

KING

DAILY NEWSPAPER

Trusted Healthcare Expertise for a Healthier Medchal
Excellence in care, every step of the way.

Our Specialities

- Emergency & Critical Care
- Accident Care
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Orthopedics
- Joint Replacements
- General Medicine
- General Surgery
- Maxillo Facial Surgery
- Paediatrics & Neonatology
- Neurology & Neurosurgery
- Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
- Pulmonology - Urology
- Dermatology - Psychiatry
- Physiotherapy

Trusted Healthcare | Ethical Practices | Patient First | Expert Clinical Care

All Insurances Cashless Available | 24/7 Emergency Services | Ambulance Services

+91 85230 89599 | +91 86889 09384

www.jaitraohospitals.com • Beside ITI, NH 44, Chandra Nagar, Medchal, Telangana 501401.

Volume : 01 Issue No. 134 Thursday 18, June, 2026

Published From : Hyderabad and Vijayawada

Pages : 8

Rs. 3/-

SIR: After Revanth Reddy, Azhar raises concerns of voter deletions



Hyderabad: Raising concerns regarding the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls process in Telangana, minister for minorities welfare and public enterprises Mohammed Azharuddin claimed that the exercise may end up potentially targeting a particular community.

Briefing the media persons following his 'Prajalatho Mukhamukhi' (Face-to-Face) grievance redressal programme at Gandhi Bhavan on Wednesday, he voiced apprehensions that the process may erase Muslim voters from the electoral rolls, drawing parallels to alleged election-voter strategies used in West Bengal and Bihar by the ruling NDA in the Centre.

He urged voters from the minority community to actively protect and verify their names during door-to-door enumeration of SIR. The minister praised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's administration for prioritising the welfare of the poor. He dismissed recent criticisms and corruption allegations from the opposition BRS, calling them entirely baseless.

The Face-to-Face initiative resumed after a hiatus of several months to allow citizens and party workers to present their issues directly to cabinet ministers. During the session, the minister received over 200 applications from the public regarding diverse local issues. He interacted with citizens and coordinated with on-

site officials, immediately resolving around 50 petitions following discussions with the district collector.

Later during the day, the minister visited the historic Bibi-Ka-Alawa in Dabeerpura to review civic and security arrangements for the upcoming Muharram commemorations. He directed officials from the GHMC, water works, and sanitation departments to ensure flawless public utility services with zero room for complaints. Besides Bibi Ka Alawa, Azharuddin also inspected other prominent religious sites in the old city including Ashur Khana Khidmat-e-Rasool, Azakhana-e-Tashreehat, and Bashiyyah Ashur Khana to oversee ongoing restoration works.

Telangana Public School Will Set Standards: Revanth

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday announced that the state government would establish a Telangana Public School (TPS) with state-of-the-art infrastructure and international standards in every Assembly constituency in the state to provide quality education and sports training to students and nurture future leaders and sporting champions.

After inaugurating the first Telangana Public School at Arutla village in Manchala mandal of Rangareddy district, Revanth Reddy described the institution as a model for educational reforms in the state.

Addressing a public meeting, the Chief Minister said Telangana's future did not lie in glass-embellished palaces or colourful walls but in classrooms, and dedicated the Arutla Telangana Public School to all students studying in government schools across the state.

Revanth Reddy stated that the government was strengthening public education based on the recommendations of the Education Commission and noted that 1,814 students had already enrolled in the Arutla school. He said it was a matter of pride that a government



school had been forced to display a 'No Admissions' board due to overwhelming demand for seats.

The Chief Minister commended the teachers of the Arutla school for successfully competing with corporate educational institutions and said the establishment of Telangana Public Schools was a sincere effort to revive a neglected education system.

He highlighted that many distinguished leaders and officials, including former prime minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, former Union minister S. Jaipal Reddy and himself, had studied in government schools, which proves that studying in public institutions had never been a matter of shame.

The Chief Minister urged the students to excel academically, become IAS and

mote skill development and sporting excellence among youth.

Emphasising the importance of sports, Revanth Reddy said schools should become centres for identifying and nurturing talent. He said the Young India Sports University had been established to produce Olympic medal winners and that sports training programmes had already been introduced in schools.

Without naming the BRS directly, he warned that political rivals who continued to spread falsehoods would lose even their opposition status in the next Assembly elections. He challenged opposition leaders to visit the Arutla Telangana Public School and assess the government's efforts to strengthen public education.

The Chief Minister also dismissed allegations of large-scale corruption in the procurement of student kits and supplies. Referring to charges made by BRS leaders, he said the opposition had alleged a Rs 2,000 crore to Rs 3,000 crore scam in tenders that were actually worth only about Rs 650 crore to Rs 685 crore. "If they allege Rs 3,000 crore corruption in a Rs 685 crore tender, I can only feel sorry for them," he remarked.

Telangana: 19 people fell sick after consuming Panipuri, KTR responds on the incident

Nineteen people fell ill after consuming panipuri sold from a pushcart in Mandepalli village of Rajanna Sircilla district. BRS working president KT Rama Rao spoke to officials and instructed party leaders to monitor the patients, whose condition remains stable. Telangana State Updates

Rajanna Sircilla: Nineteen students fell ill after eating Panipuri sold on a pushcart in Mandepalli village on Tuesday night.

BRS working president KT Rama Rao enquired about the incident.

While children were admitted in Sircilla government hospital in the night itself, the remaining seven elders were admitted to the hospital on Wednesday morning. The condition of all the patients is stable.

Knowing about the incident, Rama Rao spoke to officials as well as local leaders and enquired about the incident.

Doctors explained to Rama Rao that the health condition of the patients is stable and they are doing well. He felt happy after knowing that all the patients were safe.



Rama Rao instructed BRS district president Thota Agaiah to monitor the health condition of the sick persons and extend all kinds of support.

Based on the working president's instructions, Agaiah, Konduru Ravinder Rao, Chiti Ranga Rao, Jindam Chakrapani and others visited the hospital and comforted the patients.

Paddy Bonus Only for 7 Select Varieties: Tummala

Hyderabad: Agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has made it clear that rice belonging to one or any of the seven select varieties of fine grain rice chosen by the government as a priority for planting this Kharif season will be the only rice crops that will be eligible for the bonus amounts.

Nageswara Rao, at a meeting with senior agriculture officials on Wednesday, said even Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had stated the need to encourage cultivation of these select rice varieties and since there is a good demand in the market for these types of rice and potential for exports, seed companies should ensure adequate availability of seeds of these rice varieties.

He also directed that the daily stock positions of these seeds should be displayed and dealers should share farmer-wise purchase data of these seeds. The selected seven varieties are BPT-5204 Sambamasuri, RSR-15048



Telangana Sona, HMT Sona, Jai Sriram, KSM-1638 Kunaram Sannalu, WGL-44 Siddhi, and KSM-7715.

The minister also said that the government was considering providing subsidies for purchase of seeds for different crops and a decision would be taken soon.

Modi For Seafarers' Safety, Trump Says Biz Deal Near

New Delhi: In a significant reset of bilateral ties, US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi held their first formal meeting in 16 months on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Evian, France, on Tuesday. The meeting focused on trade, regional security and strategic cooperation.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Trump praised Modi's leadership and described him as "best-looking guy like an angel" but also a "tough trader and tough as a killer" amid ongoing negotiations for a bilateral trade agreement. He said the two countries were "very close to a trade deal" and assured that India would always have "a very good friend in the White House" as long as he remained

President.

In remarks that drew laughter and prompted a smile from Modi, Trump said the United States would stand by India if it faced any attack under Modi's leadership.

"We cannot be closer than we are," Trump said, describing India-US defence ties as strong and noting that he and Modi had shared a long friendship.

Prime Minister Modi, in his remarks, raised concerns over the safety of Indian seafarers, calling the issue one of utmost importance for India. He urged that the matter receive priority during the implementation of the proposed West Asia peace agreement expected to be signed by the US and Iran on Friday.



Modi commended Trump's efforts to restore peace in West Asia and said a new hope for peace had emerged. He also stressed

the importance of the Strait of Hormuz for the global economy and reiterated India's support for freedom of navigation.

The Prime Minister said India-US ties had gained "new momentum and energy" and noted that teams from both countries were

working closely to achieve mutually agreed goals.

Responding to a question on the deaths of three Indian seafarers in recent US strikes on an oil tanker off the Oman coast, Trump expressed condolences and said the two countries would work together on the issue.

"It's a rough profession. We love these people," he said.

Trump also said he expected India to play a major role in West Asia and added that under Modi's leadership, India would continue to be an important regional player.

The US President reiterated that his administration had deep respect for India and Modi. He also repeated his claim that his administration had helped end several international conflicts,

though he did not directly mention last year's India-Pakistan conflict.

Trump further defended his administration's West Asia policy, claiming that US actions had prevented Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. He suggested that Modi also shared concerns about Iran's nuclear ambitions.

The optics of the meeting attracted attention, with Trump warmly greeting Modi and recalling the "Howdy Modi" and "Namaste Trump" events held during his first term. The interaction signalled an effort by both leaders to emphasise continuity in ties despite differences that have emerged over issues such as tariffs and trade over the past 16 months.

