

KING

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CM Revanth: No Turning Back on Future City, Musi Projects

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday asserted that the state government would go ahead with the Musi river rejuvenation project and the construction of Bharat Future City, irrespective of opposition from political rivals, declaring that both these projects would transform Hyderabad into a world-class global city. "Whatever anyone may say, we will complete the Musi rejuvenation project and build Bharat Future City," he said.

He warned that encroachments on lakes, drains and government land would not be tolerated and reiterated that the government was committed to restoring the Musi river into a landmark urban riverfront superior to even the Sabarmati and Yamuna riverfront projects. The Chief Minister was speaking after launching the Vana Mahotsavam programme at Gurranguda Eco Park in Rangareddy district in the presence of ministers Konda Surekha and D. Sridhar Babu.

He planted a Nagalinga sapling under the Haritha Nidhi initiative, unveiled a robotic elephant, reviewed the Eco Park master plan presented by forest officials and laid the foundation stone for



development works worth Rs 35.50 crore in the Eco Park and Rs 17.84 crore in the Gurranguda reserve forest. He also inaugurated the Hyderabad Green Metro Police initiative.

Addressing the gathering, Revanth Reddy said Hyderabad's lakes and nalas had been subjected to rampant encroachments over the years, leading to waterlogging and flooding in residential colonies. He said the government had established HYDRAA to protect public land parcels, lakes and drainage channels and to prevent citizens from suffering due to illegal occupations. Criticising Opposition parties for portraying HYDRAA as a threat, he clarified that the agency would not trouble people who had legally constructed houses on their own lands but would act firmly

against encroachers.

Referring to comments by BRS leader T Harish Rao that the Future City project would be scrapped if the BRS returned to power, Revanth Reddy challenged him to first win the Siddipet Assembly seat in the next election before talking about cancelling the project.

Referring to the recovery of temple land in Vanasthalipuram and efforts to protect Gurranguda Eco Park from alleged attempts to convert it into private layouts, he said the government would not spare even 'influential encroachers'. He noted that flooding in areas around Saroornagar lake and other localities was a direct result of lake and nala encroachments and said HYDRAA had been established to curb such practices.

Revanth Reddy said the

government was making every effort to prevent Hyderabad from facing the environmental and infrastructure problems witnessed in cities such as Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru. He remarked that air and water pollution had severely affected Delhi, while heavy rain often crippled Mumbai and Bengaluru. To avoid a similar future for Hyderabad, the government was promoting large-scale afforestation, protecting water bodies and creating major green spaces.

The Chief Minister announced that an international-standard national park spread over 424 acres was being developed in the LB Nagar region and dedicated to the people. He also highlighted plans for a world-class integrated fruit market over 240 acres at Koheda with an estimated investment of Rs 2,400 crore. He said development had remained concentrated in only one side of Rangareddy district while areas such as LB Nagar, BN Nagar, Vanasthalipuram and Gurranguda had been neglected for years. The government, he said, was now prioritising these areas through major infrastructure and environmental projects.

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Modi: India Close to Thorium-led Power

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday made a strong pitch for democratisation of technology in Paris, asserting that AI means "All Inclusive" for India. Mr Modi also highlighted India's technological prowess and said, "India's prototype (civil nuclear) fast breeder reactor achieved criticality (just recently), and it has brought us closer to realising our three-stage nuclear energy vision, including the use of our vast thorium reserves."

Addressing the 10th edition of VivaTech, Europe's biggest technology event, in the French capital, the Prime Minister pointed out that with "over 2-lakh start-ups, India is one of the most vibrant ecosystems in the world". He urged the participating tech entrepreneurs, start-ups, investors and business leaders to "work with India and deliver for all". Pointing out that "for India, AI means All Inclusive", Mr Modi said, "When it comes to technology, along with innovation, what matters is access. Technology can lead to progress only when it is democratised. India believes that in this era of disruption, technology must deliver for all."

Highlighting India's capabilities in the space sector, Mr Modi said, "From space technologies to nuclear energy, we are expanding the frontiers of human capability. India became the first country to land near the Moon's south pole."

Congratulating French President Emmanuel Macron, who was present on the occasion of VivaTech, Mr Modi urged all delegates to visit the India pavilion. "Here, you will get a feel of India's immense energy," he said, adding, "AI must improve lives, widen access, drive growth and also help us sustain a healthy planet. Our participation as



the AI country partner at VivaTech 2026 reflects this very vision." Pitching India as a destination for investment by global tech and business leaders, the Prime Minister said, "India is an open society and the world's largest talent pool. We are simplifying regulations and ensuring ease of doing business. From innovation to commercialisation, we are supporting private enterprise through targeted incentives of over \$50 billion... Our government will enable and industry will innovate. Startups will disrupt and global partners will scale with us. Together, we will move faster than ever. I call upon everyone in this room to take the lead."

Before the tech event, Mr Modi met leading business executives in Paris and held discussions on investment opportunities and expansion plans in India. The discussions with the CEOs of the French companies focused on strengthening cooperation across sectors ranging from shipping and logistics to railways, construction and artificial intelligence, according to the ministry of external affairs.

Among those who met the Prime Minister in Paris on Thursday were chairman and CEO of CMA CGM Group Rodolphe Saadé, co-founder and CEO of Mistral AI Arthur Mensch, CEO of Alstom Martin Sion and Saint-Gobain's chairman

and CEO Benoit Bazin, among others.

Later at the VivaTech event, while speaking about India-European Union (EU) ties, Mr Modi said, "2026 is a special year for India and Europe. At the beginning of the year, we concluded the historic India-EU free trade agreement. This agreement will expand our trade and investment. And it will open up many pathways for the exchange of talent, technology and tourism."

Praising France for its leadership, Mr Modi stated, "With the launch of the India-France year of innovation this year, France is serving as an important bridge that is bringing the tech ecosystems of India and Europe closer. From Bharat Innovates held a few days ago in Nice, to VivaTech in Paris today, our start-ups are forging many new partnerships."

Hailing India's growth story, the PM said, "In the last decade, India has been going through a rapid transformation that is powered by technology. From creating the world's largest digital identity system to the world's largest digital payments platforms. We are using technology at a massive scale for financial inclusion, education, telemedicine, agriculture and more. Consider digital payments. Because of our Unified Payments Interface (UPI) half the world's real-time digital transactions happen in India today. You can now use UPI in France too, at the Eiffel Tower or the Paris airport."

RTC Workers Will Get 11% Fitment From July 1, Says Ponnam

Hyderabad: Transport minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Thursday said that TGSRTC employees would receive an 11 per cent fitment effective from July 1, even as he sanctioned two new depots at Eturunagaram and Peddapalli, and announced that the RTC Hospital at Tarnaka had been upgraded to a super-speciality facility.

Officials said financial measures had reduced Credit Cooperative Society (CSS) arrears from Rs 1,096.90 crore to Rs 862 crore and Provident Fund arrears from Rs 2,018.15 crore to Rs 1,714.39 crore, while Staff Retirement Benefit Scheme (SRBS) and SBT arrears declined by Rs 493.02 crore. The minister directed officials to complete pending compassionate appointments and expedite review of the remaining dismissed employees, noting that 244 of 490 had already been reinstated.

After a review meeting with senior officials, the minister said 2,815 buses were procured at a cost of Rs 1,078 crore between 2023 and 2026. With 1,050 e-buses in operation, officials were instructed to submit a report on profitable and loss-making services. A total of 1,137 compassionate appointments were made under the 'Breadwinner Scheme' and on medical



invalidation grounds, including 888 conductors, 10 drivers, 43 shramiks and 196 constables.

Officials were also asked to assess the impact of the 'Mahalakshmi Scheme' on women's economic empowerment and collect feedback from women's groups operating 553 hired RTC buses. The RTC operates 10,173 buses with a workforce of 38,128 employees, covering 35 lakh kilometres daily and serving about 61 lakh passengers.



Hyderabad: In a move that could leave the farming community worried, the Telangana government has decided to strictly follow the Centre's procurement guidelines and purchase stocks at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) only within the quota approved by the Union government.

Addressing the media after an informal Cabinet

meeting on Thursday, the Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy said the State had procured a record 80 lakh metric tonnes of paddy during the Yasangi season. However, the Cabinet expressed concern over the Centre procuring a lower percentage of paddy from Telangana compared to some other States. The State government has de-

mandated that the Centre procure the entire paddy stock produced in Telangana, he said.

The decision to limit procurement to the Centre's quota has raised concerns among farmers. During the last season, the Centre agreed to procure 52 lakh metric tonnes of paddy from Telangana despite a bumper harvest. If the Centre fixes a

Setback for farmers: State government to procure stocks only as per Centre's quota

procurement quota that is significantly lower than the State's production, farmers could face difficulties in disposing of their produce, as the State has decided to procure stocks only within the approved quota. Telangana Travel Guide

The Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageshwar Rao said the State government had procured nearly 15 lakh metric tonnes of maize. However, central agencies were not procuring crops to the extent expected under the MSP framework, he added. He urged the Centre to fulfil its constitutional and policy responsibilities by ensuring procurement of paddy through the FCI, cotton through CCI and other crops through the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing

Federation.

The State government also announced that Telangana Ministers and Members of Parliament would soon visit New Delhi to mount pressure on the Centre on procurement-related issues.

