishna, a world-class international university at Sri City, and a massive aviation policy overhaul targeting over 30 million passengers by 2035.

The meeting, chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, cleared 35 agenda items spanning infrastructure, urban development, healthcare and rural employment. Briefing the media, information minister Kolusu Parthasarathy said the decisions reflect a balanced approach toward cutting-edge technology, tourism and welfare governance.

Naidu has told his Cabinet colleagues to focus and prioritise development of Capital City Amaravati.



A decision was to issue an ordinance for setting up the greenfield Sri City International University in Tirupati district with a Rs 250 crore investment, reserving 35 per cent of its non-medical seats under the government quota.

In a major push to position the capital city as a premier tourism destination, the Cabinet approved the development of the Amaravati Eye — a giant observation wheel modelled after the iconic London Eye — on 6 acres of land along the Krishna river under the DBFOT (design, build, finance, operate and transfer) model with a 30-year concession period.

Additionally, the government sanctioned Rs 547.07 crore for major external development works at the High Court building and authorised high-end infrastructure additions worth Rs 94.90 crore for the All India Services quarters in Rayapudi.

Signalling an intent to capture futuristic tech industries, the Cabinet approved full stamp duty and registration fee exemptions for 49.66 acres allocated for the Amaravati Quantum Valley project.

The AP Aviation Policy 2026-31 was ratified. It aims to scale up passenger capacity to 30.38 million and air cargo to 4.27 lakh metric tonnes by 2035

by establishing 9 new airports and 10 water dromes.

Aligning with a Supreme Court directive, the Cabinet cleared an ordinance to implement the stringent Central law — the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 2011 — to dismantle black-market organ trading networks.

For the upcoming International Day of Yoga, the government sanctioned Rs 10 crore for a fortnight-long celebration targeting 1 crore citizens, while green-lighting the AP Yoga and Naturopathy Prachara Parishat.

In a boon to rural labourers, the Cabinet ap-

proved the implementation of the VBGRAMG Act 2025 from July 1, 2026, with a 60:40 Centre-state funding. The scheme enhances guaranteed manual labour from 100 to 125 days, boosting a rural family's annual income by up to Rs 7,675.

On the industrial front, extensive land parcels were allocated to NREDCAP for 102.50mw solar and 126mw wind power projects in YSR Kadapa district. Land was also cleared for APIIC expansions in Chittoor, alongside a 9.39-acre allocation to APTDC in Madhura wada, Visakhapatnam, for star hotels. To bring relief to depositors, the Cabinet sanctioned 21 new staff posts for the special court in Vijayawada to fast-track long-pending Agri Gold cases.

Meanwhile, 25.37 acres in Vatticherukuru, Guntur, were reclassified from 'Tank Poramboke' to 'Grama Kantham', freeing them from the Section 22-A prohibited list.

Polavaram Project Site Abuzz



Vijayawada: The Polavaram multi-purpose irrigation project site is abuzz with experts from central agencies carrying out quality tests on materials to be used for construction of the earth-cum-rock-fill dam at a top elevation of 53.32 metres. As the works on construction of ECRF dam began recently, experts mainly from the central soil and materials research station and the water and power consultancy services, which works under the Jal Sakthi ministry are frequently visiting the project site. They mainly check the suitability of materials like rock, sand, soil/clay and metal chips of 20/40/80mm size through tests and recommend suitable ones for construction of the main dam.

The principal contract agency and the state water resources department are having their own labs to test the quality of materials. Though the water department is able to source mainly the suitable rock and sand at the project site itself, they are sourcing soil/clay from the Kothuru Tank a distance away from the project site. They collect samples of the materials and subject them to quality tests for their usage in the dam construction. Suitable materials will be transported to the project site.

The works on the ECRF Dam Gap-1 have reached the elevation of 33 metres as of now while at Gap-2, the works are at various stages of elevation. The authorities intend to bring the works to a uniform height by July 15. On the other hand, though the Polavaram dam will be constructed to a top elevation of 53.32 metres with no phase-wise civil works, the water resources authorities will fill up the reservoir in the dam with Godavari water at a level of 41.15 metres in phase-1 and at a level of 45.72 metres in phase-2.

However, filling up of the reservoir from phase-1 to phase-2 involves resettlement and rehabilitation of project-displaced families, construction of rehabilitation colonies with all requisite amenities and migration of the affected families and payment of financial relief. Polavaram superintendent engineer Ramachandra Rao said, "We are confident of completing the dam construction by March 2027 as desired by the chief minister; and if not, by June, 2027."

Rajya Sabha Seat Sharing; TD Gets 3, Jana Sena 1

Vijayawada: The ruling alliance in Andhra Pradesh has finalised the allocation of four Rajya Sabha seats, with the Telugu Desam securing three seats and Jana Sena one. The four seats are falling vacant soon.

The decision was taken at a meeting held at the CM's Camp Office in Amaravati on Thursday. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan, BJP state president P.V.N. Madhav, Minister Nadendla Manohar and TD state president Palla Srinivasa Rao attended the meeting.

The leaders reviewed the government's performance during its first two years in office and discussed the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise and the forthcoming Rajya Sabha elections.

The TD and Jana Sena are expected to announce their candidates shortly.

The vacancies arise following the completion of terms of Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose, Alla Ayodhya Rami Reddy, Parimal Nathwani and Sana Satish. With the



NDA enjoying a comfortable majority in the Assembly, all four seats are expected to be won by alliance nominees.

The alliance also finalised a statewide outreach programme to publicise the achievements of the central and state governments as part of campaigns marking two years of the NDA rule in Andhra Pradesh and 12 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government at the Centre.

Alliance leaders announced major public meetings in Tirupati on June 9, Amaravati on June 12 and Visakhapatnam on June 15. The Tirupati event will focus on welfare, Amaravati on governance and Visakhapatnam on development.

D i s t r i c t - l e v e l

programmes will be held between June 13 and June 20 to highlight welfare, governance and development initiatives undertaken by the Central and state governments. A detailed schedule is expected to be released shortly.

Palla Srinivasa Rao said the alliance had prepared an extensive public outreach plan to showcase the achievements of both governments. BJP state president Madhav said the campaign would highlight benefits delivered to various sections of society and outline a roadmap for governance over the next three years.

Minister Manohar said the campaign would focus on 24 major initiatives implemented during the state government's first 24 months in office.

AP Chambers To Host Green India Conference on June 12

Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Federation (AP Chambers), in association with Exhibition Catalyst, will organise the Green India Conference (GIC) 2026 in Vijayawada on June 12 to discuss opportunities and challenges in the clean energy sector. The conference will be held at SS Convention as part of the three-day Green Energy India Expo 2026 from June 11 to 13 under the theme, "Andhra Pradesh – The Gateway to India's Green Energy Future." AP Chambers president Potluri Bhaskara Rao said the event would focus on investment opportunities, policy



initiatives, infrastructure development, workforce preparedness and consumer issues in the green energy sector. Panel discussions will examine green energy investments, agrivoltaics for agriculture and rural livelihoods, and the development of a green-collar economy to generate employment. Sessions will also address policy measures needed to make Andhra Pradesh a green energy exporter and challenges in developing 80 GW of grid evacuation infrastructure over the next two years. Government officials, industry leaders and energy experts are expected to participate in the conference.