Thursday 18, June, 2026

MODI'S MILESTONE CALLS FOR HONEST ASSESSMENT

As Narendra Modi becomes India's longest-serving Prime Minister, surpassing Jawaharlal Nehru's record, the occasion is not just a personal milestone in the political journey of an individual leader but is also a celebration of the power of democracy. It is a tribute to the enduring strength of the country's core values that a leader from a humble background can occupy the highest elected office as long as s/he enjoys public trust. It must be said to Modi's credit that his rise signified a victory against multiple odds as he had neither the privilege, pedigree, nor patronage that was available to the Nehru dynasty. While the BJP is justifiably excited over his personal milestone, the tendency to project him as a larger-than-life figure and the sole saviour who has transformed the country is simply untenable. In fact, India's growth story is like a relay race, with the baton passing through the hands of more than 13 Prime Ministers, each with their distinct strengths, political philosophies, and international stature. Each Prime Minister built upon the gains made by their predecessors. India's story has been one of uninterrupted celebration of democracy, smooth transfers of power through fair elections, and experiments with multiple development models. Each era of development had its own challenges and rewards. Given this reality, it is comical to frame the "Nehru Versus Modi" debate in binary terms and argue over who has done a better job. The two leaders inherited different sets of circumstances and faced different challenges that defy comparisons.

Modi entered South Block in May 2014 riding a wave of genuine popular energy at a time when people were frustrated by the perceived policy paralysis and a string of scams that rocked the Congress-led UPA government. Modi offered decisiveness, development, and the romance of a chai-wallah's son remaking the republic and dismantling the hold of a well-entrenched dynasty. His brand of politics reflects a blend of nationalism and welfarism, mixing elements of socialist outreach and right-wing assertion. While his party's ascension in the national political landscape was entirely on the crest of Hindu revivalism, Modi has, over the years, cultivated a persona that has transcended the party. As a result, his image and appeal go beyond the saffron party's ambit, so much so that his ardent supporters attribute the BJP's electoral successes to his personal charisma. As Modi enters the 13th year in office, he is saddled with a host of challenges, particularly on the economic front, as India is coming under strain due to the ongoing war in Iran. His party may have reaffirmed its dominance with the recent electoral victories, particularly in West Bengal, but the politics of polarisation is on the rise, and concerns are growing over the marginalisation of minorities, dilution of institutional autonomy, undermining the powers of the States, and the pursuit of predatory politics.

KTR inaugurates Ozrit's new technology facility in Gachibowli

BRS working president KT Rama Rao inaugurated technology solutions company Ozrit's new facility in Gachibowli on Wednesday. The company said it aims to strengthen Telangana's innovation ecosystem, expand into Tier-2 cities and increase its workforce to over 1,000 professionals. **Telangana State Updates**

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao inaugurated the new facility of technology solutions company Ozrit in Gachibowli here on Wednesday. He formally opened the facility, unveiled the company's logo and interacted with the Ozrit team. He also held discussions with the company's leadership, including founder and CEO Bharath Gupta and co-founder and COO Vivekanand Reddy.

The company founders thanked Rama Rao for his role in positioning Telangana as a leading technology and innovation hub. They said Telangana's technology-driven growth and focus on innovation, entrepreneurship and employment generation had inspired companies like



Ozrit to establish and expand operations in the State.

The founders said the company was committed to contributing to Telangana's innovation ecosystem by creating employment opportunities, expanding into Tier-2 cities and growing its workforce to more than 1,000 professionals in the coming years. **Telangana State Updates**

Ozrit is a technology solutions and digital transformation company offering services in web and mobile application development, artificial intelligence, enterprise software, cloud solutions, UI/UX design, automation and digital innovation, in India and abroad.

US Drops 'Indo' From Indo-Pacific Command, Sparks Row Over India Map

Washington: The US has restored the name of the US Indo-Pacific Command to the US Pacific Command, reversing an eight-year-old decision. The US Department of Defence announced the decision on Tuesday, stating that the designation honours the Command's deep historical roots, established in 1947 by then-President Harry Truman.

The US Pacific Command extends from the US West Coast to India's western border.

In 2018, then-Defence Secretary James Mattis had said that the name was changed to Indo-Pacific Command in recognition of the increasing connectivity between the Indian and Pacific oceans.

The command stretches "from Bollywood to Hollywood, and from penguins to polar bears," and plays an important part in America's National Defence Strategy, Mattis had said in 2018.

Meanwhile, criticism has erupted over the map of India published on the US PACOM website, which excludes certain parts of Jammu & Kashmir as part of Pakistan's territory. The map was published shortly after the announcement was made regarding the name restoration.

USPACOM to USINDOPACOM to USPACOM Again

"Originally established on January 1, 1947, by President Harry S. Truman, the command operated under the USPACOM banner for over 70 years, standing as the oldest and largest of the United States' unified combat-



ant commands," the Department of Defence said in a statement.

The US Pacific Command was renamed as the US Indo-Pacific Command in 2018 during US President Donald Trump's first term in office.

"Restoring the legacy USPACOM designation honours the command's deep historical roots, fostering a sense of pride and collective spirit among all who serve in the Pacific," the Department of Defence said.

"From its critical role in establishing the post-WWII regional security architecture to its coordination of joint forces during the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and countless humanitarian operations, the USPACOM namesake carries decades of military heritage and enduring regional partnerships," it said.

USPACOM's vast area of responsibility – spanning from the waters off the West Coast of the United States to the western border of India – remains the same, the statement said.

The command's fundamental mission and its unwavering commitment to maintaining a free and open theatre alongside regional allies and partners are unchanged, the Department of Defence said.

Harish Rao accuses Congress govt of plotting to scrap crop bonus

Hyderabad: BRS deputy floor leader T Harish Rao accused the Congress government of conspiring to phase out the crop bonus scheme by restricting it to a handful of paddy varieties. He criticised the government for failing to clarify on key farmer-centric schemes such as Rythu Bharosa, crop bonus, Rythu Bima and crop insurance, even as the crop season commenced.

Reacting to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's review meeting on Vaanakalam (Kharif) preparedness on Tuesday, he termed the exercise a token review. He said the Congress manifesto promised a Rs 500 bonus for all paddy varieties, which was restricted to 33 fine-grain varieties after the Congress came to power.

"Now, this has been reduced to just seven varieties which is unfair. Farmers should not be forced to cultivate only government-approved varieties. What about the fate of farmers who already commenced cultivation," he asked.

Demanding that the decision be withdrawn immediately, the BRSLP floor leader asked the government to extend the bonus to all varieties as promised and release pending bonus payments for both the previous and current Yasangi seasons without delay.

Harish Rao also accused the government of failing to provide Rythu Bharosa support for three consecutive seasons and questioned the delay in payments despite assurances made by the Chief Minister. He pointed out that Rythu Bima premiums had not been paid for the past five months, weakening the social security cover available to farming families.

Raising concerns about the government insisting on crop diversification, he sought clarity on whether the government was willing to guarantee procurement and Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops such as maize, sorghum, sunflower, soybean and groundnut. He also ridiculed the government deciding to supply fertilisers and seeds through Rythu Vedikas, calling it an acknowledgment of the government's failure to supply them through Fertiliser App.

The former Minister criticised the government for not implementing the promised crop insurance scheme and for failing to provide input subsidies and compensation to farmers affected by unseasonal rains and hailstorms. He emphasised the need for crop insurance amid uncertainty prevailing over the impact of El Nino during the ongoing crop season.



Iran Calls For Israel's Withdrawal From Lebanon To End War With US

Dubai: Iran's top diplomat said Tuesday that the deal ending the war with the United States would also require Israel to withdraw from Lebanon. But with Israel insisting it will keep forces in Lebanon, questions are growing about the still-unpublished agreement and whether disagreement over its terms could prolong the conflict.

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Israel's continued occupation of southern Lebanon would violate the memorandum of understanding reached between the United States and Iran.

"The end of the war in Lebanon is an inseparable part of the complete end of the war," Araghchi said in statements made to foreign diplomats in Tehran that were aired on Iranian state TV. "Without the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the territories they occupied during this war, the war has not fully come to an end."

Araghchi said further Israeli attacks on Lebanon "will be considered by us a violation of the memorandum of understanding."

The United States has not said whether Lebanon was part of the final agreement. But Araghchi's description clashes with statements made by Israeli officials about the deal to end the war that started with joint U.S.-Israeli airstrikes on Feb. 28.

Ambiguity Remains Over Peace-Deal

Israel is not party to the agreement. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday described it as President Donald Trump's decision, noting Israel had its own priorities and would remain in a buffer zone in Lebanon "as long as necessary."

The ambiguity mirrored developments during past negotiations, including the temporary ceasefire brokered in April. That agreement did not pave the way to broader peace or the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz after the United States and Iran announced differing frameworks.

Unresolved issues cast doubt on agreement's long-term prospects. The discrepancy underscored how much of the agreement remains apparently unresolved ahead of a planned ceremonial signing Friday in Geneva. The agreement is meant to provide a meaningful truce in a months-long war that has killed thousands across the Middle East, including the top leaders of Iran's theocracy, and raised the prices of fuel, food and other basic goods far beyond the region.

The unpublished agreement provides for the "immediate" opening of the Strait of Hormuz and lifting of the blockade, according to a senior U.S. official who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity to discuss outlines of the agreement on Monday.