Bonus for seven fine rice varieties

The Civil Supplies Minister said the Cabinet had approved a bonus for only seven popular fine rice varieties cultivated in the State. The bonus will be applicable to BPT-5204, RNR-15048, HMT Sona, Jai Sriram, KNM-1638, WGL-44 and KNM-7715. Defending the decision, the Agriculture Minister said it was based on market demand and consumer preferences. He said these varieties account for nearly

83 per cent of the fine rice cultivated in Telangana and enjoy strong demand even outside the government procurement system.

Rythu Bharosa from June 30

The State government has decided to formally launch the distribution of Rythu Bharosa assistance at a Rythu Sammelan to be held in Madhira, Khammam district, on June 30.

Demand for additional fertiliser allocations

The Ministers expressed concern over fertiliser allocations to Telangana. They said the Centre had assured monthly allocations of around two lakh metric tonnes of urea but had not supplied the promised quantities during the last three

months. They also demanded that a larger share of urea produced at the Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited plant be allocated to Telangana instead of being transported to other States.

Advisory on sowing operations

In view of forecasts indicating below-normal rainfall and possible dry spells, the government advised farmers not to begin sowing immediately after the first rains. The Agriculture Minister said at least two spells of around 7 mm rainfall each would generally be required to create suitable moisture conditions for germination and crop establishment. He advised farmers to avoid premature sowing, which could result in crop losses if dry spells follow.

AP Tops in PM Shri Fund Utilisation

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh has emerged as the top-performing state in the utilisation of funds under the PM SHRI scheme, a flagship initiative of the central government aimed at modernising government schools, stated education minister Nara Lokesh on Thursday.

Reviewing the performance of the education department with officials at his Undavalli residence, Lokesh congratulated the officers for securing the top national ranking in PM SHRI fund utilisation. He directed officials to take steps for the construction of 844 smart kitchens this year, following the Kadapa model.

Officials informed the minister that the distribution of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Vidyarthi Mitra Kits would be completed before the Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting. Distribution of kits to 2,03,430 students studying in government junior colleges was also progressing, they said.



To improve residential facilities for girl students, Lokesh called for installation of 53,180 bunk beds in 430 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), benefiting 1,06,360 students. He wanted the officials to extend the facility to the string of AP Residential Schools and Colleges.

Officials, he said, must ensure that orphaned children are also covered under the "Talliki Vandanam" scheme. They must collect guardian details wherever available and, in cases where children have no guardians, route the financial assistance through district collectors.

He also suggested

developing a permanent mechanism to deposit funds directly into the bank accounts of orphaned children so they can access the money independently after completing their education.

Seeking greater transparency in private education, Lokesh asked officials to remove unnecessary conditions in granting permissions to private unaided schools and ensure that approved fee structures are prominently displayed both on school premises and in the public domain.

The minister also directed the Telugu Academy to make its textbooks readily accessible through leading e-commerce plat-

forms, enabling people to purchase them online with ease.

Expressing concern over learning outcomes, Lokesh said officials must focus on improving student competencies and attendance in government schools. He called for special attention to educationally lagging regions such as Kurnool, Anantapur, Markapuram, Alluri Sitarama Raju and Polavaram areas, and sought district-specific action plans based on teacher availability and student performance.

The education minister said officials must ensure that school attendance does not fall below 95 per cent and stressed that the mid-day meal programme

should be implemented with complete transparency and without compromising quality.

Officials informed the minister that a significant number of students failing public examinations were struggling in Mathematics, Science and Telugu. Emphasising the importance of the mother tongue, Lokesh urged teachers not to neglect Telugu and directed the preparation of bridge-course material in weak subjects. He also called for the identification of academically backward students and the conduct of special remedial classes.

He directed officials to expedite the establishment of computer laboratories equipped with Chromebooks for high school students.

Principal secretary Syamala Rao, higher education commissioner NB Gupta, Intermediate education commissioner Ranjit Basha, school education director Tameem Ansaria and others were present.

Aqua Feed Prices Cut By Rs 4 Per Kilo After CM's Call

VIJAYAWADA: Aquaculture farmers across Andhra Pradesh heaved a sigh of relief after Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu mediated a reduction in aqua feed prices. The manufacturers agreed to cut rates by Rs 4 per kilogram.

At a high-level meeting Naidu held in Amaravati with aquaculture farmers, feed manufacturers, minister K Atchannaidu and senior officials, he directed stakeholders to help reduce production costs and improve profitability for farmers.

In response, feed manufacturers agreed to lower the feed price from Rs 112 to Rs 108 per kg.

The decision was welcomed by fish and shrimp farmers, who also thanked the government for continuing to provide power to



aquaculture units at a subsidised rate of Rs 1.50 per unit.

To ensure long-term price stability, Naidu ordered the formation of a committee comprising representatives of aquaculture farmers and feed manufacturers. The panel, he said, should submit its report within 20 days, after which the government would take a final call on a sustainable pricing mechanism.

During the meeting, farmers said feed prices had been increased six times during the previous government's tenure and alleged that no serious efforts were made to bring down the costs. Feed prices had risen from Rs 87.80 in 2019 to Rs 107.80 per kg by mid-2024, they said.

Farmers noted that soon after the state government assumed office, feed prices were reduced by Rs 5.80 per kg, and the latest cut would provide further relief to the sector.

Representatives of the farming community also credited Naidu with expanding aquaculture beyond the traditional Godavari districts, enabling its growth across the coastal belt from Srikakulam to Nellore.

Annamayya Received Rs.3,526 Crore-Worth Welfare Schemes in Two Years: Minister B.C. Janardhan Reddy

Tirupati: More than ₹3,526 crore have been spent on major welfare schemes in Annamayya district over the past two years, while water conservation measures have expanded cultivation by nearly 50 per cent in several areas.

These achievements have been highlighted at the district-level celebrations at Madanapalle on Thursday under the theme "Two Years of Trust, Good Governance, Development, and Welfare".

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, district in-charge minister B.C. Janardhan Reddy said the coalition government led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is pursuing welfare and development simultaneously. He described Jaladhara in Annamayya as a model initiative for groundwater recharge, tank restoration, and water conservation.

The minister reiterated that the government is implementing the Super Six promises while focusing on infrastructure, irrigation, industrial growth, and employment generation.

Speaking on the occasion, Transport minister M. Ramprasad Reddy said Andhra Pradesh is attracting renewed investor interest, leading to infrastructure expansion and development of Amaravati.

District collector Nishant Kumar said the Jaladhara programme had brought visible changes in the drought-prone district over the past eight months. Cultivation has increased by nearly 50 per cent in some areas, while an additional 217 acres have come under cultivation in the Venkatamma Cheruvu command area.

Nishant Kumar said ₹339 crore have been disbursed to about 1.70 lakh farmers under Annadata Sukhibhava, while ₹218 crore have been provided to 1.68 lakh beneficiaries under Talliki Vandanam. The Deepam scheme benefited 15.67 lakh persons with assistance worth ₹90 crore.

Under the free bus travel scheme for women,



₹127 crore have been spent on 328 lakh journeys by women. Around 7,000 auto drivers have received assistance of ₹10 crore, while ₹2,238 crore have been distributed to 6.26 lakh beneficiaries under NTR Bharosa pensions. Earlier, the ministers visited an exhibition where stalls have been set up by various government departments. MLAs Shahjahan Basha and Nallari Kishore Kumar Reddy, public representatives, and district officials attended the programme.

Greening Society Formation to Be Completed by July 3

VIJAYAWADA: Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has directed officials to expedite formation of the proposed Greening Society, aimed at increasing Andhra Pradesh's green cover to 50 per cent, and ensure completion of the process by July 3.

Chairing a review meeting with senior forest department officials at the secretariat on Thursday, Kalyan who handles the ministry of forest and environment said all rules, appointments and operational procedures of the society should strictly adhere to the Presidential Order-2025.

He stressed that the project be implemented without delay. The deputy CM asked officials to establish nurseries in every gram panchayat. Where this is not feasible, cluster nurseries serving three to four panchayats should be developed. Nursery expansion, he said, would be linked to the Centre's VB-G Ram Ji scheme to effectively utilise funds and generate rural employment.



Officials informed Kalyan that 2.6 crore seed balls had been prepared for dispersal across forests and vacant lands during the monsoon season. Around 40 to 50 advanced drones would be deployed to scatter seeds in hilly and inaccessible areas.

Over 20,000 Kg Ganja Destroyed in AP



Visakhapatnam: Authorities on Thursday destroyed 20,876 kg of ganja and 23 kg of hashish oil seized in 490 cases across five districts under the Visakhapatnam Range. The contraband was destroyed at the Coastal Waste Management Plant in Parawada, Anakapalli district.

Home minister

Vangalapudi Anitha, Visakhapatnam Range IG Gopinath Jatti, Anakapalli SP Tuhin Sinha and other senior police officials attended the destruction programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Anitha said the NDA government had adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards narcotics and launched an aggressive campaign against ganja cultivation and drug trafficking.

Under the directions of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, the government established the EAGLE system to strengthen surveillance and enforcement against narcotics, she said.

Anitha said ganja cultivation in Alluri Sitarama Raju district had been effectively curbed and noted that

this was the fifth large-scale destruction of seized ganja in the last 18 months.

She said a substantial quantity of ganja was trafficked from Odisha to other states and added that Odisha police had adopted several recommendations of the state's EAGLE team.