MLA Payam Extends Helping Hand to Ailing Kamalakar; Hands Over Rs.5 Lakh LOC for Emergency Treatment

Pinapaka Correspondent : In a humanitarian gesture, Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu handed over a 5 lakh Letter of Credit (LOC) sanctioned by the State Government for the emergency medical treatment of Tolem Kamalakar, a resident of Kothagudem village in Pinapaka Mandal, Bhadradi Kothagudem district.



The LOC was formally presented at the MLA Camp Office in Manuguru. On behalf of Kamalakar, the document was received by his brother-in-law Mankidi Suresh. The MLA personally handed over the sanction letter and assured the family of his support during this difficult time.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu said that the State Government is giving top priority to public

healthcare and ensuring that no poor family is deprived of quality medical treatment due to financial hardships. He noted that under the leadership of the Chief Minister, several welfare measures are being implemented to provide timely medical assistance to those in need.

The MLA expressed hope that the 5 lakh LOC would help Kamalakar receive the required treatment and recover soon to rejoin his family in good health.

Family members of Kamalakar expressed their heartfelt gratitude to MLA Payam Venkateswarlu and the State Government for extending financial support during a critical time.

The MLA's gesture has drawn appreciation from local residents, who hailed it as an example of compassionate public service and a commitment to standing by people in their times of need.

MLA Bojju Patel Visits Allampalli Creates Awareness on Cleanliness Among the Public



Nirmal District Staff Reporter : Khannapur MLA and Nirmal DCC President Vedma Bojju Patel visited Allampalli village in Kadem mandal on Thursday, traveling through the village on a two-wheeler and interacting with residents to understand their problems. He held a meeting with locals at the Gram Panchayat office and discussed various issues affecting the village.

The MLA instructed Forest Department officials not to create difficulties for people regarding the construction of Indiramma houses and borewell drilling works. Later, he distributed sanitation kits to Gram Panchayat workers and emphasized the importance of maintaining cleanliness and hygiene.

At Babanayak Thanda, he performed the foundation-laying ceremony for the construction of a Village Organization (VO) office, an Anganwadi Centre, and a new Gram Panchayat building. During his tour, he directed officials to speed up the construction of roads and drainage systems. He also inspected Indiramma housing projects that had been stalled due to objections from the Forest Department.

Bojju Patel assured villagers that special measures would be taken to resolve the Allampalli road issue. He instructed officials to arrange a meeting with the District Collector along with a detailed report on the matter. He also urged villagers to bring their old land documents and pattas to the Collector's office.

The MLA directed officials to ensure that the work of people traveling from remote areas to the MRO and MPDO offices is completed on time. He also advised residents to remain alert during the upcoming rainy season, particularly regarding strong winds and lightning.

The program was attended by Congress Mandal President Bodduganganna, DCC District General Secretary Satish Reddy, SC Cell District President Shyam, Sarpanches Sitaram, Jangu, and Dasu, MRO, MPDO Aruna, PR AE Chandan, party workers, and villagers.

MLA Payam Focuses on Krishnasagar Village Issues..! Assures Steps for Overall Village Development..!

Manuguru : Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu has responded positively to the issues faced by the people of Krishnasagar village in Burgampahad Mandal. Seeking solutions to several long-pending public problems, Krishnasagar Sarpanch Tati Vani and Vice-Sarpanch B. Mohan Rao met the MLA at his camp office in Manuguru on Thursday and submitted a representation.



During the meeting, they brought to the MLA's attention various issues affecting the village, including drinking water shortages, damaged roads, inadequate drainage

facilities, and other infrastructure-related problems. They explained the hardships being faced by the villagers and requested immediate intervention.

After receiving the representation, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu assured them that he would discuss the

matter with the concerned officials and take necessary steps to resolve the issues at the earliest. He stated that the government is committed to the comprehensive development of villages and reiterated his dedication to addressing public grievances.

The program was attended by governing body members, Padam Raju, village elders, Congress Party leaders, party activists, and local residents.

"People's problems are my problems. I will always stand by the people and work for the development of villages," said MLA Payam Venkateswarlu.

Collector Ankit Distributes Accreditation Cards to District Accreditation Committee Members..!

Accreditation Cards to be Issued to Eligible Media Representatives from Friday

Bhadradi Kothagudem District Correspondent | June 04: District Collector Ankit distributed accreditation cards to the members of the District Accreditation Committee at the Collector's Chamber on Thursday. On the occasion, he congratulated the committee members and stated that the media plays a vital role in delivering information to the public quickly and reliably.



journalists from Friday at the Office of the District Information and Public Relations Officer. He advised media representatives to visit the office at the designated time and collect their cards.

The Collector informed that the process of granting accreditation cards to print and electronic media representatives in the district has been completed. He announced that accreditation cards will be distributed to eligible

Describing the media as one of the pillars of democracy, Collector Ankit appreciated journalists for their significant contribution in not only disseminating government development and welfare initiatives to the public but also bringing public issues to the attention

of the government. He expressed hope that media professionals would continue to uphold professional ethics and provide unbiased information to the people.

The programme was attended by District Information and Public Relations Officer Azgar Hussain, members of the District Accreditation Committee, and staff of the Information and Public Relations Department.

"Media is the backbone of democracy, and the services rendered by journalists as the voice of the people are invaluable," said Collector Ankit.

Hyderabad's leading design college is now in Warangal SR University collaborates with Hamstech College to launch Bachelor of Design programs

Warangal, June 4, 2026: In a significant move set to redefine creative education in India, Hamstech College of Creative Education has partnered with SR University to establish the SRU School of Design powered by Hamstech.



The collaboration brings together Hamstech's three decades of expertise in design training with SR University's 150-acre integrated campus, known for its strong academic framework, modern infrastructure and growing national and international recognition. Together, the institutions aim to create a learning environment aligned with evolving industry needs.

emphasises hands-on training, project-based learning, and exposure to real-world design practices.

The SRU School of Design will launch two Bachelor of Design programmes, Fashion Design and Interior Design, focused on building strong creative foundations and preparing students for careers in the design field. The curriculum

Further strengthening the Fashion Design programme, celebrated designer Neeta Lulla, a multiple National Award-winning designer, joins as Celebrity Mentor, offering valuable industry insights and mentorship to aspiring designers.