Brokered mainly by Pakistan, it starts with the simultaneous lifting of Iran's closure of the strait and the U.S. blockade of Iran's ports, according to Pakistani officials. The United States and Iran will then begin 60 days of negotiations over Iran's nuclear program and the potential lifting of sanctions, Pakistani officials who helped broker the interim deal said, speaking on condition of anonymity about the unpublished text.

It also includes the possibility of releasing Iran's frozen funds, sanctions relief and a \$300 billion fund to help rebuild Iran if Tehran meets certain benchmarks, senior U.S. officials told reporters Monday.

Araghchi's comments Tuesday appear to match the understanding of two regional officials with direct knowledge of the interim deal. The officials, speaking to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity to discuss the closed-door negotiations, said it would require Israel to leave nearly all the territory it occupies in Lebanon, minus a few hilltop points along the border seized earlier.

The officials say Iran insisted the accord include Lebanon in the last days of the negotiations. Regarding the timeline, the officials said the release of frozen Iranian assets are tied to Tehran implementing the deal. Gulf Arab states also have pledged to inject billions of dollars in Iran's economy, they added.

Beyond Lebanon, there's one more point of possible contention on Iran's nuclear program. The interim deal begins a 60-day clock for talks over Tehran's stockpile of highly enriched uranium.

Iran has agreed to discuss ways to possibly "dilute or remove" its stockpile, the officials said. However, it remains unclear whether Tehran would agree to that, particularly with hard-liners opposing to giving it up. U.S. officials have not yet explained how they see the agreement addressing Iran's nuclear program, including who will be in charge of verifying that Iran is in compliance and who will destroy or remove highly enriched uranium believed to be buried under nuclear sites that were badly damaged by U.S. strikes last summer.

Despite anger, US allies push to make deal work at G7 summit. Meanwhile, world leaders gathered in France for the first full day of the Group of Seven summit of major industrialized nations, where Iran was high on the agenda. Scheduled discussions include a work session focused on "ending crises and ensuring stability in the Middle East." Leaders of Egypt, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are to join the talks.

El Niño Challenge Prompts AP To Redraw Crop Strategy

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday directed officials to formulate a comprehensive crop cultivation strategy to help farmers overcome the challenges posed by the El Niño weather conditions and ensure sustainable agricultural growth across Andhra Pradesh.

Reviewing the performance of the agriculture, horticulture and aquaculture sectors, the Chief Minister stressed the need for special attention to

crop planning in view of the changing climatic conditions. Officials, he said, must examine opportunities for crop diversification and provide timely advisories to farmers based on lessons they learned during the previous agricultural season.

Naidu emphasised that the state should actively encourage farmers to adopt natural farming on a larger scale.

He noted that countries across the world are increasingly focusing on certification standards for agricul-



tural produce and said extensive awareness programmes must be conducted to educate farmers on emerging global requirements. "I would personally participate in farmer outreach and awareness campaigns," he said.

Calling for greater adoption of scientific cultivation practices, Naidu reviewed issues

related to the production and marketing of chilli, tobacco and Totapuri mango. He asked officials to organise a meeting with tobacco buyers

and explore options for enabling farmers to store their produce until remunerative prices are available in the market.

The chief minister

also asked officials to prepare plans for expanding the cultivation of pulses, which currently enjoy strong market demand, so that farmers can secure better returns. He said continuous analysis of both market arrivals and standing crops was necessary to guide future policy decisions.

Naidu further stressed the importance of value addition in agriculture and horticulture. In the aquaculture sector, he asked officials to convene meetings with aqua

farmers, industry associations and aqua feed manufacturers to address sector-specific concerns.

Reiterating the government's commitment to supporting farmers during difficult times, the CM said protecting and strengthening the farming community remained his government's priority.

Agriculture minister K Atchannaidu, chief secretary Sai Prasad and senior officials attended the review meeting.

farmers, industry associations and aqua feed manufacturers to address sector-specific concerns.

Reiterating the government's commitment to supporting farmers during difficult times, the CM said protecting and strengthening the farming community remained his government's priority.

Agriculture minister K Atchannaidu, chief secretary Sai Prasad and senior officials attended the review meeting.

Civic Works Worth Over Rs 750 Crore Launched in Mangalagiri

VIJAYAWADA: Marking a major push for infrastructure and regional development in Mangalagiri constituency, education minister Nara Lokesh and Union minister of state for rural development Pemmasani Chandrasekhar on Wednesday heralded a series of development projects costing more than Rs 750 crore.

The flagship initiative was the launch of Phase-I works of the long-awaited underground drainage project for the Mangalagiri-Tadepalli municipal corporation area at a cost of Rs 604.32 crore. The project forms part of a comprehensive Rs 1,167.50-crore underground sewerage network planned across the corporation limits.

Lokesh said a modern drainage system was among the promises the 3-party alliance made to the people during the



elections and action followed. The drainage project, he said, would provide a permanent solution to decades-old sewage problems and significantly improve public health and sanitation standards.

Chandrasekhar said the Centre and the state were working in close coordination to transform Mangalagiri into a model constituency through sustained infrastructure investments. He stressed

that improving the quality of life of citizens remained a top priority.

The two ministers also laid the foundation stone for the long-pending Nidamaru railway overbridge that involves a cost of Rs 142 crore, in place of the existing railway level crossing on the Mangalagiri-Nidamaru route.

The four-lane bridge, spanning 767.5 metres, is expected to ease traffic congestion and provide

uninterrupted connectivity between Mangalagiri, Amaravati, Tadikonda and the surrounding villages.

Officials said nearly 60 trains pass through the crossing every day, resulting in gate closures for eight to ten hours daily. Once completed, the ROB would drastically reduce travel time and support future urbanisation and economic growth in the region. Earlier, Lokesh and Chandrasekhar inaugu-

rated the newly developed Kaza East Lake Park, created with `3.30 crore in CSR funds. Spread around a 17.18-acre lake, the park features a 1.7-km walking track, an open gym, children's play area, ornamental landscaping and more than 12,800 plants belonging to 42 species.

The leaders also dedicated the modernised V a i k u n t h a Mahaprasthanam in Old Mangalagiri, developed at a cost of Rs 3.25 crore through CSR support and local contributions. The upgraded crematorium includes modern cremation platforms, waiting halls, ritual rooms, a dining facility, mortuary boxes, solar lighting and other public amenities.

A large number of Telugu Desam, Jana Sena and BJP leaders, public representatives, officials and local residents participated in the programmes.

Union Minister Hails NDA for Upping Infra Budget to ₹12.02 Lakh Crore in 12 Years

Vijayawada: Union Heavy Industries and Steel minister of state Bhupathi Raju Srinvasa Varma credited the BJP-led NDA government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for enhancing the budget allocation for infrastructure development to ₹12.02 lakh crore from ₹2 lakh crore in the last 12 years.

Srinvasa Varma, along with Vijayawada MP Kesineni Chinni and others, inspected the progress of works at the new terminal of the Vijayawada International Airport on Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion, the union minister said the new terminal is being taken up at a revised cost of ₹824.28



crore in an area spread over 51,315 square metres, including the basement. He said the terminal has been designed to withstand the rush of nearly 3.5 million air passengers per annum, at a time handling 800 domestic and 400 international passengers.

Srinvasa Varma said the new terminal would have 24 check-in

counters, eight customs and immigration counters, six passenger boarding bridges, nine departure gates, 10 escalators, 19 elevators, 648 cars' parking facility, and 1,270 metres-long elevated road.

The union minister expressed confidence that passengers will be able to use the new terminal by December end.

Minister Anam says Markapuram set for major infrastructure push

Nellore: Andhra Pradesh government has released ₹905 crore for completion of the long-pending Veligonda Project, is working to transform Markapuram into a horticulture hub, and has secured approval for expanding the Srisaillam Ghat Road into four-lanes, Endowments minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy announced on Wednesday.

Addressing a gathering at the Market Yard in Markapuram on completion of NDA coalition's two years in governance, the minister underlined that the state government is moving ahead with a combination of welfare and development initiatives, while fulfilling promises made to the people.

Highlighting key projects, Anam said Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has accorded top priority to the completion of Veligonda Project, with ₹905 crore released to expedite the remaining works. He said efforts are



underway to develop Markapuram district into a major horticulture centre on the lines of Rayalaseema.

The minister announced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved development of the Srisaillam Ghat Road as a four-lane corridor. Further, the government has sanctioned ₹16.84 crore for temple development across the state and released ₹1.10 crore for daily rituals and offerings in 116 temples.

Speaking on the occasion, Energy minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar said the AP CM is closely monitoring the Veligonda Project and Water Resources minister Nimmala Ramanaidu is personally reviewing its progress every month to ensure timely completion. He alleged that the previous YSR Congress government had dedicated the project to the nation even before it could be completed.

underway to develop Markapuram district into a major horticulture centre on the lines of Rayalaseema.

The minister announced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved development of the Srisaillam Ghat Road as a four-lane corridor. Further, the government has sanctioned ₹16.84 crore for temple development across the state and released ₹1.10 crore for daily rituals and offerings in 116 temples.

Speaking on the occasion, Energy minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar said the AP CM is closely monitoring the Veligonda Project and Water Resources minister Nimmala Ramanaidu is personally reviewing its progress every month to ensure timely completion. He alleged that the previous YSR Congress government had dedicated the project to the nation even before it could be completed.