The minister said the government had expanded CCTV coverage and checkpoints, while awareness campaigns such as the 53-day Abhyudaya Cycle Yatra and anti-drug programmes under Chaitanyam and Sankalpam had helped spread awareness.

Advanced technology was also being used to track and arrest members of national and international drug trafficking networks, she added.

AP Chambers Backs Beach Shack Policy; Seeks Faster Tourism Approvals

VIJAYAWADA: Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Federation (AP Chambers) has welcomed the state government's newly announced Beach Shack Policy, describing it as a significant step towards

unlocking the tourism potential of Andhra Pradesh's long coastline and boosting investments in the sector.

The chambers organised a state-level Tourism Committee meeting in Vijayawada on Thursday. Stakeholders related to tourism from

across the state participated in the discussions at the meeting for holistic growth of tourism.

Addressing media, AP Chambers president Potturi Bhaskara Rao praised the government's proactive approach towards tourism promotion. He proposed the creation

of a State Tourism Stakeholders Consultative Committee with representation from all tourism sub-sectors. Such a mechanism, he said, would ensure continuous engagement with industry stakeholders and facilitate timely resolution of

issues.

Bhaskara Rao suggested setting up of Destination Management Committees for key tourist destinations to improve planning, develop infrastructure, and enhance visitor experience. He urged the government to expedite approvals of

pending tourism MSME projects to encourage investment and employment generation.

The chambers president recommended development of three major tourism circuits — Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Rayalaseema — to pro-

mote balanced regional tourism. He further sought a dedicated grievance redressal system for the tourism sector. He sought development of more UNESCO-recognised heritage destinations in Andhra Pradesh.

AP Star Hotels Association president and AP

Chambers Tourism Committee chairman R.V. Swamy suggested that the government increase the permissible plinth area for beach shacks from 1,500 sq. ft. to 3,000 sq. ft. to improve commercial viability and provide better amenities to visitors.

Providing Nutritious Food Along with Quality Education is Our Goal: District Welfare Officer Swarnalatha Lenina

Aksharabhyasam and Uniform Distribution to Children under "Amma Mata – Anganwadi Bata" Programme



B h a d r a d r i Kothagudem District Correspondent: **B h a d r a d r i** Kothagudem, June 18: Providing nutritious food along with quality education to beneficiaries enrolled in Anganwadi Centres is the primary objective of the government, said District Welfare Officer J. Swarnalatha Lenina.

She participated as the chief guest in the "Amma Mata – Anganwadi Bata" programme held on Thursday at the Indiranagar Anganwadi Centre under Lakshmidivipalli Sector of the Palvancha Project.

Speaking on the occasion, she said that every Anganwadi teacher should work towards increasing beneficiary enrolment by widely publicizing

the services being provided through Anganwadi Centres. She emphasized that the first 1,000 days of mother and child care are crucial and that pre-primary education combined with play-based learning should be provided in every Anganwadi Centre.

She also stressed the importance of promoting kitchen gardens in Anganwadi Centres and utilizing the produce to provide nutritious food to children. She called upon Anganwadi staff to work tirelessly until the number of children suffering from severe and acute malnutrition in the district is brought down significantly.

Swarnalatha Lenina directed the staff to regularly monitor the height and weight of children ev-

ery month and coordinate with the Health Department to ensure proper healthcare and nutrition. She said Anganwadi workers have a key role to play in building a healthy Telangana.

As part of the programme, a mass Aksharabhyasam (initiation into education) ceremony was conducted for children enrolled in Anganwadi Centres of Lakshmidivipalli Sector. Quality uniforms and education commencement certificates were also distributed to the children by the District Welfare Officer and the local Sarpanch.

The programme was attended by Palvancha Project Child Development Project Officer Lakshmi Prasann

Counselling Conducted for Allocation of Sub-Centres to ANMs Based on Seniority: DMHO

Palvancha Correspondent: **Palvancha**, June 18: As part of the General Transfers process undertaken in accordance with G.O.Ms. No. 38 issued by the Government of Telangana, transparent counselling was conducted for the allocation of Health Sub-Centres to 54 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) posted in various Primary Health Centres of Bhadradi Kothagudem district, said District Medical and Health Officer (DMHO) Dr. Tukaram Rathod.



He stated that the counselling was conducted as per the instructions of the District Collector, and the ANMs were allotted Health Sub-Centres based on their seniority and preferences.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Tukaram Rathod said that ANMs play a vital role in delivering quality primary healthcare services in rural areas. He emphasized the importance of effectively implementing maternal and child healthcare services, registration of pregnant women, regular antenatal check-ups, identification of high-risk pregnancies, promotion of normal deliv-

eries, postnatal care, newborn care, immunization programmes, family welfare services, adolescent health services, anaemia prevention, sickle cell anaemia screening, and screening for non-communicable diseases such as hypertension and diabetes.

He warned that departmental action would be taken against those who show negligence or laxity in discharging their duties.

Pulse Polio Programme on June 28 Must Be Made a Success

Later, Dr. Tukaram Rathod reviewed the activities of staff working in Urban Primary Health Centres and Urban Family Welfare Centres.

He instructed the staff to take special measures to prevent seasonal diseases such as dengue and malaria during the monsoon season and to strictly implement the Dry Day programme every Friday.

He also directed ANMs to regularly visit villages under their jurisdiction and provide necessary healthcare services to pregnant women, lactating mothers, children, senior citizens, and people suffering from chronic illnesses. They were further advised to create awareness among the public on health education, nutrition, yoga, exercise, personal hygiene, and prevention of lifestyle diseases.

Calling for the successful implementation of the Pulse Polio Programme scheduled for June 28, Dr. Tukaram Rathod instructed officials to ensure that every child below five years of age receives polio drops and that house-to-house surveys are conducted so that no child is left out.

District Immunization and Child Health Officer Dr. Prapat, along with Sreedhar, Kalyani, Mohan, Srinivas, Janaki, Uma Devi, employee union representatives, office staff, and staff of Urban Primary Health Centres participated in the programme.

Kinnerasani Celebrates Vanamahotsavam; CM Revanth Reddy Launches Green Initiative

B h a d r a d r i Kothagudem District Correspondent: The Kinnerasani Wildlife Management Centre in Bhadradi Kothagudem district came alive with greenery and enthusiasm on Thursday as the State Government launched the Vanamahotsavam (Tree Plantation Festival) programme. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy inaugurated the initiative virtually, marking the beginning of large-scale plantation drives across Telangana and unveiling several tourism and development projects at Kinnerasani.

Kothagudem MLA **K o o n a m n e n i** Sambasiva Rao and District Collector Ankit attended the programme at Kinnerasani and watched the Chief Minister's address through a live telecast. They later planted saplings and called upon the public to actively participate in environmental conservation



efforts.

As part of the programme, development works worth ₹45 lakh were inaugurated, including safari vehicles, trekking facilities, a butterfly park, a feeding shed in the deer park, and CC roads. The projects were jointly inaugurated by MLA Koonamneni Sambasiva Rao and Collector Ankit.

"Kinnerasani is the Lungs of Telangana" – MLA Koonamneni

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Koonamneni Sambasiva Rao said that Bhadradi Kothagudem is recognized as the district with the highest forest cover in Telangana. Describing Kinnerasani as the "lungs of Telangana," he emphasized the importance of protecting forest resources while promoting sustainable development.

He stated that efforts are underway to transform Kinnerasani into one of the state's premier tourist destinations. Plans include the construction of a hanging bridge, glass house, zoo park, boating facilities, and tourism hotels. He also revealed proposals to develop a safari corridor extending up to the hot water springs near Manuguru.

The MLA further announced that steps are being taken to secure approval for a ₹500-crore ring road project and a major flyover bridge for



Kothagudem town.

Target of 5.5 Million Saplings in the District

District Collector Ankit stated that nearly 50 percent of the district's geographical area is covered by forests. Under the Vanamahotsavam programme, the district has set an ambitious target of planting 5.5 million saplings.

He informed that responsibilities have been assigned to 42 government departments to achieve the target and stressed that equal importance must be given to the protection and maintenance of planted saplings. Officials were directed to ensure that at least 95 percent of the planted saplings survive and grow into trees.

Eight Lakh Acres of Forest Land

District Forest Officer Krishna Goud said that Bhadradi Kothagudem possesses nearly eight lakh acres of forest land, the highest in the state. He stressed the need to balance forest conservation, tribal welfare, and development activities.

The programme concluded with the MLA and District Collector flagging off the newly introduced safari vehicles.

Kothagudem Mayor Mood Ganesh, Sarpanch Vajja Ramakrishna, Additional Collector Vidya Chandana, forest officials, public representatives, staff members, and nature lovers participated in the event.

Rs.2.68 Crore Allocated for Medical Equipment Purchase at District General Hospital

Nagarkurnool : District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil directed officials to accelerate efforts to strengthen and modernize the District Government General Hospital in order to provide better healthcare services to the people of Nagarkurnool district.

The directions were issued during the first review meeting of the District Hospital Development Committee held on Thursday at the Collectorate Video Conference Hall under the chairmanship of the District Collector. The meeting reviewed hospital services, infrastructure, medical equipment requirements, and future development plans.

Committee Convener and Hospital Superintendent Dr. T. Usha Rani presented a detailed report on the current status of the hospital, patient inflow, available medical services, and the need for modern medical equipment across various departments.