Speaking about the partnership, A. Varada Reddy, Chancellor of SR University, said, "This collaboration is aimed at equipping students with industry-relevant knowledge, practical experience, and the creative confidence needed to excel in the evolving design landscape. As the

importance of design education continues to grow, we believe the future will increasingly be shaped by creativity and innovation."

Commenting on the collaboration, Yogesh Kumar, Chairman of Hamstech, said, "At Hamstech, our focus has always been on shaping design education that aligns with real-world demands. This partnership with SR University allows us to scale that vision, creating a robust platform where students can build strong creative capabilities supported by both academic excellence and practical learning."

The launch of the SRU School of Design powered by Hamstech marks a significant milestone in expanding access to quality design education in Telangana and beyond.

Press meet of bricklayer owners condemning comments by Clay Mafia

Peddapalli Correspondant June 04:: The owners of the kiln explained that the government is taking the clay by royalty of the soil except that we are taking it through a way bill which we are doing through the way bill which we give them we are transporting the clay and it is wrong to make any kind of accusation against us like this when we are going through the proper channels and we are doing this in a very responsible manner and we are doing this through the way bill which the District Collector 12 Tyre Vehicle Permit only allows us to take 20 tons of the weighage if we are doing highload



i.e. 14, 16 Tyre Vehicle. The owners of the kiln said that we will stick to it no matter what kind of action you take against us if we transport on 14, 16 Tyre Vehicle depending on the clay.

Justice Must Be Done for Polavaram Backwater Victims Central Government Must Take Immediate Measures to Protect Affected Villages: MLA Payam Venkateswarlu

Sarapaka Correspondent | June 04: Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu has demanded that the Central Government take urgent measures to ensure justice for the people affected by the backwater impact of the Polavaram Project in Bhadradi Kothagudem district. He submitted a detailed memorandum to officials of the Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) and the Central Water Commission (CWC) highlighting the concerns of the affected communities.

Speaking at Sarapaka, the MLA stated that several villages in Burgampadu and Aswapuram mandals, including Nagineni Prolu and Reddypalem, are facing a serious threat from Polavaram backwaters. He expressed concern that agricultural lands may be submerged beyond the officially estimated levels, potentially displacing hundreds of families belonging to SC, ST, and BC communities.

He noted that



people in the region are already facing hardships during Godavari floods, and the backwater effect of the Polavaram Project could worsen their situation. Increased water stagnation due to the impact on streams, tributaries, and natural drainage systems could severely affect agriculture and rural livelihoods, he explained.

The MLA also brought to the attention of authorities the potential threat to the safety of the strategically important Heavy Water Plant at Aswapuram, which plays a crucial role at the national level.

In the memorandum, he included ten major demands, such as conducting a comprehensive scientific backwater survey in the affected areas, announcing a special rehabilitation package, providing fair compensation to farmers, undertaking impact studies on tributaries, implementing permanent flood-control measures, and constructing protective embankments and flood-protection walls.

He further urged the government to constitute a joint committee comprising public representatives, officials, and experts to conduct field inspec-

tions and establish a mechanism for continuous monitoring of the affected regions. He emphasized that no decision affecting the interests of the people of Telangana should be implemented without scientific assessment and public consultation.

"The rights of Polavaram backwater victims must be protected. Complete safety must be ensured for all affected villages. The struggle will continue until justice is delivered to every affected family," MLA Payam Venkateswarlu asserted.

Solving Public Issues is the Main Objective of Praja Palana-Pragathi Plan: District Collector Ankit



Bhadradi Kothagudem District | June 04, 2026: District Collector Ankit stated that the primary objective of the State Government's prestigious Praja Palana-Pragathi Plan is to address public grievances effectively and ensure the overall development of villages.

As part of the 99-day action plan under Praja Palana-Pragathi, the Collector attended a Gram Sabha held on Thursday at Tippanapalli village of Chandrugonda Mandal. Addressing the villagers, he said that the program has been successfully implemented since March 6 with the coordinated efforts of all government departments.

The Collector noted that Gram Sabhas serve as an effective platform for delivering government welfare and development programs directly to the people. Awareness is being created on key issues such as education, healthcare, rural development, environmental protection, sanitation, and prevention of seasonal diseases during the monsoon. He added that the Praja Palana-Pragathi initiative is bringing government services closer to the people.

With the monsoon season approaching, he advised farmers to adopt crop diversification and follow scientific farming practices as recommended by the Agriculture Department. He also urged them to gain proper knowledge about the use of fertilizers and pesticides and adopt modern agricultural methods to improve crop yields.

Emphasizing cleanliness, the Collector called for the effective implementation of Solid and Liq-

uid Waste Management programs in villages. He encouraged every household to segregate wet and dry waste and maintain clean surroundings to prevent the spread of diseases.

Regarding the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, he instructed officials to ensure that all eligible citizens are enrolled as voters while removing ineligible names from the voter list. The aim, he said, is to guarantee voting rights to all eligible citizens.

The Collector also stressed the importance of the Badi Bata (School Enrollment Drive) program and urged officials to increase admissions in government schools. He highlighted that government schools provide quality education, modern infrastructure, digital learning facilities, mid-day meals, free textbooks, and uniforms. Parents were encouraged to enroll their children in government schools.

During the meeting, Sarpanch Ramarao, farmers, and villagers brought several issues to the Collector's attention, including the development of roads leading to agricultural fields, installation of additional power lines, construction of internal village roads, and establishment of an RO water plant for drinking water. Responding to these concerns, the Collector directed the concerned departments to take immediate action and resolve the issues promptly.

The program was attended by DRDO Vidya Chandana, mandal-level officials, public representatives, village elders, farmers, and local residents



Environmental Awareness Among Students Enhanced Through Essay Writing Competitions

Pinapaka : To promote environmental awareness among students, the E. Bayyaram Forest Department under Pinapaka Mandal organized an essay writing competition on Thursday. The event received an enthusiastic response from students, who actively participated by expressing their views on important topics such as environmental conservation, plantation drives, and pollution control.

Speaking on the occasion, Forest Range Officer (FRO) Snehalatha emphasized that protecting the environment should be considered a collective responsibility if future generations are to enjoy a clean and healthy ecosystem. She stated that the primary objective of the program was to instill a sense of love and responsibility towards nature among students.

Participants shared their ideas and suggestions on environmental protection through essays, highlighting issues such as tree plantation, reducing plastic usage, and controlling pollution. The students also expressed their commitment to preserving nature and maintaining ecological balance.

FRO Snehalatha urged everyone to give



greater importance to tree plantation and environmental conservation, stressing that safeguarding nature is the responsibility of every individual. She noted that such awareness programs play a vital role in encouraging students to become environmentally conscious citizens.

Conducted under the theme, "A Secure Future Lies in Protecting Nature," the essay writing competition successfully strengthened students' awareness and sense of responsibility toward environmental protection.