Ongole MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy announced ₹5 crore for district development works. He said efforts would be made to establish an airport in Markapuram district.

MLA Kandula Narayana Reddy said Markapuram district's formation has fulfilled a long-standing aspiration of local residents and that the government was exploring industrial investments to accelerate growth.

District collector M. Vijaya Sunitha expressed confidence that the Veligonda Project would be completed by the end of July. She highlighted the benefits being delivered through welfare schemes, such as NTR Bharosa, Jaladhara, and Stree Shakti. Those who participated in the programme included ministers, legislators, officials and a large number of people.

Minister Savita Wants Kadapa to Lead in All Sectors

KADAPA: Kadapa district in-charge and BC Welfare minister S. Savita on Wednesday stressed the need for co-ordinated and result-oriented efforts by officials and public representatives to position YSR Kadapa district in the forefront across all sectors.

Addressing a district-level review meeting at the Collectorate, she said officials must function as an effective bridge between the government and the people, ensuring that welfare schemes and development programmes reach every eligible beneficiary without fail. She underscored the importance of transparency, accountability, and corruption-free governance in achieving sustainable growth.

The minister said the state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, is focusing on both



welfare and rapid development, with the broader aim of eliminating poverty and realising the "Swarna Andhra-2047" vision. She called upon all departments to work in close coordination and ensure effective implementation of flagship programmes at the grassroots levels.

Savita said collective commitment, efficient governance, and effective implementation of schemes at grassroots would be key to transforming Kadapa into a leading investment destination.

District collector Dr. Sreedhar Cherukuri, in a

detailed presentation, highlighted that the district's Gross District Domestic Product (GDDP) for 2025-26 is estimated at ₹79,627 crore, placing it eighth in the state, while per capita income stands at ₹2.83 lakh. He outlined plans to scale up the district economy to ₹13.26 lakh crore by 2047 through sustained growth across agriculture, industry, and services sectors.

The collector pointed to key initiatives, such as "Startup Kadapa," the Invest Kadapa Centre, which are expected to boost employment and attract investments.

FIELD VISITS MANDATORY FOR OFFICIALS, SAYS AP CM

Vijayawada: Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has said field visits are mandatory for officials across all levels of the administration. Direct interaction with ground realities, he said, is a prerequisite to improving the governance and strengthening public trust.

Reviewing the performance of various depart-

ments through the Real Time Governance Society on Wednesday, the chief minister said the entire administrative machinery must remain vigilant to prevent lapses. Focus should now be on identifying shortcomings and rectifying them promptly to ensure efficient public service delivery.

The CM asked all offi-

cial to undertake regular field visits from this month and said strict implementation of this rule would begin from next month. Recalling earlier instructions, he reiterated that officials should spend three days a week in the field.

District collectors have been asked to visit every assembly constituency four times, while constitu-



ency nodal officers must visit the same mandal four times each month.

He warned that the performance of officials and employees would be subjected to a comprehensive 360-degree evaluation.

Naidu also called for significant improvement in the functioning of the Endowments Department,

stating that greater focus was needed to enhance services for devotees in temples. He emphasised continuous improvement in employee performance across departments and directed that necessary training programmes be conducted.

Referring to global best practices, the CM suggested studying

Singapore's innovative administrative models. On infrastructure, he noted that 11,600 potholes had been identified in municipalities across the state, of which 79 per cent had already been repaired. He wanted officials to expedite repairs on the remaining roads, particularly those connecting urban and rural areas.

Revanth Reddy Joins School Kitchen Staff, Prepares Chapatis at TPS

Revanth Reddy's simple yet meaningful gesture reflected the government's commitment to providing quality and nutritious meals to students



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday visited the school kitchen at Telangana Public School (TPS) at Arutla Village in Manchala Mandal in Ranga Reddy district and joined the staff in preparing chapatis.

He visited the kitchen after inaugurating Telangana Public School in Arutla and had breakfast with students. Revanth Reddy's simple yet meaningful gesture reflected the government's commitment to providing quality and nutritious meals to students.

The women chefs working in the kitchen were delighted and inspired by the Chief Minister's visit, cherishing the opportunity to interact with him firsthand. The moment highlighted the dignity of their service and reinforced the spirit of care, inclusiveness, and dedication that the new public school system seeks to promote.

Desilting of Reservoirs: Uttam Calls for Practical, Sustainable Solutions

Hyderabad: Minister for irrigation N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Wednesday called for development of practical and sustainable desiltation models that can address both immediate and long-term flood protection needs.

During a review of the government's initiative for desilting reservoirs and irrigation projects, Uttam said restoring the original storage capacities of reservoirs was vital in both the Godavari and Krishna river basins. Better storage enhances water security, increases irrigation potential and reduces flood risks, he said.

The cost of neglect-



ing desilting can be enormous, he said, adding that severe flooding in Punjab last year inundated 16 of the state's 22 districts, forcing the government to spend nearly ₹2,000 crore on flood-related damages and compensation.

The minister reviewed issues being faced by agencies engaged in the desiltation of the Kaddam Project

and assessed the progress of works at the Lower Manair Dam and the Mid Manair Reservoir. He directed officials to identify practical solutions to overcome operational bottlenecks and accelerate the desilting. He directed officials that similar work should start at the Sriramsagar and Nizamsagar projects.

SIR: Enumeration Form Faces Language-Related Issues

Hyderabad: After facing a dilemma over the choice of language for the enumeration form as part of the upcoming special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls exercise, officials have adopted a unique idea of distributing the English form in Hyderabad and the surrounding areas, and Telugu in the rest of the state.

Though the state government has requested the poll panel to print the enumeration forms in two languages — Telugu and English — for the entire state, the Election Commission rejected the request, which forced the state officials to come up with this unique solution.

"We had requested the Election Commission for the enumeration form in two lan-



guages, but they did not accept the proposal. Given the cosmopolitan nature of Hyderabad, it was decided to distribute the form in English. In contrast, the form will be in Telugu in the rest of the state," informed an official.

The Greater Hyderabad area has a total of 47,36,809 voters spread over 15 Assembly constituencies. Of this, 21,86,259, or 46.15 per cent of the total voters, were mapped during the pre-SIR exercise.

During a meeting, which was conducted by district election officer and GHMC commissioner R.V. Karnan, representatives of all recognised political parties have unanimously accepted the decision.

On June 12, AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi requested Chief Electoral Officer K. Sudharshan Reddy to consider English and Urdu forms for the enumeration. "Although Telugu is the first language of Telangana, the most commonly used language in the state — especially in Hyderabad — is English. Most government orders and administrative work are carried out in English. Even those whose first language is Telugu often prefer writing in English rather than Telugu," Asaduddin said in his representation to the CEO.

Welfare Schemes Provide Major Support to Poor Families

MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Distributes Kalyana Lakshmi, Shaadi Mubarak and CMRF Cheques

Bhadra d r i Kothagudem District Bureau: A welfare benefits distribution programme was held on Wednesday at Vasavi Function Hall in Sarapaka village of Burgampahad Mandal, B h a d r a d r i Kothagudem district. The event witnessed the distribution of financial assistance under various government welfare schemes, with Payam Venkateswarlu attending as the chief guest.

On the occasion, the MLA distributed the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak



scheme cheques to 34 beneficiaries, while 25 beneficiaries received Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques worth ₹13 lakh.

Speaking at the event, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu said that the welfare schemes being imple-

mented by the state government are providing significant financial support to poor and middle-class families. He stated that efforts are being made to ensure that every eligible beneficiary receives the benefits of government schemes. The MLA empha-



sized that the government is moving forward by balancing welfare and development, adding that resolving public issues and improving the lives of people remain its top priorities.

Local public representatives, government officials, Con-

gress Party leaders, activists, beneficiaries, and villagers participated in large numbers.

The programme concluded with the message:

"Welfare is the Government's Goal — Support for Every Eligible Citizen."

No More Queues for Urea... Book from Home!

Collector Ankith Launches Fertilizer Booking App – Government Brings Services Closer to Farmers



Bhadra d r i Kothagudem District Correspondent: Good news for farmers in B h a d r a d r i Kothagudem district! Farmers no longer need to visit fertilizer shops and stand in long queues for urea. To make the process easier, the state government has introduced a Fertilizer Booking App, enabling farmers to book urea from their homes using their mobile phones. District Collector Ankith officially launched the app on Wednesday at the Bethampudi Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society in Tekulapalli mandal. Illandu MLA Koram Kanakaiah attended the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Collector Ankith stated that the district requires around 40,000 metric tonnes of urea for agricultural needs, while

15,000 metric tonnes are currently available. He assured that the government is taking all necessary measures to ensure adequate supply of urea to farmers without any inconvenience.

The Collector cautioned that excessive use of urea can reduce soil fertility and lead to higher fertilizer dependency in the future. He advised farmers to follow scientific agricultural practices recommended by the Agriculture Department and adopt balanced fertilizer usage.

He also noted that maize cultivation has reached record levels in the district this year. With the possibility of reduced rainfall due to the El Niño effect, farmers were encouraged to adopt crop diversification and crop rotation practices. He directed agriculture officials to create widespread awareness

about the Fertilizer Booking App among farmers.