Addressing the meeting, the



Collector announced that the State Government has sanctioned ₹2,68,79,383 for expanding advanced healthcare services at the District Government General Hospital. The funds will be utilized for the procurement of essential medical equipment, diagnostic machines, and modern treatment facilities.

The Collector instructed officials to identify priority requirements and prepare comprehensive proposals without delay. Department-wise requirement lists along with technical reports should be submitted at the earliest to ensure transparent and effective utilization of funds.

He stated that the government's objective is to make quality healthcare services available within the district itself so that people need not travel elsewhere for treatment. Special focus should be given to strengthening emergency care, diagnostic services, maternity care,

surgeries, and ICU facilities.

The Collector also emphasized improving service quality, ensuring responsible patient care by doctors and staff, and maintaining uninterrupted availability of medicines and equipment.

During the meeting, the Hospital Superintendent informed the Collector about the lack of an ambulance for the hospital. In response, the Collector assured that an ambulance under the Red Cross would be allotted to the hospital and promised support for repair expenses.

Nagarkurnool Municipal Chairman Theegala Sunendra, Hospital Superintendent Dr. T. Usha Rani, Medical College Principal Mohammed Dawood Suleman, doctors, committee members, district health officials, and hospital administrative staff participated in the meeting.

Vana Mahotsavam-2026 Launched at Amrabad Tiger Reserve with Massive Plantation Drive

Nagar kurnool: As part of the prestigious Vana Mahotsavam-2026 programme being conducted by the Telangana Government, a large-scale plantation drive was organised on Thursday at Durvasula Checkpost under the supervision of the Amrabad Tiger Reserve to promote environmental conservation and greenery.

The programme was inaugurated by chief guest Dr. Chikkudu Vamsi Krishna, who planted saplings and formally launched the event.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that protecting forests and planting more trees are essential to address the growing challenges of climate change and natural disasters. He stressed that public participation is the key to building a greener Telangana.

Later, the MLA unveiled the Van Mahotsavam-2026 poster. District Forest Officer of Amrabad Tiger Reserve, Revanth Chandra, stated that public cooperation plays a crucial role in forest expansion, biodiversity conservation, and wildlife protection.



During the event, a snake safely captured by snake catcher Vishnu following information from residents of Mannanur village was released into its natural forest habitat under the supervision of the MLA. People were advised to respond to wildlife presence with awareness rather than fear.

On the same occasion, an Apex Health Camp was launched for base camp watchers who continuously contribute to forest protection. The camp will provide free medical check-ups, health consultations, and necessary treatment services.

Local sarpanches, public representatives, village elders, forest department officials, staff members, representatives of voluntary organisations, and villagers participated in large numbers.

Friday 19, 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.

KT Rama Rao urges students to follow PV Narasimha Rao's example

BRS working president KT Rama Rao urged students to draw inspiration from former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao's life and achievements during a visit to a school in Begumpet. He inaugurated a mid-day meal programme and assured support for the school's future development. Executive Branch

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao called upon students to take inspiration from former Prime Minister late PV Narasimha Rao's life and achievements, describing him as a role model whose legacy continues to inspire generations.

During a visit to the Swami Ramananda Tirtha Memorial School in Begumpet on Thursday, he distributed notebooks and school bags to students and inaugurated a mid-day meal programme being run under the Talasani Trust. He later interacted with students and joined them for lunch. City & Local Guides

Addressing the gathering, Rama Rao recalled PV Narasimha Rao's scholarly accomplishments and pointed out that the former Prime Minister, who mastered 16 languages, left an indelible mark on India and the world. He urged students to set high goals and strive for excellence by following Narasimha Rao's example.

Recalling initiatives undertaken during the previous BRS government, he referred to the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme launched under former



Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao and numerous other initiatives introduced to strengthen the education sector. He stressed the importance of ensuring both quality education and nutritious food for students. Geographic Reference

On the occasion, he assured support for the school's development, including the construction of additional classrooms and a modern library.

Sanathnagar MLA and BRS deputy leader Talasani Srinivas Yadav said supporting students from economically weaker sections was a social responsibility. He announced that the trust would continue providing educational assistance and running the mid-day meal programme for students.

MLC Surabhi Vani Devi emphasised the importance of nutrition in a child's overall development and said education remained the most effective tool for overcoming poverty. Recalling her father PV Narasimha Rao's commitment to education, she said his vision had contributed to the growth of residential and Navodaya school systems in the country. Executive Branch

Trust members, teachers, parents and BRS leaders participated in the programme.

'National Defectors Alliance' Will Not Get 2/3rd Majority : Jairam Ramesh

New Delhi : Amid defections in opposition ranks, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Thursday termed the ruling NDA- 'National Defectors Alliance', and asserted that his party's leadership is in touch with allies to thwart Home Minister Amit Shah's "nefarious" attempts to muster a two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha. Ramesh said Shah suffered a "humiliation" in the Lok Sabha on April 17 this year when he failed in getting the Constitution amendment bill related to delimitation passed, and is now resorting to "dirtiest of tricks" in order to avenge that.

He accused Shah of launching an "assault on the Constitution and democracy".

"Amit Shah is clearly hell-bent on making the NDA, the National Democratic Alliance, the NDA -- National Defectors Alliance. He was humiliated on the 17th of April 2026 in the Lok Sabha. He expected the Constitution amendment bill that provides for delimitation to pass," Ramesh told PTI.

"He (Shah) had assured the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi). But because of opposition unity and solidarity, the bill didn't pass. They got only 298 and they needed 362, if you go by 543 present and voting. So they felt hugely short of the two-thirds majority. And that was a humiliation. It was a setback for him," Ramesh said, adding the home minister did not expect that.

The Congress leader accused the home minister of orchestrating defections as a response to that "humiliation" of April 17.

Shah has started on this massive programme to destabilise opposition parties, he alleged.

"He's (Shah is), you know, trying to break all opposition parties. But I can assure you that he's not going to succeed in getting a two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha. He's trying similar tactics in the Rajya Sabha. But ultimately, it's two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha that matters," Ramesh said.

The Congress leader claimed that all sorts of incentives are being offered to opposition MPs to defect to the ruling alliance.

"You know, in the mutual fund industry, you offer different products and different schemes catering to the needs of individual investors. So, he's obviously offering a lot of incentives to individual MPs based on their needs and assessments. But, you know, this is an assault on the Constitution. It's an assault on democracy," Ramesh said.

"It is an absolute disgrace that the man who occupies the place that was once occupied by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is indulging in all these dirtiest of tricks in order to avenge the humiliation that he underwent," the Congress general sec-



retary said.

Asked about Uttar Pradesh minister Om Prakash Rajbhar's remarks that a major split in the Samajwadi Party (SP) is on the cards, Ramesh dismissed the comments as "psychological games" that are part of Shah's strategy.

"He (Shah) is the master of sowing confusion. He is a weapon of mass distortion and disinformation --WMD, in the real sense of the term. So he is trying to create a lot of uncertainty and sow the seeds of dissensions but he is not going to succeed. He can do whatever he wants, he is trying to save his job," Ramesh alleged.

He claimed the Modi government had to suffer "humiliation" for the first time in 12 years on April 17.

"So, there is a lot of bluff and bluster and the home minister is a master in this bluff and bluster. He is trying to create an impression that opposition parties are withering away, but opposition parties are united, there is solidarity, there is ideological and this 'National Defectors Alliance' will not get a majority whenever the Constitution amendment bill is brought into the Lok Sabha," he asserted.

Ramesh stressed that the Congress has ideological clarity and is well aware that it is fighting an ideological battle against the BJP and not merely a political struggle.

"The home minister who does everything with the approval of the prime minister is hell-bent on destroying the Constitution and the foundational principles of our democracy," the Congress general secretary in-charge communications said.

"You saw what happened on April 17, he came a cropper, he was humiliated and he is now taking revenge, trying to compensate and send a message to the PM that 'I am going to deliver a two-thirds majority for you'," he said.

India-UK Trade Deal To Offer Export Benefits From Day-One: Govt



New Delhi: After the joint announcement of the free trade agreement between India and UK, the government on Thursday said that up to 95 per cent of Indian professionals employed by Indian companies operating in the UK would benefit from the social security agreement between the two countries. The move, however, aims to cut costs for firms and enhance the competitiveness of Indian service providers in the British market, an official said.

Besides social security, the official also said the agreement will help Indian steel exports to the UK. "About 85 per cent of India's steel exports to the UK have been exempted from Britain's upcoming steel safeguard rules, while market access for the remaining shipments has been secured through a mix of measures such as country-specific and residual quotas under the bilateral trade pact," he said.

The two countries, on Wednesday, announced that the Agreement on Social Security or the Double Contribution Convention (DCC) and the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will come into effect on July 15. However, the DCC will give a major boost to IT majors such as Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Infosys and other IT firms in the country.

"If an employer is contributing in India for the social security of the employee, they do not have to pay in the UK. For that, they have to share a certificate of coverage. From July 15, Indian employers can start enjoying this exemption. However, the exemption is not available for Indians working for other foreign companies in Britain," the official said.

Professionals of Indian-origin contribute about \$0.5 billion each year to the UK social security. As it was a key demand of India, under the DCC, employees temporarily transferred by companies from India to the UK, or vice versa, will be exempt from making social security contributions in the host country for up to five years.