Complete the Paddy Procurement Process Immediately: District Collector Bhavesh Mishra

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : District Collector Bhavesh Mishra directed the concerned officials to complete the procurement of the remaining paddy at purchase centers across the district without any delay. On Thursday, the Collector chaired a review meeting at the Collectorate conference hall with officials from various departments to assess the progress of paddy procurement. During the meeting, he reviewed the procurement status, the quantity of paddy still awaiting collection, and details of procurement centers where purchases had already been completed.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector instructed officials to complete the procurement process on a war footing to ensure that farmers do not face any inconvenience. He directed them to expedite the collection of paddy at centers where only small quantities remain and take necessary steps to complete procurement at the earliest.

He also advised officials to redeploy available lorries and laborers (hamalis) from centers where procurement has already been completed to other centers with larger paddy stocks. The Collector emphasized the need for close coordination among departments to ensure there are no disruptions in the collection, loading, and unloading of paddy.

The meeting was attended by Additional Collector Kishore Kumar, Civil Supplies Department officials Rajender and Sudhakar, DRDO Vijayalakshmi, District Manager of Markfed Mahesh, District Agriculture Officer Anjiprasad, Horticulture Department Officer Ramana, and other officials and staff members



Irregularities at Sarapaka Gas Agency?

**Allegations of Black-Market LPG Cylinder Sales
Domestic Cylinders Being Diverted to Hotels, Locals Allege
Public Demands Inquiry by Concerned Authorities**

Sarapaka Correspondent | June 04: Several allegations and suspicions have surfaced regarding the operations of a gas agency in Sarapaka. Claims that domestic LPG cylinders meant for household use are being sold in the black market at inflated prices have become a topic of discussion among local residents.

According to local sources, some cylinders intended for regular consumers are allegedly being diverted to hotels and commercial establishments. Reports suggest that a single domestic LPG cylinder is being sold for as much as ₹2,000 in certain cases.

Residents further allege that domestic cylinders are being used in a number of hotels in and around Sarapaka. While commercial establishments are required to use commercial LPG cylinders, domestic cylinders are reportedly being utilized for business purposes, raising concerns over possible violations of regulations.

Locals have expressed anger over what they



describe as the lack of action from the concerned authorities. They are demanding a thorough investigation into the functioning of the gas agency and strict action if any irregularities are found.

Some residents claim to possess evidence supporting these allegations. However, the management of the gas agency is yet to respond to the accusations. Citizens believe that only a detailed inquiry by the relevant authorities can bring the facts to light and ensure accountability.

TNGOs District Leaders Felicitate District Education Officer Rohini

SANGAREDDY Correspondent : TNGOs district leaders paid a courtesy visit to District Education Officer (DEO) Mrs. Rohini, who was recently transferred to the Sangareddy district, and extended their congratulations.

The delegation, led by TNGOs District President Mohammed Javed Ali and District Secretary Velpur Ravi, discussed various issues being faced by education department employees and teachers in the district. They assured the officer of full cooperation from employees for the development of the district's education system and emphasized the importance of mutual coordination in strengthening the department.

The leaders also highlighted concerns related to employee welfare, administrative convenience, and the resolution of pending issues, assur-



ing their support in addressing them.

On the occasion, the delegation presented a bouquet to Mrs. Rohini and conveyed their best wishes. Speaking at the meeting, Mrs. Rohini said she would strive for the overall development of the education sector in the district.

Among those present were TNGOs Associate President Kasini Srikanth, Venkat Reddy, Treasurer Srinivas, and other employees.

Rain Alert for Telangana

- Orange and Yellow Warnings Issued Across Several Districts
- Heavy Rainfall Likely with Thunderstorms, Lightning, and Strong Winds
- Wind Speeds May Reach Up to 60 kmph
- Orange Alert Issued from Adilabad to Khammam
- Southwest Monsoon Expected to Reach Kerala and Tamil Nadu
- Temperatures Cross 44°C in Several Districts

Hyderabad, June 3: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast a significant change in weather conditions across Telangana over the next two days. Due to the influence of an upper-air cyclonic circulation and a trough system, several districts are likely to receive light to moderate rainfall, with isolated heavy showers accompanied by thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds.

According to the IMD, wind speeds are expected to range between 50 and 60 kilometres per hour in several parts of the state. Authorities have advised residents to remain cautious and avoid unnecessary travel during adverse weather conditions. Farmers, construction workers, and electricity department personnel have been urged to take appropriate precautionary measures.

For Wednesday, Orange Alerts have been issued for Adilabad, Kumuram Bheem Asifabad, Nirmal, Mancherla, Nizamabad, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Rajanna Sircilla, Peddapalli, Mulugu, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Nalgonda, Khammam, Suryapet, Hanamkonda, and Warangal districts. These areas are likely to experience thunderstorms, lightning, and strong winds along with moderate to heavy rainfall.

Meanwhile, Yellow Alerts have been issued for the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, and Yadadri Bhuvanagiri districts, where light to moderate rainfall is expected.

The rainfall activity is likely to continue on Thursday as well. Orange Alerts have been issued for the erstwhile Adilabad and Karimnagar districts, along with Nalgonda, Suryapet, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Hanamkonda, and Nizamabad. Yellow Alerts will remain in effect for Khammam, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medak, Mulugu, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Jangaon, Siddipet, and



Yadadri Bhuvanagiri districts.

The IMD also stated that the Southwest Monsoon is advancing steadily and is expected to reach Kerala and Tamil Nadu by Thursday. The progress of the monsoon is likely to enhance rainfall activity across Telangana in the coming days.

On Tuesday, several districts recorded substantial rainfall. The highest rainfall of 7.9 cm was reported in Enkoor mandal of Khammam district. Tallada received 6 cm, while Ashwaraopet and Dammapeta in Bhadradi Kothagudem district recorded 4 cm and 3 cm respectively. Venkatapuram mandal in Mulugu district received 1.7 cm of rainfall.

Despite the rainfall, heatwave conditions persisted in parts of the state. Garidepalli in Suryapet district recorded the highest temperature of 44.8°C. Temperatures ranging between 40.2°C and 44.7°C were recorded in 27 other districts. While rainfall is expected to bring relief in some regions, humid and hot conditions may continue elsewhere.

Disaster management officials have advised people not to take shelter under trees during thunderstorms and to stay away from electric poles and transformers. Farmers have also been asked to safeguard crops and agricultural equipment. Authorities urged the public to closely follow weather advisories and remain alert until conditions improve.

Siddaramaiah Appointed to Congress Working Committee



New Delhi: In a major political development, the Congress leadership on Monday appointed Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah as a member of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) with immediate effect. The high-profile induction into the party's apex decision-making body was officially confirmed in a statement released by All India Congress Committee (AICC) General Secretary K.C. Venugopal, noting that Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge had approved the appointment. The move significantly elevates Siddaramaiah's stature within the national framework, cementing his influence beyond state politics and giving him a direct seat at the table where the party's core strategy and policy decisions are finalized.