Government Stands with Farmers —

MLA Koram Kanakaiah

Addressing the gathering, MLA Koram Kanakaiah said that ensuring sufficient fertilizer supply to every farmer is one of the government's top priorities. He stated that the government had supported farmers during the previous season by procuring maize at a support price and continues to introduce farmer-friendly initiatives such as the Fertilizer Booking App.

He emphasized that the government is implementing several welfare and development programs for

farmers and encouraged them to cultivate alternative crops alongside traditional crops to increase their income.

Urea Bags Distributed to Farmers Through the App

Following the launch, Collector Ankith and MLA Koram Kanakaiah distributed urea bags to farmers who had successfully booked urea through the Fertilizer Booking App.

Inspection of Indiramma Housing Works

As part of their Tekulapalli visit, Collector Ankith and MLA Koram Kanakaiah inspected the progress of Indiramma housing construction works in A Colony. They visited

the house being built by beneficiary Dharavath Chukki and her husband Tikli and reviewed the progress of construction and fund release. Officials were instructed to ensure quality construction and speedy completion of houses so that beneficiaries can move into their homes at the earliest.

The program was attended by Society Director Lakkineni Surendra, Market Committee Chairman Rambabu, Sarpanch Boda Balu, Kothagudem RDO Madhu, Cooperative Department Officer Srinivas, Agriculture Department Officer Baburao, public representatives, officials, and farmers.



While excelling in duties, one should work for the betterment of children

Warangal Police Commissioner Sunpreet Singh

Warangal Mandal : The Warangal Police Commissioner informed that as part of their continuous duty, they should work for the betterment of their children. The Warangal Police Commissioner felicitated the daughter of an inspector who got admission in the prestigious IIT Mumbai College with great ambition. Satish's daughter, who is working as a Special Branch Inspector of Warangal Police Commissionerate, Yadlapalli Satvika, scored 99.65 percentile in the JEE Mains examination and excelled in the recently conducted JEE



Advanced examinations and secured a seat in the Civil Engineering department in IIT Mumbai College with a rank of 8808. With this,

Satvik was felicitated by the Warangal Police Commissioner. On this occasion, the CP interacted with Saatvik and said that she will have to work harder in the coming days. It is a great thing to get a seat in the highest educational institution in the country, and the CP said that she should study hard in the same way and achieve her desired goals, especially the children of the police who are constantly on duty have been excelling in their studies and achieving high-level jobs in the last few years.

No Compromise on Safety; Production Cost Must Be Reduced

SCCL Directors' Key Suggestions at Manuguru Area Tripartite Safety Meeting



Manuguru Correspondent: Directors of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) emphasized that production costs should be reduced by increasing machine utilization hours while strictly adhering to safety standards. The remarks were made during the 19th Area-Level Tripartite Safety Meeting held on Wednesday at the Yellandu Club in Manuguru Area.

Addressing the gathering, SCCL Director (P&P) Koppula Venkateswarlu stated that coal prices of Singareni are comparatively higher than those of Coal India, leading to increased competition in the market. He stressed that the company must focus on reducing production costs without compromising worker safety and added that sustainable growth can only be achieved through safe and efficient production practices.

Director (Mining) Dr. I. Satyanarayana, who attended as the chief guest, called for scientific studies on mine safety and greater awareness among employees regarding safe working practices. He also directed officials to pay special

attention to the safety, welfare, and wages of contract workers.

Venkateswarlu urged all employees to work collectively towards achieving the company's coal production target of 65 million tonnes for the financial year 2026-27. He emphasized the importance of professional skill development and training to enhance workplace efficiency and productivity.

Manuguru Area General Manager Durgam Ramachander stated that extensive awareness programs are being conducted across all mines to ensure accident-free production. He noted that Work Inspectors and Supervisors have a crucial responsibility to immediately report any potential safety hazards to the concerned authorities.

Representatives from AITUC, INTUC, safety officials, workmen inspectors, and private contract agencies participated in the meeting and held detailed discussions on safety measures, production targets, and workers' welfare.

There is no room for negligence in monsoon preparations

Action plans should be implemented strictly
GWMC Special Officer, Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai

Warangal Corporation : GWMC Special Officer, Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai has instructed the officials to strictly implement the action plans prepared keeping in mind the monsoon season at the field level.

Speaking at a coordination meeting held with the officials of the Engineering, Sanitation and Town Planning departments at the GWMC headquarters on Wednesday, the Collector, who suggested that preventive measures be taken to ensure that the city people do not face any difficulties during the monsoon season, ordered the completion of desilting (sediment removal) work in the main drains and sub-drainages within the next two to three days.

Be constantly alert

It was suggested that the sewerage canals in the city should be cleaned completely with special teams.

The eight emergency response teams set up across the city should be constantly alert. If there is rainwater accumulation anywhere, it was ordered to immediately remove it with the help of JCBs and pump sets.

In particular, it was ordered to take steps to safely close all the



manholes in the city and ensure that there are no chances of accidents. It was suggested that machinery and equipment should be made available in advance in the main areas where flood water stagnates.

Special focus on flooded areas

It was said that special focus should be paid to the flooded areas of the city and relief measures should be taken with DRF teams where necessary. It was said that drains and culverts in water-logged areas should be cleaned from time to time and if necessary, steps should be taken to divert the flow of water through temporary canals.

It was suggested that the condition of the main and internal canals should be inspected immediately after the rain and silt removal work should be undertaken. He ordered that potholes formed on main roads should be filled and repaired immediately.

Identification of dilapidated buildings

Town planning officials should identify dangerous buildings in dilapidated condition and take steps to evacuate residents to safe areas if necessary. He said that special attention should be paid to the safety of electrical connections on the ground floors of apartments.

Installation of warning boards

He ordered that barricades and warning boards should be installed in areas where road development work is ongoing to prevent accidents. He clarified that the full responsibility of ensuring that flood water does not accumulate in problematic areas lies with the deputy and assistant engineers. He suggested that additional staff, JCBs and pump sets should be used as required.

The Collector ordered that all departments should work in coordination and implement monsoon preparedness measures effectively so that the people do not face any inconvenience.

Toll-free numbers available

Collector Chahat Bajpai said that a special control room has been set up at the GWMC headquarters to resolve people's problems during the rainy season and a toll-free number 1800 425 1980 has been made available. She urged people to take advantage of these services and voice their complaints.

CMHO Dr. Raja Reddy, City Planner Ravindra Radekar, Executive Engineers Ravikumar, Santosh Babu, officials from sanitation, engineering, town planning and other departments participated in this meeting.

Congress Government Fulfilling Housing Dreams: MLA Rajesh Reddy

Nagar Kurnool: MLA Dr. Kuchukulla Rajesh Reddy participated in the housewarming ceremony of newly constructed Indiramma houses held at Aleru village in Telkapally mandal of Nagarkurnool district.

On the occasion, he conveyed his wishes to the beneficiaries and stated that the Congress government is fulfilling the dream of home ownership for poor families.

Later, the MLA planted saplings at the village government school and called upon everyone to contribute towards environmental protection.



He advised students to develop the responsibility of protecting nature from an early age.

Subsequently, he visited the village Sub-Centre and observed the administration of the DPT vaccination to a five-year-old child. Interacting with medi-

cal staff, he instructed them to ensure complete immunization coverage for children in rural areas.

Later, he participated in the Beerappa festival celebrations in the village and offered special prayers. Extending festival greetings to the villagers, he

emphasized that preserving rural traditions and cultural values is a collective responsibility.

The programme was attended by Market Committee Chairman Ramana Rao, Telkapally Mandal Congress Party President Banda Parvathalu, former Sarpanch Ramana Goud, former MPTC Jinkala Eswarayya, senior leader Bala Goud, former Deputy Sarpanch Balayya, youth leaders Anjaneyulu and Mallesh, Congress party leaders, workers, and villagers.

Surprise inspection of government high school

Show cause notices to school staff
Collector expresses anger over school sanitation

Warangal Mandal : Warangal District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada conducted a surprise inspection of educational standards, school management and teacher attendance at Government High School, Intezar Ganj on Wednesday.

On this occasion, the Collector, who checked the attendance register, found that two school staff members had gone without prior permission during the inspection.

Taking this seriously, the District Collector recommended to Additional Collector Y.V. Ganesh to issue show cause notices to them.

As part of the inspections, the headmaster was instructed to ensure that the school premises, classrooms and toilets are clean.



Reprimand to the principal

The principal was reprimanded for negligence in maintaining cleanliness and the scavenger was suggested to be replaced.

Warning that the dirty canal flowing in front of the school could become dangerous for students, he ordered to immediately cover the canal with rocks as a roof.

Implementation of

Mid-Day Meal Scheme

Infrastructure, implementation of the mid-day meal scheme, student attendance, distribution of textbooks and other issues were inspected.

Later, the Collector spoke to the students and inquired about the facilities being provided to them, quality of education, and mid-day meal.

He made it clear that there is no compromise on sanitation, safety, and educational standards.

The principal was ordered to submit a comprehensive report on school management, teacher performance, and infrastructure.

Additional Collector Y.V. Ganesh, Warangal Tehsildar Srikanth, and others were present during these inspections.

Good Education is Available in Government Schools: District Collector Bhavesh Mishra

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : District Collector Bhavesh Mishra stated that quality education is available in government schools. On Wednesday, he conducted a surprise inspection of the Government Model School in Kuntala mandal headquarters and reviewed student attendance, as well as details of teachers and staff.