The agreement, however, will support mobility and continued social security coverage of the employees on temporary overseas assignments. This will enhance India-UK partnerships in the service sector, leveraging the high skills and innovative service sectors of both countries.

Around 75,000 Indian professionals are working in Britain, while over 900 Indian firms have operations there. The average annual salary of a professional in the UK is estimated at GBP 40,000-50,000. According to estimates, about 15 per cent of the salary is paid towards social security contributions. Normally, a professional becomes eligible for social security benefits in the UK after around 10 years of service.

As far as steel exports are concerned, the UK's recent steel safeguard measures had become a major sticking point in implementing the CETA, which was signed on July 24, 2025. "The resolution of the issue has paved the way for the implementation of the agreement from July 15," the official said.

Announced in March, the UK's steel safeguard measures apply to all countries. The norms will cut duty-free steel import quotas by 60 per cent from July 1, with imports above the prescribed limits subject to a 50 per cent tariff from 25 per cent at present. The step was announced to protect their domestic firms from global overcapacity. "The protective measure will affect 15 per cent of India's \$839 million in exports to the UK from the sector. Overall, 188 items accounting for \$137 million worth of steel exports from India to Britain were covered by these safeguard measures, but these products will now also gain access under the trade pact," he said.

Besides, under the agreement the UK will cut tariffs on Indian goods coming into the country, such as clothes, footwear, and some food products. Less cost for British businesses importing Indian products could mean lower prices and more choice for consumers across the country. "Further, the agreement is expected to provide a significant boost to India's labour-intensive sectors such as textiles and footwear by granting them duty-free access to the British market," he added.

Harish Rao demands withdrawal of crop procurement restrictions

BRS leader T Harish Rao criticised the State Cabinet's decision to procure crops within Central quotas and demanded the release of Rs 16,545 crore in pending Rythu Bharosa dues. He alleged the government's policies were harming farmers and weakening agricultural support systems.

Hyderabad: Coming down heavily on the Congress government, BRS deputy floor leader T Harish Rao condemned the State Cabinet's decision to procure crops only within quotas prescribed by the Centre. He demanded the immediate withdrawal of the anti-farmer decisions and also sought the release of Rs 16,545 crore towards pending Rythu Bharosa dues by June 30.

In a strongly worded statement on Thursday, Harish Rao warned the State government against abandoning its responsibility towards farmers and attempting to blame the Centre. He pointed out that the Congress had failed to release the arrears of the previous three instalments of Rythu Bharosa.

Accusing the government of first diluting crop bonus promises and now imposing restrictions on procurement, Harish Rao said the Cabinet had effectively admitted its inability to procure farmers' produce. "If the government refuses to buy crops grown by farmers, what are they expected to do with the harvest?" he asked.

The former Minister alleged that limiting



procurement to Central quotas would leave farmers at the mercy of private traders and market fluctuations. He said farmers who followed the government's advice to diversify crops had already suffered losses due to inadequate procurement.

"Sunflower farmers were left with 1.2 lakh quintals of unsold stock after only a fraction of the produce was procured by the Centre, while chickpea farmers were forced to sell at prices Rs 3,000-Rs 4,000 below the Minimum Support Price (MSP). Similarly, jowar producers are selling their produce to private traders at rates significantly below MSP due to the absence of procurement centres. Maize farmers too are facing difficulties because of procurement restrictions," Harish Rao said.

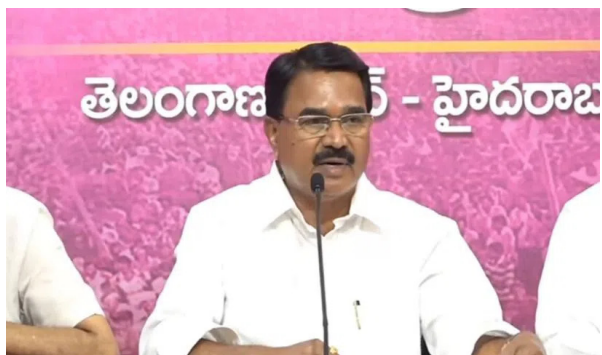
He accused the Congress government of failing on multiple fronts, including the implementation of Rythu Bharosa, farm loan waivers, Rythu Bima, crop bonuses, irrigation and power supply.

Harish Rao also targeted the Congress government over water management, alleging that despite repeatedly warning about water scarcity and the impact of El Nino, water was released to Andhra Pradesh while Telangana farmers were being advised to limit cultivation due to shortages. He questioned why the government failed to take precautionary measures despite prior warnings and accused it of attempting to shift the burden of its failures onto farmers. *Telangana Property Listings*

Warning of strong resistance from the farming community, the BRS leader said any attempt by the government to evade its procurement responsibilities would be met with protests. He also ridiculed the government's plan to release Rythu Bharosa funds through public meetings, describing it as a political spectacle rather than governance.

Niranjan Reddy condemns Cabinet decision on crop procurement

Former Agriculture Minister S Niranjan Reddy has sharply criticised the Congress government for restricting crop procurement to limits set by the Centre. He accused the ruling party of betraying farmers, failing to honour promises such as Rythu Bharosa and loan waivers.



Hyderabad: Former Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy on Thursday strongly condemned the State Cabinet's reported decision to procure crops only within limits prescribed by the Centre.

He criticised the Congress government for abdicating its responsibility towards farmers and demanded immediate revocation of the decision as well as ensuring cent per cent procurement of paddy produced in the State during this monsoon.

In a statement, Niranjan Reddy accused the Congress of betraying the farming community and questioned Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for citing Central restrictions despite previously criticising governments over procurement issues while the Congress was in the opposition.

He said the ruling Congress was encouraging the cultivation of select fine-grain varieties while avoiding a commitment to procure all produce.

"Farmers would suffer yield losses if they shifted to the recommended seven varieties. By restricting the Rs 500 bonus per quintal scheme to these varieties, the government is trying to evade payment of the promised bonus altogether," he said.

Niranjan Reddy alleged that the Congress government failed to fulfil several promises made to farmers, including implementation of Rythu Bharosa, continuation of the Rythu Bima insurance scheme, and completion of farm loan waivers. Ridiculing the government for lacking planning and consistency in the agriculture sector, he criticised it for holding public meetings to release Rythu Bharosa financial assistance to farmers.

India, France to launch TRISHNA satellite for global food security

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, addressing the Indian diaspora in Paris, announced that India and France will jointly launch the TRISHNA satellite next year to bolster global water and food security.

Paris: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday announced that India and France will jointly launch the TRISHNA satellite next year, a mission designed to contribute to global water and food security.

Addressing members of the Indian diaspora in Paris during the final leg of his visit to France and Slovakia, PM Modi said the satellite project was a natural extension of the cooperation showcased at the AI Summits co-hosted last year in Paris and this year in Delhi.

PM Modi emphasised that fifty or a hundred years from now, when this era is reviewed, it will be remembered as one driven by India's aspirations.

He said today's India was building the entire ecosystem of the future, investing across sectors that would shape the direction of the coming decades.

Referring to the



"Bharat Innovates" programme held recently in Nice, PM Modi said the event had showcased India's advancements in deep technology to the world.

He noted that 120 of India's leading deep tech startups participated, facilitating around 1,400 B2B meetings and fostering global collaboration and innovation.

The Prime Minister underlined that relations between countries were no longer determined solely by

trade, but also by trust.

He said that every nation sought reliable supply chains and stable partnerships, and that India was emerging as a trusted partner worldwide.

At the G7 meeting in Evian, PM Modi said he had emphasised partnerships based on trust and advocated equal collaboration with countries from the Global South.

He added that India's message to the G7 Summit was clear: global governance would only be effective

when inclusive, global growth would be sustainable when shared, and technology would be beneficial to humanity when trusted.

PM Modi also highlighted India's achievements in digitisation, noting that the country had created unique digital health IDs for around 90 crore citizens, ensuring secure medical records and efficient healthcare delivery.

He said such achievements, including high-speed internet reaching remote vil-

lages, would have seemed unimaginable just a few years ago.

Members of the Indian diaspora in Paris expressed immense joy and emotion after meeting PM Modi, describing the occasion as proud and memorable. They said his presence made them feel connected to their homeland, even though they were thousands of miles away.

Taking to his official social media platform X, PM Modi wrote: "Reached Paris a short while ago to a warm welcome by the Indian diaspora. I am proud of their efforts in bringing India and France closer. The India-France partnership is vital for the progress of our planet."

Earlier in the day, PM Modi addressed VivaTech 2026, one of Europe's largest technology and innovation conferences. He also attended the G7 Summit in Evian and held bilateral meetings with several world leaders.

Can Telangana fund Metro Phase II alone? Concerns grow over State's claims

*The takeover of Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase I has triggered political debate, with doubts cast on the Telangana government's assertion that it can independently execute Metro Phase II despite mounting financial pressures. *Telangana Property Listings**

Hyderabad: With the takeover of Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase I acquiring political overtones, questions are being raised about the State government's claim that it can execute the Metro Phase II project on its own, particularly in view of its financial constraints. *Politics*

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has repeatedly acknowledged the financial challenges facing the State in implementing welfare and development programmes. On a few occasions, he has stated that the government was finding it difficult to spend even Rs 500 crore a month on capital expenditure.