Welfare of Dalit and Tribal Journalists is Our Mission

- Kadepuram Ganganna TSSWJA State President Calls for Protection and Welfare Measures for Journalists



Kotagiri, Nizamabad: Telangana SC/ST Working Journalists Association (TSSWJA) State President Kadepuram Ganganna stated that the protection, development, and welfare of Dalit and Tribal journalists across Telangana remain the organization's primary objective. Addressing a meeting with Dalit journalists at the Mandal Parishad Office in Kotagiri on Wednesday, he urged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to ensure justice in the accreditation process for journalists.

He demanded accreditation cards for all journalists irrespective of the size of the media organization, along with health cards, full educational concessions for journalists' children, house sites, and Indiramma houses. He also called for a special protection law to prevent attacks on Dalit and Tribal journalists. Ganganna announced that a district-level convention of Dalit and Tribal journalists would soon be organized in Nizamabad. The meeting was attended by Begari Ramulu, Ramu, Bheemrao, Rajesh, and others.

Cabinet Approves 190 Km Highway Projects For Rs 7,597.16 Cr In Telangana

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved two major National Highway widening projects in Telangana spanning a total length of 190.76 km at a cost of Rs 7,597.16 crore. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Wednesday approved the widening of the Armoor-Jagtial-Mancherla Section of NH-63 on Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) and the Jagtial-Karimnagar Section of NH-563 on Build-Operate-Transfer to the 4-Lane standard in Telangana.

As per reports the project section of Armoor-Jagtial-Mancherla passes through Nizamabad, Jagtial, and Mancherla Districts of Telangana, facing severe congestion at present due to several built-up areas along the highway, such as Anksapoor, Korutla, Jagtial, Dharmapuri, Lakshettipet and Mancherla.

Similarly, the Jagtial-Karimnagar section passes through severely congested and heavily built-up places along the stretch, such as Jagtial, Potharam, Gangadhara and Karimnagar.

The statement said that projects are proposed to have a 4-lane configuration



with bypasses to built-up areas with open tolling, ensuring design speed of 100 km/hour and improved travel efficiency across the Districts of Nizamabad, Jagtial, Mancherla and Karimnagar in Telangana.

The project will also enhance regional mobility and promote socio-economic development. Upon completion, the statement said the travel time is expected to re-

duce by about one hour and 30 minutes between Armoor and Mancherla and by about 45 minutes between Jagtial and Karimnagar, while providing safe, fast, and uninterrupted connectivity for both passenger and freight traffic.

Additionally, the project will result in substantial reductions in fuel consumption, carbon emissions, and vehicle operating costs.

TS Inter Supplementary Results Likely Before June 10

- Board Accelerates Preparations for Early Declaration
- Valuation and Scanning Process Completed
- Nearly Four Lakh Students Appeared for the Examinations
- Results to Facilitate EAMCET Counselling and Degree Admissions
- TS LAW CET and TS PGLCET Results to Be Released Today

Hyderabad: The Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education (TSBIE) is making arrangements to declare the Intermediate Advanced Supplementary Examination Results on or before June 10. According to officials, the valuation of answer scripts and the scanning process have already been completed, and the board is currently undertaking the final procedures required for the announcement of results.

The supplementary examinations were conducted across the state from May 12 to May 21, with a total of 3,98,358 students appearing for the tests. The examinations provided a second opportunity for first-year and second-year Intermediate students who were unable to clear the regular examinations.

Officials are keen to release the results at the earliest to ensure that students do not face any inconvenience in pursuing higher education. The decision has been taken keeping in view the upcoming TS EAMCET counselling process, which is expected to begin shortly for admissions into engineering, agriculture, and pharmacy courses. Authorities believe that an early declaration of results will help eligible students participate in the counselling process without any delays.

In addition, admissions to various under-



graduate degree programmes are set to commence soon. The board aims to ensure that students who qualify in the supplementary examinations are able to complete their admission formalities within the stipulated timelines.

Following the release of the results, successful candidates will become eligible to participate in EAMCET counselling and seek admission to various professional and degree courses. Consequently, students and parents across the state are eagerly awaiting the announcement.

Meanwhile, officials have also announced that the results of TS LAW CET (Telangana State Law Common Entrance Test) and TS PGLCET (Telangana State Post Graduate Law Common Entrance Test) will be released today. Candidates who appeared for these examinations are also awaiting their results with anticipation.

With the declaration of the Intermediate Supplementary, TS LAW CET, and TS PGLCET results, the higher education admission process in Telangana is expected to gain momentum. Students have been advised to check their results through the official websites once they are released. The Intermediate Board is currently finalizing all necessary arrangements to ensure the timely publication of results within the announced schedule.

Indiramma Houses Country's Role Model, Says Mohd Ali Shabbir

Adilabad: Government adviser Mohammed Ali Shabbir on Tuesday unfurled the National Flag at Adilabad collectorate on the occasion of the 13th Telangana Formation Day celebrations and paid rich tributes to the Telangana martyrs. He also inaugurated Indiramma houses in Riksha colony in the town and presented new clothes to the beneficiary couples.

Shabbir Ali said the Indiramma houses were role models for the country and gave self-respect to the downtrodden. He said the state government was committed to the welfare of women and their empowerment and giving them top priority in welfare schemes.

Adilabad MLA Payal Shankar, collector Rajarshi Shah, SP Akhil Mahajan, municipal chairman, Bandari Satish, Grandhalaya Samta chairman, Mallepula Narsaidh, market committee chairman, Srikanth Reddy and DCC president, Naresh Jadhav, former DCC president, Sajid Khan and Adilabad Assembly Constituency party in-charge, Kandi Srinivas Reddy and former TPCC general secretary, Gandrath Sujatha were present.

In Asifabad, MLC Banda Prakash, deputy floor



leader, unfurled the National Flag. MLA Palvai Harish Babu, MLC Dande Vittal and Kova Laxmi and collector K. Haritha and SP Nitika Pant were present.

Chief Whip Vemula Veeresham unfurled the National Flag at Nirmal collectorate and collector Bhavesh Mishra, SP Janaki Sharmila were present.

In Mancherla, government adviser Harkara Venugopal unfurled the National Flag at the collectorate. Peddapalli MP Gaddam Vamsi Krishna, collector Deepak Kumar, Mancherla mayor Darni Madhukar and DCP A. Bhaskar were present.

SPORTS



Sports Ministry Invites Applications for National Sports Tribuna

New Delhi: The Sports Ministry on Wednesday initiated the process of constituting the National Sports Tribunal for adjudication and resolution of sporting disputes in the country by inviting applications for two vacancies, setting June 18 as the deadline for submission. In a circular issued by joint secretary (sports) Kunal, applications have been invited for membership of the Tribunal, which would be headquartered in the national capital.