He directed teachers to take special measures to increase student enrollment and ensure that every student attends school by interacting with the parents of absentee students. He also instructed officials to maintain cleanliness on the school premises and expressed dissatisfaction over unhygienic conditions.

Interacting with Class 10 students, the Collector emphasized that, in addition to academics, awareness of social issues is equally important. He tested the students' abilities by asking them to solve mathematical problems and answer various questions. He advised teachers to focus on developing students' skills along with teaching the prescribed curriculum.

The Collector inspected the transformer on the school campus and assured that better electricity facilities would be provided. He also visited the hostel and instructed officials to ensure improved amenities for students.

Later, he visited the Kuntala Primary Health Centre, where he reviewed medical services



and records. In view of seasonal diseases, he advised doctors and health staff to remain vigilant.

Subsequently, he inaugurated a pre-primary school at the Primary School in Andakur village and interacted with the children. He also participated in a mass literacy initiation (Aksharabhyasam) program for students.

District Education Officer Bhojanna, District Medical and Health Officer Rajender, Tahsildar Kamal Singh, MPDO Vanaja, Mandal Education Officer Muthyam, Sarpanch Gajender, and other officials were present on the occasion.

TNGOs Union Felicitates Newly Appointed Administrative Officer and Rural SHO in Sangareddy



SANGAREDDY Correspondent : June 17, 2026: Under the leadership of TNGOs Union Sangareddy District President Mohammed

Javed Ali, union representatives on Tuesday felicitated newly appointed Collectorate Administrative Officer Vijayalakshmi and Sangareddy Rural Station House Officer (SHO) Mohammed Nayeem at the Integrated Collectorate, Sangareddy, on the occasion of their assumption of office.

Speaking on the occasion, Administrative Officer Vijayalakshmi assured employees that she would work for their welfare and strive to resolve their issues by coordinating with higher authorities. She stated that the administration would extend all possible support to employees and their associations.

SHO Mohammed Nayeem said

that the police department would cooperate with employees and employee unions in all possible ways. He urged them to bring any issues to his notice and assured continued support for future programs and initiatives. He emphasized that the police would stand by employees whenever required.

The felicitation program was attended by TNGOs District Secretary Velpur Ravi, Associate President P. Venkat Reddy, District Treasurer Srinivas, TNGOs State Women Secretary Nirmala Rajkumari Rathod, TNGOs State Leader Ghose, representatives of the Panchayat Secretaries Forum, employees from the Co-operative Department, Class-IV employees, and several other staff members.

Bagareddy's birth anniversary celebrated in grand style



Zahirabad, June: The birth anniversary of the late Bagareddy, the father of political Bhishma and former MP, was celebrated in grand style on Wednesday. Floral garlands were placed at the Bagareddy statue in Zahirabad town and tributes were paid. Later, a cake was cut and sweets were distributed. The celebrations were held in the presence of Bagareddy's son, former DCCB Chairman M. Jaipal Reddy, Bagareddy's fans, leaders Buchi Reddy, Panduranga Reddy, G. Bhaskar, Shivaji Patil, Shankar Reddy, Afser Dildar, Karthik Reddy, Venugopal Reddy, and others participated.

Timely Vaccination for Children and Pregnant Women Essential: DIO Dr. Pratap

Kothagudem Correspondent : Kothagudem, June 17: District Immunization Officer (DIO) Dr. Pratap emphasized the importance of ensuring timely vaccination for all eligible children and pregnant women across the district. On Wednesday, he visited the Urban Primary Health Centres at Old Kothagudem and Safai Basti to inspect the ongoing routine immunization activities.

During the visit, Dr. Pratap reviewed vaccine storage practices, cold chain maintenance, beneficiary attendance, vaccine utilization, data entry on the immunization portal, and overall



management of vaccination sessions. He instructed the concerned staff to take special measures to ensure that every eligible child and pregnant woman receives vaccines on schedule.

He also directed officials to improve the quality of immunization services and ensure that all vaccination records are updated promptly on the designated portal without any pending entries. Dr. Pratap stated that routine immunization plays a vital role in preventing vaccine-preventable diseases and safeguarding public health.

The inspection was attended by District Community Health Officer Nagabhushanam, medical staff, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), and other healthcare workers.

Health officials stated that the department is continuing special initiatives under the slogan: "Complete Immunization for Every Child – Health Protection for Every Family."

Force Motors Rolls-out 200,000th Mercedes-Benz Engine in India

Milestone underscores over five decades of partnership between Force Motors and Mercedes-Benz

Pune, 17th June 2026: Force Motors Limited today announced the roll-out of the 200,000th engine from its state-of-the-art engine manufacturing facility in Chakan, Pune, marking a significant milestone in its manufacturing partnership with Mercedes-Benz.

The association between Force Motors and Mercedes-Benz in engine manufacturing dates back to 1997 and has evolved into a comprehensive partnership, that includes the manufacturing of engines and axles for all Mercedes-Benz cars and SUVs produced in India.

The 200,000th engine milestone underscores a relationship built on trust, technological excellence, shared values and a common commitment to advancing manufacturing capabilities in India. A Mercedes-Benz GLS 450 has received this special 200,000th unit, a 6-cylinder M256 engine manufactured by Force Motors.

The milestone was commemorated in the presence of Mr.

Prasan Firodia, Managing Director, Force Motors Limited, and a distinguished delegation from Mercedes-Benz, including Members of the Board of Management of Mercedes-Benz Group AG:

Dr. Joerg Burzer, Member of the Board of Management of Mercedes-Benz Group AG, Chief Technology Officer, Development & Procurement

Mr. Michael Schiebe, Member of the Board of Management of Mercedes-Benz Group AG, Production, Quality & Supply Chain Management

Mr. Mathias Geisen, Member of the Board of Management of



Mercedes-Benz Group AG, Sales & Customer Experience

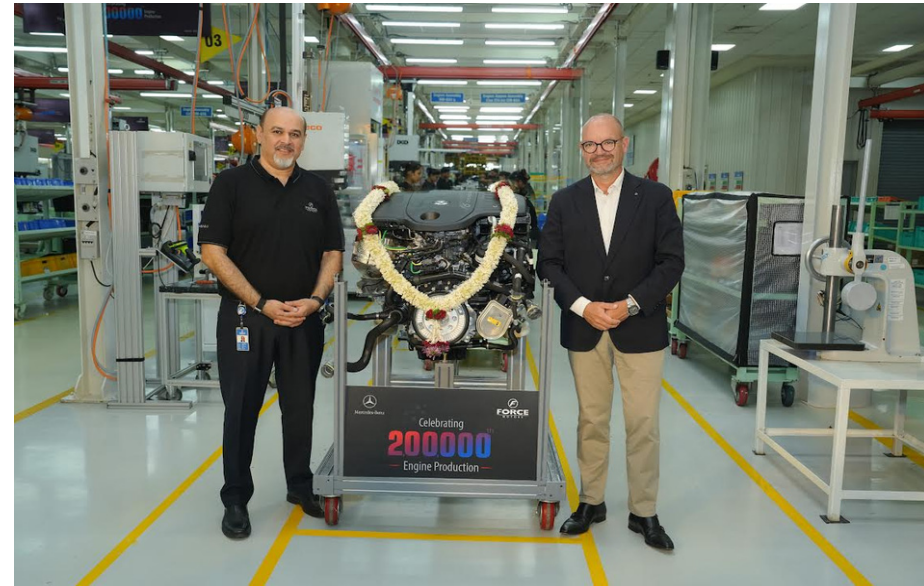
They were joined by Mr. Santosh Iyer, Managing Director & CEO, Mercedes-Benz India; Mr. Vyankatesh Kulkarni, Executive Director & Head of Operations, Mercedes-Benz India; and Mr. Prashant Inamdar, Executive Director – Operations, Force Motors Limited, amongst other dignitaries and guests, from both the organisations.

Speaking on the significance of the milestone and Force Motors' longstanding as-

sociation with Mercedes-Benz, Mr. Prasan Firodia, Managing Director, Force Motors Limited said, "As Mercedes-Benz continues to expand its presence in India, Force Motors remains committed to supporting its growth through best-in-class manufacturing, operational excellence and by contributing to the production of world-class automotive components in India. The 200,000th engine is more than a production milestone; it is the living story of a half-century-long partnership built on trust, precision and shared purpose. The Force Motors Chakan facility was purpose-built to

meet Mercedes-Benz's exacting global standards, and every engine that has rolled out of it, reflects Force Motors' unwavering commitment to engineering excellence and manufacturing precision. To have honoured that commitment 200,000 times is a moment of profound pride for us".

The milestone also resonates beyond the factory floor. The Force Motors–Mercedes-Benz relationship stands as one of the most significant examples of Indo-German industrial collaboration, one that has quietly and consistently elevated the standards of automotive manufacturing in India. In an era of rapidly evolving automotive landscape, where global supply chains increasingly seek reliability, quality, precision, and proximity, Force Motors' ability to deliver German-quality engineering from Indian soil, underpinned by the 'Make in India' vision, makes it a model worthy of national and international recognition.



No Negligence in Leprosy Eradication... Awareness is the Key to Complete Prevention!