He has also maintained that Telangana's monthly revenue stands at Rs 18,500 crore. Of this, around Rs 6,500 crore is spent on salaries and pensions, while another Rs 6,500 crore goes towards loan repayments and interest payments. This leaves about Rs 5,500 crore for welfare and development activities.

Despite these constraints, the State government has expressed its willingness to take up Metro Phase II on its own. It has already submitted proposals for the



project, which comprises seven corridors spanning 122.9 km at an estimated cost of Rs 38,595 crore. The Telangana government had requested the Centre to sanction Metro Phase II as a 50:50 joint venture. *Telangana Property Listings*

However, in a letter addressed to Union Minister G Kishan Reddy on Tuesday, the Chief Minister stated that if approval for the project as a 50:50 joint venture was delayed, the State government was prepared to proceed using its own resources and institutional financing arrangements. He urged the Centre to grant the required approvals at the earliest so that implementation could begin without further delay.

Meanwhile, the delay in the release of the Rs 13,527 crore loan from the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has affected the State government's plans to take over Metro Phase I. Although the agreement was signed three weeks ago, the loan amount has not yet been released.

The Centre has also made seamless integration

of the privately operated Phase I network with the proposed Phase II network a mandatory condition. Until the takeover of Phase I is completed, the Phase II project cannot move forward. If the Centre permits the State government to execute Phase II independently, Telangana would also have to bear the share that would otherwise be contributed by the Union government. This would increase the financial burden further.

Another challenge could be securing loans at the four per cent interest rate cited by the Chief Minister for implementation of the project. When the previous BRS government executed the Metro project, the cost of developing one kilometre was around Rs 230 crore. That figure has now risen to nearly Rs 320 crore per kilometre.

Given these factors, concerns are being raised in various quarters about the State government's claim that it can execute Metro Phase II on its own.

Informal Cabinet Meet at Secretariat; Telangana Moves Towards Digital Cabinet



Hyderabad: An informal Cabinet meeting is currently underway at the Secretariat, where Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and ministers are holding detailed discussions on key issues.

The meeting is focusing on the release of Rythu Bharosa funds, recent political developments, and strategies to mount pressure on the Centre for approvals related to Metro Phase-2. Discussions are also being held on ensuring that the Centre procures the entire paddy produced in the state. Meanwhile, the government has approved the Telangana Digital Cabinet initiative, marking a shift towards paperless governance. The Chief Minister reviewed the new system, while IT Minister Sridhar Babu distributed special tablets to ministers to enable digital access to Cabinet agendas and documents.

District Collector Ankit Conducts Field Inspection of Naksha Survey and Flood-Prone Areas

Completion of Survey and Registration Process Within Deadline Directed

Bhadradi Kothagudem District Correspondent | June 18: District Collector Ankit on Thursday conducted a field inspection of the ongoing Record of Rights (ROR) registration process under the State Government's prestigious Naksha Programme, aimed at re-surveying lands and identifying urban land boundaries in Manuguru Municipality. Later, he reviewed flood-prone and inundation areas as part of monsoon preparedness measures.



He visited the Kodipunjula Vagu Bridge area in Anaram and Kamalapuram villages, which are vulnerable to Godavari flood impacts. He reviewed the possible inundation situations caused by backflow through the stream during periods of rising Godavari water levels.

Officials briefed the Collector on precautionary measures to be taken during floods, evacuation arrangements, establishment of rehabilitation centres, and the provision of drinking water, electricity, medical services, and other essential facilities.

Later, the Collector inspected low-lying areas vulnerable to flooding due to water discharge from the Singareni PKOC mining area. He reviewed the drainage system in Sundarayya Nagar, Kalimata Temple surroundings, Vinayaka Nagar, and nearby localities affected by water released from the open-cast mines in Gandhinagar.

The Collector instructed officials to ensure regular cleaning of drains to prevent the accumulation of silt and waste and to keep stormwater channels ready for the smooth flow of rainwater. He emphasized the need to pay special attention to low-lying areas to prevent inconvenience to residents during the monsoon season.

Speaking on the occasion, Collector Ankit stressed that flood-prone areas should be identified well in advance and necessary preparedness measures kept ready. He directed officials to prioritize the protection of lives and property and to continuously update the public on weather alerts and water-level information to ensure timely preparedness.

Officials accompanying the Collector during the inspection included Manuguru Municipal Commissioner Prasada Rao, Tahsildar Naresh, MPDO Venkateswarlu, municipal staff, and officials from various departments.

During his visit to Kommugudem village in Manuguru Mandal, the Collector inspected the ROR registration process being carried out by municipal staff. He enquired about the time taken for each entry, the nature of the details being recorded, and the information being collected from the public. He instructed officials to ensure maximum accuracy in land-related records and avoid any errors in the registration process.

The Collector stated that the Naksha Pilot Project would enhance the transparency and accuracy of land records while making land-related services more accessible to the public. He directed officials to continuously monitor the survey and registration activities and complete them within the stipulated timeframe.

Subsequently, accompanied by Bhadrachalam Sub-Collector Mrinal Shrestha, the Collec-

Robust Arrangements Must Be Made for Godavari Pushkaralu District Collector Bhavesh Mishra

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : District Collector Bhavesh Mishra has directed officials to make comprehensive and foolproof arrangements to ensure that devotees visiting Basara during the upcoming Godavari Pushkaralu do not face any inconvenience.

On Thursday, he conducted a review meeting at the Collectorate conference hall with officials from various departments regarding the preparations for the festival.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector emphasized that all necessary arrangements should be completed well in advance, keeping in mind the large influx of devotees expected during the Godavari Pushkaralu next year. He instructed officials to



undertake repairs to the existing Pushkar ghats and initiate the construction of new ghats wherever required.

He further directed that the ghats be beautified to provide an appealing experience for devotees. Facilities such as Kalyana Katta, Pinda Pradana platforms, and changing rooms should be constructed without delay. The Collector stressed that quality standards must be strictly followed in all construction works and adequate drinking water facilities should be ensured near the ghats.

He also instructed officials of the concerned departments to prepare and submit detailed proposals related to their assigned works at the earliest. During the meeting, discussions were also held on the Basara Temple Master Plan.

The meeting was attended by Additional Collector (Local Bodies) B. Venkateshwarlu, Bhainsa Sub-Collector Ajmeera Sanket Kumar, Basara Temple Executive Officer Anjana Devi, RWS Executive Engineer Sandeep, engineering officials from various departments, and other staff members.

Major Boost to Kamalapuram Development: MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Launches ₹60 Lakh Side Drain Project

Manuguru Correspondent: A significant step towards the development of Kamalapuram village was taken on Thursday as Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu inspected the proposed side drain construction works worth ₹60 lakh in Kamalapuram village of Manuguru mandal, Bhadradi Kothagudem district.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA stated that the Congress government is giving top priority to the development of rural infrastructure. He said the side drain project would help prevent water stagnation during the rainy season and reduce inconvenience to local residents.

He further noted that the construction of the drainage system would improve sanitation in the village and help protect roads from damage caused by waterlogging. The MLA directed officials and contractors to ensure that the works are completed within the stipulated timeframe while maintaining high-quality standards.

Emphasizing the importance of public participation in development, Payam Venkateswarlu urged villagers to bring their issues directly to his notice. He reiterated his commitment to transforming the Pinapaka constituency into a model constituency through continuous development efforts.



Among those present were Mandal Congress President Pirinaki Naveen, Town Congress President Shiva Saidulu, Kattu Mallaram Sarpanch Jagidi Prasad, several sarpanches, deputy sarpanches, Tammishetty Samba, Battula Srinu, Trimurthulu, Congress leaders, party workers, village elders, and local residents.

Expressing their gratitude, villagers hailed the initiative as a major development boon for Kamalapuram and appreciated the MLA's efforts towards strengthening basic infrastructure in the village.

"Village Development is Our Goal – ₹60 Lakh Development Gift for Kamalapuram."

IIT Hyderabad Climbs to Global Rank 588 in QS World University Rankings 2027

SANGAREDDY Correspondent : June 18, 2026: The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) has achieved a significant milestone in the QS World University Rankings 2027, securing a global rank of 588, an impressive rise of 76 places from its 2026 ranking of 664. The achievement highlights the institute's growing international reputation in research, innovation, and higher education.

PR_QS Ranking 2027-final.docx

A major contributor to this success is IITH's exceptional performance in the Citations per Faculty indicator, where it secured a global rank of 123, reinforcing its position among the world's leading research-intensive institutions. The institute's score in this category increased to 86.8, reflecting the global impact and quality of its research output.

PR_QS Ranking 2027-final.

Among the 52 In-



dian institutions evaluated in the QS rankings, IIT Hyderabad ranked 17th overall and 14th nationally in research citations. The institute also improved in key parameters such as Academic Reputation, Employer Reputation, Employment Outcomes, and Sustainability. Its overall score rose to 28.7, with its global performance now surpassing 61 percent of ranked universities worldwide.

PR_QS Ranking 2027-final.

PR_QS Ranking 2027

Speaking on the achievement, Prof. B. S. Murty, Director of IIT Hyderabad, said the ranking reflects the institute's strong focus on deep-tech innovation, translational research, and academic excellence. He credited the accomplishment to the dedication of the faculty, researchers, and students, and reaffirmed IITH's commitment to expanding global collaborations and industry partnerships.