"Eligible candidates should be persons of eminence in public life possessing wide knowledge and experience in sports, public administration, and law," stated the notification. The selection process will be carried out by a Search-cum-Selection Committee headed by the Chief Justice of India or a Supreme Court judge, designated by the CJI. It will also include the Sports Secretary and the Secretary in the Ministry of Law and Justice.

"The Committee will scrutinise applications and assess candidates based on their qualifications, experience, and suitability for the position. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for personal interaction," the ministry stated. The final recommendation for appointment will be made on the basis of the overall evaluation of candidates, taking into account their qualifications, experience, and performance during the personal interaction.

The Tribunal's total strength has not been specified by the government as yet. The rules



for NST, however, have incorporated the provisions for techno-legal measures to ensure "digital implementation" through a dedicated portal. Once in operation, the Tribunal's orders would only be challengeable in the Supreme Court. "It is aimed at reducing reliance on civil courts and ensuring independent, speedy, effective and cost-efficient disposal of disputes relating to sports governance and administration," the ministry has stated.

If the appointed Chairperson or member of the Tribunal is a serving judge of the Supreme Court or a High Court, "he shall either resign or obtain voluntary retirement from his parent service before joining the Tribunal." According to the Sports Ministry, over 350 cases are currently in progress in various courts of the country over issues ranging from selection to election, significantly hampering the progress of athletes and NSFs. The setting up of a National Sports Tribunal promises to end this for good as it would have "all the powers of a civil court."

Gyana Sai Santosh shares lead after fifth round at VIT-AP chess tournament

M. Gyana Sai Santosh of Andhra Pradesh shared the lead with S. Vikramjit Singh of Railways and Saiharvansh of Tamil Nadu after the fifth round of the inaugural International Chess Tournament conducted by VIT-AP University at Amaravati

Hyderabad: M. Gyana Sai Santosh of Andhra Pradesh shared the lead at the end of the fifth round with five points, along with S. Vikramjit Singh of Railways and Saiharvansh of Tamil Nadu, in the inaugural International Chess Tournament conducted by VIT-AP University at Amaravati on Wednesday. Geographic Reference



istrar Dr Jagadish Chandra Mudiganti, Andhra Chess President A. Suresh, Andhra Chess Chairman K V V Sharma Garu and Andhra Chess Secretary Jagadesh graced the inaugural function.

Important results: Round 5: P. Sri Sai Baswanth (4.5) drew with Druvesh Dondapati (4.5); A.R. Saiharvesh (5) bt AGM Vignesh (4); Alluri Samanyu (4.5) drew with Kolla Bhaavan (4.5); M. Gyana Sai Santosh (5) bt M. Vinoth Kumar (4); K. Kalpak Harsha Keertan (4) lost to S. Vikramjit Singh (5); K. Samarateja (3.5) lost to V. Prudhvi Kumar (4.5); S. Haridev (4.5) bt P. Rohith (3.5); Samuel Stephen Noble (3.5) lost to C. Maniswar (4.5); Sinthia Sarkar (4) drew with S. Mohit (4); R. Logesh Kumar (4.5) bt A. Prakul (3.5).

Napoli Sign Hojlund From Manchester United After Loan Spell

Manchester: Napoli have signed Denmark striker Rasmus Hojlund from Manchester United on a permanent deal for a 50 million euros (\$58.08 million) fee after a successful loan spell, both clubs announced on Wednesday. The 23-year-old Hojlund scored 16 goals in 44 appearances across all competitions last season, helping Napoli win the Supercoppa Italiana and finish runners-up in Serie A. The forward joined United from Atalanta in 2023 and went on to score 26 goals in 95 appearances for the Premier League club.

He was also part of the United squad that lifted the FA Cup in May 2024, coming on as a substitute in the final against Manchester City at Wembley. Hojlund



returned to Italy at the start of the 2025-26 campaign on a season-long loan. "Everyone at the club would like to wish Rasmus all the very best for the future," United said in a statement.

Satwik and Chirag stun world champions to enter Singapore Open final

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated world champions Kim Won Ho and Seo Seung Jae in straight games to enter the Singapore Open Super 750 final. The Indian pair fought back strongly in both games to secure their first win over the Koreans Tourist Destinations

Hyderabad: India's top men's doubles combination of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty knocked off world champions Kim Won Ho and Seo Seung Jae of Korea in straight games to reach the final of the Singapore Open Super 750 tournament on Saturday. Geographic Reference

The fourth-seeded Indian pair registered their first victory over the Korean duo in three meetings, winning the semifinal clash 21-19, 21-18 in 52 minutes to reach their second World Tour final of the year.

The 2025 World Championships bronze medallists had finished runners-up at the Thailand Open earlier this year.



In the semifinal on Saturday, Satwik and Chirag fought back after conceding early leads in both games against the Koreans.

The Indian combination trailed 8-13 and then 13-17 in the opening game but held its nerve under pressure to clinch the game.

"When we were down, we kept calm and backed ourselves because we knew if we stuck to our plan, they would crack at some point," Chirag said.

The second game also saw the Indians trailing 11-14 before they clinched six straight points to take a 17-14 lead and then maintained that advantage to reach the final.

On facing Kim/Seo, Chirag added: "They have the best defence on the circuit right now. We knew we had to stay calm and steady, especially when attacking."

French Open 2026: Chwalinska Beats Kalinskaya To Reach Semifinals

Paris: World number 114 Maja Chwalinska continued her stunning French Open run on Wednesday by beating 22nd seed Anna Kalinskaya to become just the second women's qualifier to reach the last four at Roland Garros in the professional era. Chwalinska again defied the odds to down the Russian 7-6 (7/3), 6-3 at the quarter-final stage. Prior to her run in Paris, Chwalinska had only ever won two tour-level matches on clay in her career, now she stands one victory away from competing for the biggest title the surface has to offer.

Standing in the 24-year-old's way in Thursday's semi-final will be either world number one Aryna Sabalenka or 25th seed Diana Shnaider. Regardless of the outcome of that match, Chwalinska has ensured her spot in the annals of Roland Garros by equalling, at least, the result of Nadia Podoroska, who in 2020 became the first woman in the Open era to come through qualifying and reach the semi-finals at the clay-court Grand Slam.

"I honestly don't know what's going on. I know I repeat myself but every single match here is kind of crazy for me so I'm very grateful," Chwalinska said. "I'm happy it looks like that but I was definitely nervous, it's normal, you know, I care," she added when asked about her calm demeanour on court. "I just try to win every



match that I'm playing. "I'm playing against the best players in the world so I won't compare myself to them."