Fight Against Superstitions – DM&HO Dr. Tukaram Rathod

Bhadradi Kothagudem District Bureau: District Medical and Health Officer (DM&HO) Dr. Tukaram Rathod has directed officials to further strengthen and accelerate leprosy eradication activities across Bhadradi Kothagudem district. He was speaking at a review meeting held at the District Medical and Health Department Office with DPMOs (Leprosy) and Health Educators.

The DM&HO instructed officials to promptly identify suspected leprosy cases, conduct necessary examinations, and ensure that diagnosed patients are immediately started on free Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) treatment and complete the full course. He emphasized the need for regular Active Case Search (ACS), contact surveys, and follow-up monitoring in all health center jurisdictions.

Dr. Rathod also stressed the importance of conducting extensive awareness programs to eliminate misconceptions and fear surrounding leprosy. Health Educators were advised to encourage people to visit the nearest government health facility immediately if they notice any symptoms of the disease.

He called for widespread publicity regarding the free treatment, disability prevention services, and self-care practices provided by the government. Health education should be taken to the grassroots level through schools, Gram Sabhas, Self-Help Groups,



and Village Health, Sanitation, and Nutrition Committee meetings, he said.

The DM&HO further directed Health Educators to create awareness against superstitions such as witchcraft, black magic, and other irrational beliefs that continue to exist in some villages, while promoting a scientific outlook among the public.

Officials were instructed to strengthen IEC (Information, Education and Communication) and BCC (Behavior Change Communication) activities, maintain field-level records and reports on time, and work in coordination to achieve all program targets effectively.

The meeting was attended by Program Officer Dr. Pratap, Physiotherapist Bhadradi, Mohan, Srinivas, Health Educators Jayalakshmi, Ramadevi, Baby, Vinay Kumar, Pratibha, and other district health department officials.

"Leprosy is completely curable. Awareness and timely treatment are the most powerful weapons against the disease," stated DM&HO Dr. Tukaram Rathod.

Complete 100% e-KYC Within the Prescribed Deadline: Additional Collector Kishore Kumar

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : District Additional Collector (Revenue) Kishore Kumar has directed officials to ensure that 100% e-KYC of LPG consumers is completed within the stipulated deadline.

A review meeting was held with concerned officials and LPG distributors regarding the progress of the LPG consumer e-KYC process in the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the Additional Collector emphasized that the e-KYC process must be completed by June 30. He reviewed the status of e-KYC completed so far and sought details from the officials. He instructed them to identify consumers who have not yet completed e-KYC and conduct special drives to facilitate the process.

He further directed that consumers be regularly informed through SMS notifications and that necessary arrangements be made to ensure every consumer can complete e-KYC conveniently.

The Additional Collector warned that action would be taken against LPG agen-



cies that fail to complete the process within the prescribed deadline.

The meeting was attended by District Civil Supplies Officer Rajender, other officials, staff members, LPG dealers, and their representatives.

ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 Registers Biggest-Ever Opening Weekend



The ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 has got off to a record-breaking start with the opening weekend breaking attendance, viewing and engagement records across the United Kingdom (UK), India and the rest of the world.

A total of 44,844 fans attended games across the first three days of the tournament, a new record for the weekend of an ICC Women's event.

The in-stadia figures exceeded the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup's opening three-day attendance of 34,680 last year, underlining the record-breaking momentum behind the biggest-ever women's cricket event.

The milestone weekend was headlined by a sell-out crowd of 18,814 for India vs. Pakistan at Edgbaston, making it the highest-attended group-stage fixture in ICC Women's World Cup history. The figure surpassed the 15,935 fans who watched India vs. Pakistan at the Dubai International Stadium during the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024.

In India, JioStar's digital coverage on JioHotstar has already delivered a cumulative live tournament reach of 215 million and 1.3 billion minutes of live watch time so far, with India's win over Pakistan reaching 134 million viewers and generating 1.1 billion minutes of watch time alone. This is now the highest digital reach for any league-stage match across all formats in women's cricket.

The record-breaking India vs. Pakistan match followed a standout opening night in Birmingham, where 14,865 supporters were wowed by the West End production of Wicked before Danni Wyatt-Hodge's starring role inspired hosts England to victory over Sri Lanka.

Sky Sports' broadcast of the opening game registered a peak viewership of 510,000 and an average audience of 393,000. This is the broadcaster's highest-ever average audience for a single game at an ICC Women's T20 World Cup.

The record-breaking start has also manifested across ICC digital platforms. There have been more than 753 million video views across ICC content on social media, representing a near 150 percent increase on the same period of the

ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024.

A further 617 million+ video views have been delivered by the ICC's Content Creator Programme, which has seen dozens of social media stars flock to the United Kingdom to share the tournament with new and nuanced global audiences. Combined, those content creators have driven 30 million+ engagements.

Richa Ghosh 17 Ball 34 runs knock

Across live streams on ICC.tv, there has been a 75 percent jump in both unique users and total watch time. And thanks to a dedicated partnership with YouTube to take the game into wider growth markets, there have been over 150,000 hours of watch-time generated on ICC's YT channel.

ICC Chief Executive, Sanjog Gupta, said: "This record-breaking start is a powerful reflection of the months of planning, collaboration and commitment from the ICC, the ECB, our broadcast partners and every stakeholder involved in delivering this event. To see that work translate into record attendances, landmark broadcast audiences and exceptional digital engagement in the opening weekend speaks to the momentum we managed to create for this marquee moment and also the growing power of the women's cricket movement.

Sree Charni's - 3/21 spell

"This is only the beginning. Our ambition for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 has always been to raise the bar for the women's game, create a bigger stage for the world's best players and deliver an event that reaches new fans, inspires future generations and leaves a lasting legacy for cricket in England and Wales and around the world."

Deepti Sharma claimed three wickets in a single over

Fans can continue to Catch the Spirit of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 by buying tickets at tickets.womens.t20worldcup.com, following the tournament across the ICC's social media channels and watching all matches through global broadcast partners.

Richa Ghosh-Deepti Sharma's 23-Run Blitz in the 19th Overturns the Tide Against Pakistan

Bengaluru Bravehearts and Delhi Redz begin Rugby Premier League season with wins

Season 2 of the HSBC Rugby Premier League began with exciting contests in Hyderabad as Bengaluru Bravehearts rallied to defeat Hyderabad Heroes, while Delhi Redz overcame defending champions Chennai Bulls. The opening day showcased high-intensity action at the Gachibowli Athletics Stadium

Hyderabad: Season 2 of the HSBC Rugby Premier League, powered by Avid, got underway with thrilling action at the Gachibowli Athletics Stadium on Tuesday. Bengaluru Bravehearts opened their campaign with a comeback victory over hosts Hyderabad Heroes, while Delhi Redz also registered a win over Chennai Bulls later in the day.

Hyderabad Heroes made a strong start in front of their home crowd, but disciplined defence from the Bravehearts helped level the scores by half-time. Diego Ardao's try in the third quarter gave Bengaluru the lead before the Heroes responded to keep the contest alive. However, captain Ngarohi McGarvey crossed over in the final quarter to seal a hard-fought 28-21 win for the Bravehearts.

Delhi Redz raced into an early lead through Josep Serres, opening up a 12-0 advantage before Filipe Sauturaga got defending champions Chennai Bulls on the



scoreboard at the start of the second quarter. The Bulls fought back strongly, with Tololo adding another try to put them ahead. However, the Redz regained control and took a 10-point lead into the final quarter. Maintaining possession in the closing stages, Delhi successfully ran down the clock to secure an impressive 31-21 victory.

Later in the day, the women's franchises were scheduled to take the field, with Chennai Bulls set to take on Delhi Redz, Kolkata Banga Tigers facing Mumbai Dreamers, while the men's competition concluded the day with a clash between Kolkata Banga Tigers and Mumbai Dreamers.

SPORTS



Messi Admits He Cried During Argentina's World Cup Opener, Here Is Why

Argentina football superstar Lionel Messi netted his first ever FIFA World Cup hat-trick in the defending champions' opener game against Algeria, fans all over the world cheering for him. In what could be his last world cup, he has already matched the all-time world cup goal record of Miroslav Klose. But Messi was seen tearing up like a little kid after he scored his first in the game.

During the post match interview, he revealed the reason for him tearing up, and said, "Yes I cried, after the first goal, but it was not related to anything related to the football pitch."

Messi went on to say, "I have been going through some difficult days, and I am grateful that I have my teammates and the



Argentina delegation by my side, giving me a lot of strength."

During the run-in to the FIFA World Cup 2026, Messi has been going through a rough patch including a hamstring injury and uncertainties around him regaining fitness before the tournament. This would be his last dance in Argentina colours, which made it necessary for him to get back into shape.

The football legend nevertheless overcame his injury and marked his presence with a hat-trick, and is now leading the goal scoring chart of this tournament and at the joint-top of all-time charts. He is set to face Austria on Monday, June 22 in their next game. If he is able to score in that game, he could leave behind the German legend Klose and could become the numero uno goalscorer in the FIFA World Cup history.

Reacting to the event of Messi tearing up after the goal, football icon Zlatan Ibrahimovic said "People are surprised when they see Messi in tears, but I'm not. That's what happens when football is part of your soul."

"The tears were not about one goal. They were about sacrifice, expectation, and years of fighting for that badge," he added.