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Established in 2008, IIT Hyderabad has rapidly emerged as one of India's leading technology institutions. The institute has produced over 13,750 publications, garnered more than 2.76 lakh citations, secured around 755 patents, and supported nearly 300 startups. Its research strengths span strategic areas including 6G communications, semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, healthcare, sustainability, advanced manufacturing, and smart mobility.

The latest QS ranking further strengthens IIT Hyderabad's reputation as a global hub for cutting-edge research, innovation, and technology-driven development

We Are Committed to the Welfare of Police Personnel Families – SP Dr. Sangram Singh G. Patil

Nagarkurnool : District Superintendent of Police Dr. Sangram Singh G. Patil distributed Widow Corpus Fund cheques of ₹99,800 each to the families of police personnel who lost their lives while serving in the line of duty.

The programme was held on Thursday morning at the District Police Office. Financial assistance provided through the Telangana State Police Welfare Society was handed over to the families of late S. Balayya, Constable, Egalapenta Police Station; L. Srinivasulu, ASI, Lingala Police Station; and M. Mahender, Peddakothapally Police Station.

Speaking on the occasion, the SP stated that the welfare of police



families remains an important priority and that such support reflects the department's commitment to standing with the families of personnel who served with dedication.

Additional SP N. Venkateshwarlu, AO Krishnayya, and District Police Coordinator Goli Srinivas participated in the programme.

SIR: Revanth Flags Concern Over Possible Massive Voter Deletion

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Monday flagged concerns over the possibility of a large number of voter deletions during the special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral roll, which will begin from June 15. Besides directing the partymen to set up a war room at the state level, Revanth Reddy underscored the need for setting up monitoring mechanisms at district, parliamentary constituency and Assembly segment levels.

Taking part in the party's virtual meeting presided over by PCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud, attended by AICC state in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan and several ministers, the Chief Minister urged the party cadre to remain vigilant till the completion of the SIR.

"A significant percentage of the state's total votes have been set aside for



various reasons as part of the SIR. Attempts are being made to delete these votes on grounds of suspicion. If this happens, we will face a highly dangerous political situation," Revanth Reddy noted.

Expressing apprehensions that the voter list now prepared would have an impact on the final voter list for the 2028 polls, Revanth Reddy observed that once the votes are deleted, nothing can be done about it later.

"Key leaders must coordinate with BLOs in every village and every polling booth across all 119 constituencies. Voters who have migrated for work may not be present at their residences when BLOs visit. Everyone should ensure that votes are not deleted," the Chief Minister underlined.

'Melodi' Buzz Returns as Modi, Meloni Share Light Moment at G7

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and Prime Minister Narendra Modi once again grabbed social media attention with a light-hearted exchange on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in France, reviving the popular 'Melodi' trend.

A viral video showed the two leaders warmly greeting each other and shaking hands moments before joining fellow world leaders, including Donald Trump, for a group photograph. While the audio was not entirely clear, PM Modi appeared to refer to their popularity on social media. Responding with a smile, Meloni reportedly said, "Yes, we are the most famous couple on Instagram."

The interaction quickly reignited the 'Melodi' buzz online, a nickname coined by social media users by combining the names of Meloni and Modi. The term gained popularity following their friendly exchanges and selfies at previous international events.



The moment came during the G7 Summit in Evian-les-Bains, France, where leaders discussed key global issues, reaffirmed support for Ukraine, and welcomed the recent breakthrough agreement between the United States and Iran aimed at reducing tensions in the Middle East.

Despite the serious diplomatic agenda, the brief Modi-Meloni interaction emerged as one of the most talked-about moments from the summit, drawing widespread reactions and memes across social media platforms.

Cigarettes, Patches, Greenland: Hot Mics at the G7 Capture World Leaders' Chats

EVIAN-LES-BAINS: The leaders of the world's richest democracies are talking about how to tackle some of the world's biggest problems this week, but hot mics at the G7 summit revealed that conversations also covered lighter fare. Sports. Cigarettes. The weather. And something about Greenland?

As world leaders made their way into conference rooms at a lakeside resort, microphones set up for their weighty discussions about war and trade often caught off-the-cuff banter.

Meloni quit smoking Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's smoking habits were the subject of a hot-mic moment on Tuesday. Asked by German Chancellor Friedrich Merz if she had already had a cigarette that morning, Meloni revealed that she hadn't smoked "since the first of May."

Her turn against tobacco prompted enthusiastic congratulations from leaders of Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan and the European Union. Meloni raised her hands in celebration. Meanwhile, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney had a question for her.

"Do you have a patch?" Carney asked, grabbing his own arm.

Sports talk includes 'Allez les bleus!'

With the World Cup underway in the United States, Mexico and Canada, soccer naturally became a fallback of discussion.

As leaders gathered



for lunch, French President Emmanuel Macron and others weighed in. Someone shouted "Allez les bleus," the cheer for the French team. Another leader can be heard talking about the recent Champions League victory by Paris-Saint Germain.

U.S. President Donald Trump turned attention to the UFC cage-match event he hosted at the White House on Sunday. Trump, who sat ringside on his 80th birthday, spoke glowingly about Dana White, the CEO of UFC.

At another point in the day, U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer effused about Cape Verde's surprise 0-0 draw against World Cup champion Spain. "Quite remarkable, I have to say," he said.

Trump makes a cryptic Greenland reference

In a moment of intrigue, Trump was caught on microphone talking with European Council President António Costa.

"You understand?" Trump said before pausing and looking squarely at Costa. "Greenland." The start and end of the conversation was unclear.

European politicians

have been outraged by Trump's threats to acquire Greenland, a semi-autonomous territory of Denmark.

Macron loses track of time — literally

Later, Trump added some levity after Macron appeared to have left his watch behind when he departed the group's working lunch. Carney drew attention to it, saying, "He's left his watch here. We've got his watch."

"Give me it if he left, gimme," Trump chimed in, drawing laughs from the group.

Trump gets a jersey for his birthday, and a bike The day brought a few instances of gift-giving diplomacy.

Macron gave all seven of his counterparts personalized bicycles to promote the Cycling World Championships scheduled next year in the French Alps, according to David Lappartient, president of the Union Cycliste Internationale, on social media.

There was no hot mic moment to detect the reaction of Trump, who is not known to bike and has joked about doing mini-

mal exercise beyond regular golf outings.

Merz, who recently sparred with Trump over the war in Iran, presented Trump with a German national team soccer jersey bearing Trump's name and the number 47. Trump raised it and smiled for a photo before setting it aside.

Merz posted a photo of the exchange on social media and offered a pointed message: "After all, we're on the same team."

CM Directs Officials to Provide 7 Fine Paddy Seed Varieties on Subsidy This Kharif

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy directed officials to make seven varieties of fine paddy seeds available to farmers on subsidy for the ongoing kharif session. With the government offering a bonus to farmers cultivating fine varieties of paddy, the Chief Minister asked officials to ensure that there is no shortage of seeds.

These seeds should be stocked at Rythu Vedikas and farmers cultivating fine paddy should be comprehensively mapped, and the agriculture department must maintain complete data on acreage and expected yields.

To bring greater transparency and speed in fertiliser distribution, the CM directed officials to introduce an app-based booking system for all

Revanth Reddy Recalls Childhood Memories with Pedda Bala Shiksha at TPS

Hyderabad: A nostalgic and inspiring moment unfolded during the inauguration of the Telangana Public School at Arutla village in Manchala Mandal of Ranga Reddy district when Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy visited the school library.

While browsing through the collection of books, the Chief Minister came across Pedda Bala Shiksha, a timeless treasure that has educated generations of Telugu children. As he flipped through its pages, he fondly recalled studying the same book during his childhood, reflecting on the valuable lessons and knowledge it imparted during his formative years.

The moment beauti-



fully connected the past with the present, highlighting the enduring role of books in shaping young minds and building strong foundations for lifelong learning. The Chief Minister's reminiscence served as a powerful reminder that education remains the most transformative force in society, and that every child, regardless of background, deserves access to quality learning resources and opportunities to succeed.

While browsing the book, he underscored the importance of cultivating a reading culture among students and reaffirmed the government's commitment to creating vibrant learning environments where curiosity, knowledge, and aspirations can flourish.

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.



types of fertilisers. Farmers who book urea through the app should receive supplies through Rythu Vedikas. Responsibility for urea distribution should be entrusted to district additional collectors, he said.

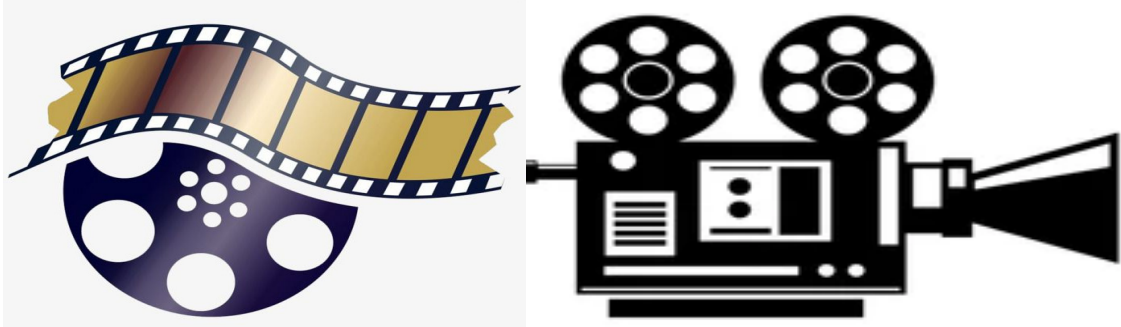
Chairing a review meeting of the agriculture department here on Tuesday, Revanth Reddy said officials must implement a comprehensive and structured action plan covering every stage of the agricultural cycle,

from seed distribution to procurement of harvested produce, to ensure that farmers do not face difficulties at any stage.