The diminutive Pole had two chances to serve out the opener at 5-1 and 5-3 but was broken in blustery conditions on Court Philippe Chatrier as Kalinskaya fought back to level at five-apiece. In the tie-break, Chwalinska got some daylight between herself and the Russian at 6-3, before taking the first set when Kalinskaya overcooked a loopy defensive backhand. She moved to the edge of victory by again securing a double break to take a 4-1 lead. Kalinskaya again fought back, but this time Chwalinska stopped her in the ninth game, sealing match point when the 27-year-old hit long off her forehand wing. Defeat for Kalinskaya brings an end to her first last-eight run at Roland Garros.

WFI Plea Against HC Order On Vinesh's Selection Is Infructuous: SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday said the plea of the Wrestling Federation of India against the Delhi High Court order allowing wrestler Vinesh Phogat to participate in selection trials has become infructuous in view of subsequent developments. A bench of Justices PS Narasimha and Aravind Kumar, which refused to go into the observations made by the high court, said this court should not be taken as having reiterated the findings and observations made in the order.

The bench said all the issues are left open.

Senior advocate DN Goburdhun, appearing for the WFI said that Phogat was allowed to participate in the selection trial but she did not succeed.

"She did not succeed but she created havoc over there," the senior counsel told the bench.

The bench told him that the issue has now become infructuous.

Goburdhun submitted that there were certain observations made by the high court with regard to decisions of the Federation and terming them "malafide" and "deplorable".

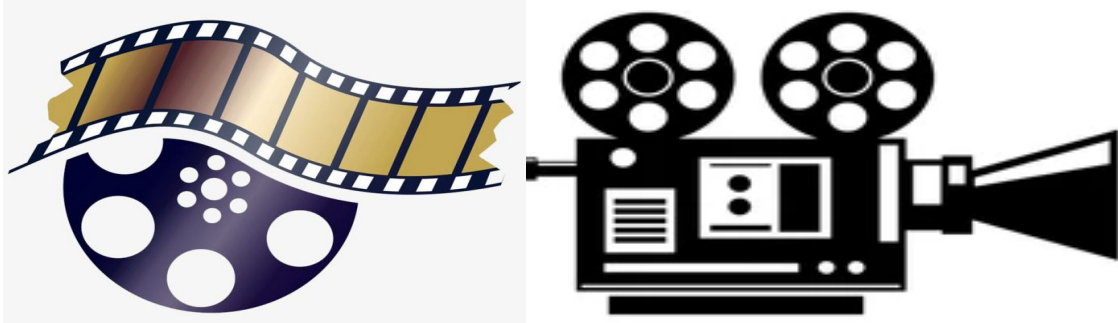
"All these observations will have to go as the matter is pending before the single bench," the senior counsel submitted.

The top court then left the questions open and disposed of the plea as infructuous.

On May 29, the top court permitted Phogat to participate in the selection trials to be held on May 30 and 31 for the Asian Games 2026.

The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) had challenged the Delhi High Court order of May 22 allowing Phogat to participate in the selection trials.





CINEMA

Movie Review: 'Peddi'

Actors: Ram Charan, Janhvi Kapoor, Shivraj Kumar, Jagapathi Babu, Divyendu Sharma, Rao Ramesh, Satya- Ravikishan, Upendra Limaye, Boman Irani, Srikanth Iyengar, Tinu Anand and others

Music: AR Rahman

Cinematography: Ratnavelu

Producers: Satish Kilaru, Ishaan Saxena

Written-Directed by: Buchi Babu Sana

Ever since the box office dried up after the Sankranti season, Tollywood is full of hope that Peddi will rewrite the fortunes. After creating a mega sensation with "Uppena", director Buchi Babu Sana got to direct MegaPowerstar Ram Charan through "Peddi". Amidst huge expectations, the film is hitting cinemas today and premiered last night, so let's have a look at it.

Story: Peddi (Ram Charan) is a daily-wage worker from an unnamed town behind the hill in Vijayanagara District. All the people in that village are daily-wage labourers, and they are paid only half the wages because of their lower social status. As there's not even a transport facility to the village, Appalasoori (Jagapathi Babu) fights for decades to get one. However, Peddi brings fame to the village by being the star cricketer who plays the game for money. Due to an insult meted out to him, Peddi shifts to wrestling. What led him to change the game, what happened to Appalasoori and what Peddi achieved with wrestling and the twists that followed his life are the next parts of the story.

Narration-Analysis: "My game is my identity" is the dialogue Peddi shouts in the trailer. And how this multi-talented crossover athlete protagonist uses that identity to bring fame to his village, which is not even named, happens to be the story of the film. Even though we hear that a game is always bigger than the players, Peddi gives the opposite opinion of that. He's elevated more than the game, and he appears more powerful than the game itself. This is both a strength and a weakness of Peddi. Among the three games shown in the film, it's wrestling that stands out tall. However, the cross-over athlete trait impresses big time. Making this a career-best performance, Ram Charan beats Rangasthalaam here and showcases his potential. Though the film doesn't live up to his performance, for three hours, Peddi succeeded in holding the attention of the audience.

Though Peddi looks like a wonder on paper, it falters a bit when visualised. As Buchi Babu tried to infuse the elements that would enthral a Superstar's fans, and the treats that a mass audience would love to see, that balance leaves a mixed opinion on Peddi. Especially the glamorous role by Janhvi Kapoor and the sympathetic journey of the hero don't look like a match. While the story goes on one track, her role goes on another track, without sync. As a big star hero like Charan needs a heroine, Buchi Babu tried to design Janhvi's role in a glamorous way. Despite a villain gang trying to undress the heroine, there will be no empathy for the character because of the skin-show she has



done so far. Presenting a heroine in a way that young adults love it creates these types of typical problems.

However, if we keep aside these types of commercial elements that are natural in big-ticket films, Buchi Babu succeeds in creating a goal for the hero and the way the protagonist works for the same. In the role of Appalasoori, the character that plays a catalyst in creating a goal for the hero, Jagapathi Babu's performance is a highlight, and the twist is stunning. This episode showcases Charan's best-ever mass performance. While the cricket sequences in the first half give terrific elevation to the hero and give us entertainment, the emotional fabric around Jagapathi Babu's character gives a high note towards the interval. Though Buchi Babu faltered a bit in continuing that high for a while in the second half, he succeeded in crafting interesting wrestling sequences. He proved himself as a director by presenting those wrestling sequences very interestingly. Like Janhvi's track in the first half, even the item number in the second half also sidetracks Peddi big time. However, the last 40 minutes of the film hypes up the graph of the movie. Like in his first film, Buchi Babu gave a shocker regarding the hero's character towards the end, and that worked out well, though it appears forced. But by churning out the right dose of emotion, Buchi Babu succeeded towards the climax. However, when the story deals with changing the fate of the village, there's no life and times of the village properly shown, and that's a big minus. Roles played by the likes of Divyendu are not used properly. Though the story has flaws, Peddi's character and Charan's performance in the same, hook the audience. As the story flow never gets stuck, Peddi will not create regrets. However, whether the film will live up to expectations as projected by the team is doubtful.