German Football Team Deals With Problem Of A Venomous Kind At World Cup



New York : Tactics and opponents are not the only concerns for German footballers in the ongoing , FIFA World Cup. They are also worried about what might be "hiding in the grass" after spotting a snake at their base camp in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Germany captain Joshua Kimmich opened about the slithering problem and the BBC reported that similar complaints have come from the Swiss and Norwegian teams too.

"In Germany, you worry about tactics, injuries, and your next opponent. Here, you also have to think about what might be

hiding in the grass," Kimmich was quoted as saying.

The British website also stated that Kimmich and his team-mates encountered a copperhead, which is a venomous snake commonly found in North Carolina.

"The Swiss marked a certain area, external in their San Diego camp, as a 'snake area' before the tournament," it reported.

Kimmich said the moment his team found out that the snake was venomous, it triggered concerns.

"We saw a snake yesterday, we were told it was venomous. If you get bitten, you have to go to the hospital. I don't think you'll die, but it's certainly dangerous. I have the feeling that if you step on a snake like that, it can end badly," he said.

"That's why we're trying to keep our distance from animals here. I have respect for the people here. In Germany, I have the feeling there aren't so many dangerous animals," he added.

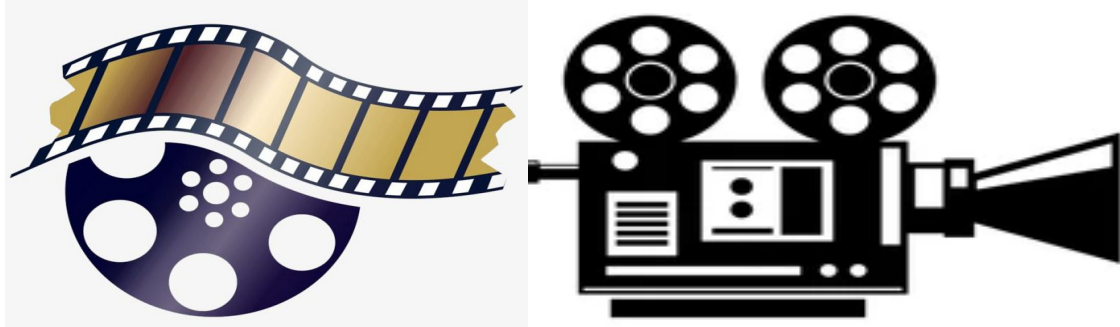
The four-time champions opened their tournament campaign with a 7-1 drubbing of debutants Curacao. They will be up against Ivory Coast on June 21.

"Once you hear what kind of snake it is and what can happen if you're bitten, it stops being funny very quickly," Kimmich said.

"We're here trying to prepare for the biggest tournament in football, and suddenly players are looking at the ground before every step they take."

Norway captain Kristian Thorstvedt said he wasn't particularly pleased to know that copperheads are common in North Carolina.

"I'm not happy at all to hear that," Thorstvedt said.



CINEMA

SM GUNDE PELIPOTHONDHE SONG: A RELATABLE MELODY

Jaya Krishna Ghattamaneni is debuting in films with his highly anticipated Srinivasa Mangapuram.

Jaya Krishna Ghattamaneni is debuting in films with his highly anticipated Srinivasa Mangapuram. The action romance is presented by Ashwini Dutt and directed by Ajay Bhupathi. Rasha Thadani is playing the leading lady and the promotions for the film have created a huge buzz, anticipation to watch the two youngsters on big screens.

Jaya Krishna has proven his skills in action, dance and dialogue delivery with the teaser and songs released till date. In this new song, he looks beautiful like a perfect Telugu boy in traditional Panche. His mannerisms, his style and his looks make it a very attractive song to watch and pleasant one to listen.

Rasha Thadani is a big surprise as she pulled off traditional dance very gracefully. Her looks in Telugu traditional voni is mesmerizing. She looks very relatable to Telugu people like a girl-next-door. This song is visually picturised in such a manner that audiences immediately connect with it.

GV Prakash Kumar's mesmerizing fusion of Carnatic ragas in this song and Anurag Kulkarni's rendition are other major highlights. Chandrabose written very heart-touching lyrics that every person would have felt in love. With great buzz and anticipation building with every passing day, Srinivasa Mangapuram is gearing for a grand release in theatres soon.



Save The Tigers Season 3 Premiere Brings Laughter and Excitement in Hyderabad



The grand premiere of Save The Tigers Season 3 took place in Hyderabad on Monday evening and turned into a memorable celebration filled with laughter, excitement, and entertainment. Held at AMB Cinemas, the event attracted many popular actors, television personalities, filmmakers, and media representatives who gathered to celebrate the return of one of Telugu OTT's most loved web series.

The red-carpet event featured stylish celebrity appearances, media interactions, and special pre-screening activities. Guests were welcomed into a festive atmosphere as the cast and crew came together to mark the launch of the much-awaited third season.

Several well-known personalities attended the premiere, including Sundeep Kishan, Kamakshi Bhaskaria, Rag Mayur, VJ Sunny, Kalyan Padala, Chaitanya Rao, Venkatesh Kakumanu, Karthik Ratnam, Aditya Mandala, Srinath Maganti, Mukku Avinash, Nirupam, and Kireeti Damaraju. Their presence added extra glamour to the evening.

The screening received an overwhelmingly positive response from the audience. Viewers enjoyed the humor and entertaining moments throughout the episode. The performances of Priyadarshi, Vennela Kishore, Jordaar Sujatha, Krishna Chaitanya, Deviyani Sharma, Abhinav Gomatam, and Pavani Gangireddy were especially appreciated by those in attendance.

Season 3 continues the journey of three couples while introducing an interesting fantasy element through a unique divine character played by Vennela Kishore. The combination of comedy, emotions, and unexpected twists kept viewers engaged and entertained.

The creators expressed their excitement about bringing the new season to audiences and hinted at bigger surprises ahead. The team believes the latest season will offer a fresh experience while maintaining the charm that made the series popular among viewers.

Over the years, Save The Tigers has become one of the most successful Telugu web series on OTT platforms. The first two seasons gained a strong fan following because of their relatable storytelling, family-friendly comedy, and memorable characters. With a new storyline and fantasy twist, the third season aims to take the entertainment quotient to the next level.

Created by Mahi V Raghav and Pradeep Advaitam, directed by Sriraam Eragam, and produced by Shiva Meka and Sahiti Chintalapudi, Save The Tigers Season 3 is set to begin streaming on JioHotstar from June 19.

Oh Sukumari Teaser: Thiruveer and Aishwarya Deliver their best

Thiruveer and Aishwarya Rajesh starrer Oh Sukumari has created good buzz and curiosity around the film with promising promotions.

Thiruveer and Aishwarya Rajesh starrer Oh Sukumari has created good buzz and curiosity around the film with promising promotions. Now, the movie teaser has been unveiled and it promises a uniquely entertaining cinematic experience.

Known for his diverse script choices, Thiruveer returns in a compelling new avatar as an aspiring politician navigating significant opposition. His character seeks a bride who is elegant and gentle-natured, leading him to fall for Sukumari. However, a hidden secret kept by her father adds an unexpected twist to the narrative.

Produced by Maheswara Reddy under the Gangaa Entertainments banner, the production values stand out in the film with Bharat Darshan's impressive handling of the comic situations. The background score is apt for the movie setting and it leaves a good impression.

Thiruveer's strong screen presence, with his authentic expressions and grounded performance anchoring the film's situational comedy, becomes a major highlight. While Aishwarya Rajesh's role is largely kept under wraps in the teaser, her striking presence and sharp expressions grow intrigue about this "Shock" relationship. On the whole, teaser further increases good impression on this rural comedy.



Is Trisha Now the Highest-Paid South Indian Actress?

Trisha is one of the few actresses who continues to enjoy huge popularity despite being in the industry for many years.



Trisha Krishnan is once again making headlines in the film industry. The popular actress, who has been a leading star for more than two decades, is reportedly increasing her remuneration after the success of her latest film Karuppu.

Trisha is one of the few actresses who continues to enjoy huge popularity despite being in the industry for many years. She has successfully worked in Tamil, Telugu, and other South Indian films and has also built a strong pan-India image. Fans admire her for maintaining her charm and staying relevant across generations.

In recent months, Trisha has been in the news not only for her film projects but also for several discussions on social media and in political circles. While she has faced ups and downs in her career, she has always managed to bounce back with successful films.

After the blockbuster success of Ponniyin Selvan, expectations were very high for Trisha. However, some of her recent films, including Vidaamuyarchi with Ajith Kumar and Thug Life with Kamal Haasan, received mixed reactions and criticism from audiences.

Interestingly, Trisha has a history of making strong comebacks after a few setbacks. The recent success of Karuppu appears to have brought her back

into top form. According to reports circulating on social media, the actress is now being considered for a big pan-India Tamil film.

The buzz is that Trisha has demanded a remuneration of ₹12 crore for the project. Although she was already said to be charging a high fee for Karuppu, reports suggest that she is now asking for an even bigger amount.

Sources claim that discussions are currently taking place between the actress and the film's producers regarding the remuneration. The makers are reportedly trying to negotiate the amount and bring it down.

At the moment, there is no official confirmation from Trisha or the production team regarding these reports. However, the rumor has gone viral online, with many fans saying that Trisha is in no mood to reduce her fee after delivering another successful film.