Performances: The credit for making Peddi's role stand out should be given to Ram Charan rather than Buchi Babu in the first place. He has literally poured blood and sweat for this role, and made the viewers forget the loopholes in the movie. If a hero literally moulds himself into the role, this is how the impact is going to be. While his physical transformation for the role is one asset, his performance as an actor is on another level. Though the innocence in his role reminds us of Rangasthalaam, his other traits make him remembered for years to come. Janhvi Kapoor poured loads of glamour into the short role she played in a character that has no impact. Sivraj Kumar's Gournaidu role is impactful, but we expect more from him. Jagapathi Babu as Appalasoori has stunned and created a huge impact in a short time. Mirzapur web series fame Divyendu Sharma's role is hyped up, but the role is just okayish. Upendra Limaye, Rao Ramesh and Satya haven't got impressive scenes, though they are good.

Technicalities: For being so choosy and picking up AR Rahman, the Oscar-winning composer has delivered the needful. All the songs, including Chikri are superb inside theatres, while Rahman's background score is super stunning. From the first fight to the interval episode, re-recording is just stunning and motivating throughout the film. Ratnavelu's technical brilliance as a cinematographer is another asset. Though the CG work is disappointing in a few parts, the art direction of Avinash Kolla is good. Newcomer producer Satish Kilaru has no two thoughts when it comes to spending heavily, and that's visible on the screen. Buchi Babu has chosen the right script to direct a big star in his second movie. He proved his mettle in handling some sequences, while he hasn't shown class in narration as he did with his debut film. However, the way he dealt with this big film after making his debut with a small movie, and the way he extracted Ram Charan's performance, makes Buchi Babu score huge marks.

Finally: Peddi, a player bigger than the game

Rating: 2.75/5

Preity Mukundan's Role in 'Blast Zone' and 'Kannappa'; triggers debate

Actress Preity Mukundan has become a talking point on social media following the success of her latest Tamil film Blast Zone. The young actress, who played the daughter of senior actor Arjun Sarja and portrayed a skilled karate fighter in the film, has received praise for her performance and screen presence.

However, the appreciation has also sparked an online debate among fans from different film industries. Some social media users have been comparing Preity's role in Blast Zone with her appearance in Manchu Vishnu's Kannappa. According to these discussions, Blast Zone offered the actress a stronger, character-driven role, while Kannappa largely showcased her glamorous side.

The comparisons have led to criticism of



Tollywood from certain sections of fans, who argue that the Telugu film industry did not fully utilize the actress's acting potential. However, others point out that such comparisons may be unfair, as actors often choose roles based on various factors, including career strategy, opportunities, and the nature of the projects.

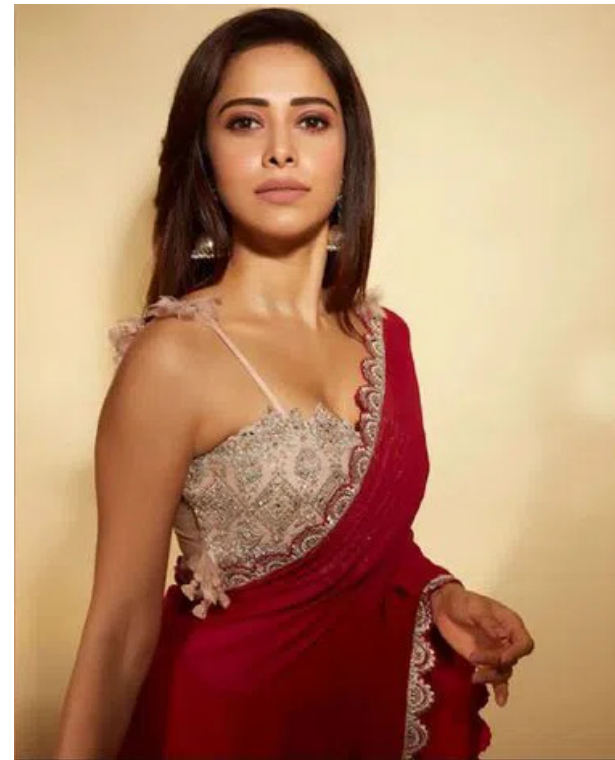
Interestingly, Preity Mukundan's journey in the entertainment industry began with glamorous appearances, including the popular Tamil music video Aasa Koodai. She later featured in several other music videos that highlighted a similar image. Her role in Kannappa was also part of that phase of her career.

Industry observers note that commercial cinema often requires actors to balance glamorous-oriented roles with performance-driven characters. Several leading actresses, including Trisha and Samantha, have successfully navigated both spaces during their careers.

For now, Preity Mukundan appears to be benefiting from the attention. With Blast Zone earning positive responses and her performance drawing praise, the actress has emerged as one of the young talents to watch in South Indian cinema.

Nushratt Bharuccha issues clarification over weird sounds on Instagram, reveals its source

Nushratt Bharuccha clarified viral Instagram stories after speculation over unusual sounds following the IPL final, explaining they were from a puppy at her friend's house. She urged responsible interpretation, denying misinformation while also sharing glimpses of her recent birthday celebrations with friends



Mumbai: Bollywood actress Nushratt Bharuccha has issued a clarification after her Instagram Stories went viral over alleged weird sounds after the IPL final between RCB and GT.

The actress took to the Stories section of her Instagram on Thursday, and shared screenshots from previous Stories, and penned a long note clarifying that the sounds were made by a puppy.

She wrote, "Kuch logon ne hadh hi kar di hai. Ek puppy ke rone ki awaaz se itna bawala mach gaya hai and someone has issued a fake clarification also on my behalf. So here's the reality... I was watching the match at my friends house and their young puppy was making these crying 'Sounds'.

This is the video made by my friend at the same time with the same sounds from another angle". She further mentioned, "This is the house where I was watching the match. This is the puppy. This is a video from that very night a while later. Fearing exactly what has happened, I was advised to delete that video and I did. People, calm your wild thoughts down! Owning a mobile phone doesn't empower harassment. Do

not misinterpret or follow blindly. Think and act responsibly (sic)".

Earlier, the actress turned 40 on May 17, and celebrated her birthday in the most stylish and cheerful way possible, surrounded by close friends. The actress took to her social media account to share a carousel of pictures from her intimate birthday bash.

The birthday party also marked her reunion with her 'Pyaar Ka Punchnama' co-star Ishita Raj. The two actresses were seen happily posing together, dancing together. In the pictures, Nushratt looked stunning in a bright pink strappy gown.

She was seen dancing barefoot, and having a ball of a time. The birthday party was attended by Bollywood stars Jacqueline Fernandez, Mrunal Thakur, Jacky Bhagnani, Rakuul Preet Kaur and others. In one picture, the actress was seen dancing her heart out with Mrunal Thakur.