The Chief Minister said the government must maintain complete and real-time information on farmers, crops, production estimates and procurement operations right from the sowing stage until the completion of grain purchases.

The review meeting was attended by Deputy

Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao and Duddilla Sridhar Babu, Rajya Sabha member V. Narender Reddy, Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, CMO principal secretary .V. Sheshadri, agriculture secretary Surendra Mohan, civil supplies commissioner Stephen Ravindra, agriculture director B Gopi and planning Department secretary.



CINEMA

VenkyAnil5 - NKRAR2 movie launched in grand manner

The movie pooja ceremony has been held today with Raghavendra Rao directing the first shot while Allu Aravind sounded the clap.

Victory Venkatesh and blockbuster director Anil Ravipudi have been consistently delivering one big blockbuster after another. Recently, with Sankranti Vasthunnam and Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu, they are on a roll. Now, they have united again and this time Nandamuri Kalyanram has joined them for Sankranti feast.

The movie pooja ceremony has been held today with Raghavendra Rao directing the first shot while Allu Aravind sounded the clap. Dil Raju and Shirish Reddy have handed the script to the team. With positive vibes all over the pooja ceremony looked like a success meet with everyone expressing their wishes to the team.

Keerthy Suresh and Kriti Shetty are playing leading ladies in this family fun entertainer. GV Prakash Kumar is scoring music for the first time for an Anil Ravipudi film. Marking their fifth collaboration, Anil has designed a very different character for Venky and it will be a laugh riot with great action elements.



NKR's character will also be different from his usual onscreen persona. Anil Ravipudi has worked on script and pre-production for over four months to deliver a fresh, fun family entertainer for Sankranti. Sahu Garapati is producing this massive film with Zee Studios, Suresh Babu is presenting it.

Deewana Breaks the Friday Rule

The makers of Deewana have officially announced an exciting release plan for the movie.

The makers of Deewana have officially announced an exciting release plan for the movie. A new poster shared by the team reveals that the film will have paid premieres on June 19 and a worldwide theatrical release on June 20. The announcement has already created curiosity among movie lovers.

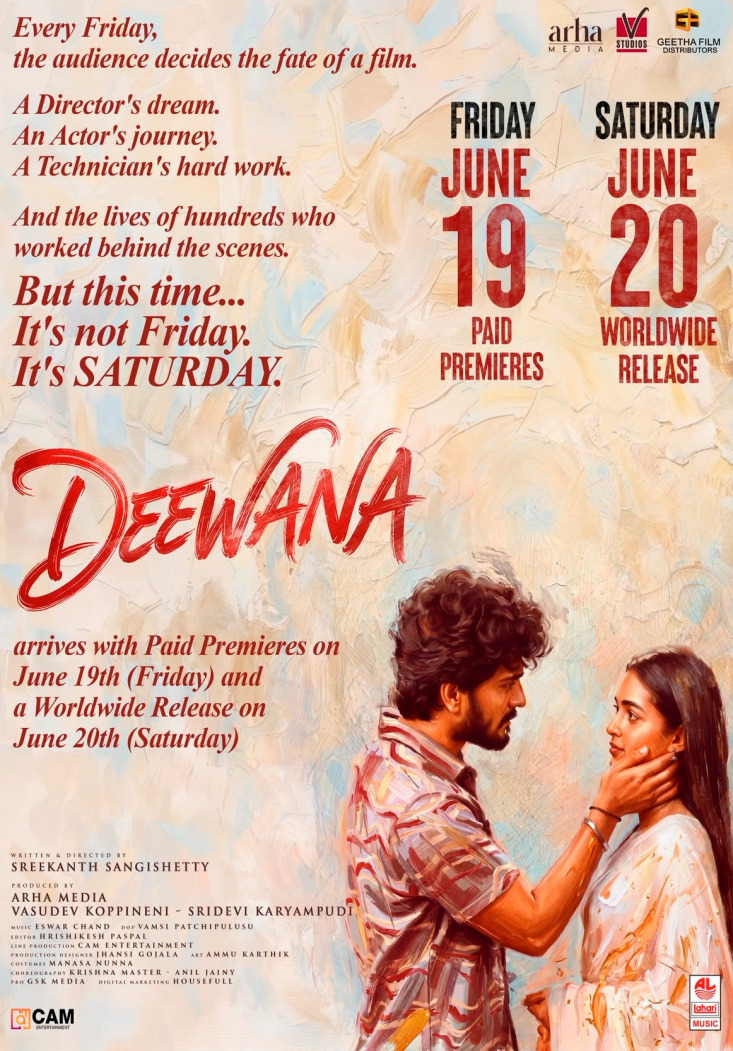
The poster carries a strong message about the film industry. It says that every Friday is important because the audience decides the fate of a movie. A film is not just the dream of a director or the journey of an actor. It is also the result of the hard work of many technicians and hundreds of people who work behind the scenes. Their efforts finally reach the audience when a movie releases in theatres.

The makers have highlighted this idea with a special message. They stated, "Friday changes everything... But this time, the mad team's efforts behind Deewana will pay off on Saturday!"

According to the announcement, Deewana will arrive with paid premieres on June 19 (Friday). After the premiere shows, the movie will have its grand worldwide release on June 20 (Saturday). This is slightly different from the usual Friday release pattern followed by many films.

The movie is written and directed by Sreekanth Sangishetty. It is being produced under the Arha Media banner by Vasudev Koppineni and Sridevi Karyampudi. The film stars Harshith Reddy and Smeha in the lead roles. The poster features an emotional moment between the lead pair.

The grand release of Deewana is being handled by Geetha Film Distribution, which is expected to help the film reach a wide audience. The project also has support from V Studios, CAM Entertainment and Lahari Music.



Raja The Raja Tujhpe Fida Single: Delicious Feast

Raja The Raja produced by K. Niharika Dasari and directed by Annil Boyiidapu has been gaining good buzz with its promotional material.

Raja The Raja produced by K. Niharika Dasari and directed by Annil Boyiidapu has been gaining good buzz with its promotional material. Ruthvik and Vishakha Dhiman are playing the leading roles in this film and their pairing looks absolutely fresh and captivating.

The makers have released first single, Tujhpe Fida and it is fantastic to hear. Mark K Robin has composed an addictive melody which becomes a delicious feast with Haricharan and Shakti Sree Gopalan vocals. Further the meaningful lyrics by Manoj Juloori make it an instant chartbuster.

Ruthvik and Visakha are perfectly cast together. Their chemistry is so fun to watch and youthful that it feels like watching a couple video. Ruthvik's dance moves, his ease and body language elevate the impact further. The single increases the intrigue to watch the film on big screens building good impression.



Keerthy & Kriti: Glam Or Acting Charm?

Keerthy Suresh and Kriti Shetty started with a no-glam policy, rocked in some movies and had some blockbusters in hand. Later, their craze washed out.



Finally, the news got official that both Keerthy Suresh and Kriti Shetty will be part of director Anil Ravipudi's next. As the film was launched today, these two beauties attended the muhurat event. While Keerthy is paired opposite Venkatesh, Kriti will romance Kalyan Ram. While both the heroines are paired opposite heroes who are double their age, the common factor for both of them is that they need a blockbuster badly at the moment.

Keerthy Suresh and Kriti Shetty started with a no-glam policy, rocked in some movies and had some blockbusters in hand. Later, their craze washed out. Keerthy went to Bollywood to do a glamorous role, then rocked with her glamorous presence in songs, events, etc. Kriti too did the same. She sizzled in glamorous songs, and recently LIK showed her in glamest avatar. But nothing worked out. Hit films stopped coming their way, whether they go glamorous or not, but their social media got increased for them.

Now that they both are featuring together in Anil Ravipudi's next that was launched today, what type of roles they are doing is what excites their fans. Will they treat the audience in glamour like Tamanna and Mehreen did in F2, or will they avoid it now? In recent times, Anil Ravipudi is blending both glamour and acting prowess for these heroines in his movies. Even in Sakranthiki Vastunnam, he hasn't inclined on glamour treatment of heroines. So we have to see what happens.

Routine Talk: Samantha's Investment In Safe Zone

Tomorrow, on Friday the 19th of June, there are almost five Telugu films hitting cinemas. Among them, there are comeback hero Vadde Naveen's Transfer Trimurthulu, young hero Harshit's Deewana and other movies.



Tomorrow, on Friday the 19th of June, there are almost five Telugu films hitting cinemas. Among them, there are comeback hero Vadde Naveen's Transfer Trimurthulu, young hero Harshit's Deewana and other movies. However, the arrival of Samantha's Maa Inti Bangaram into this lot is getting a lot of buzz. As the senior starlet is checking her luck as a solo lead again, she's making sure to promote it big time.

Apart from giving a lot of interviews, which is very unlike Samantha, then going to Chennai and meeting Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay, then going to Tirupati for quick darshan with the team, surely Samantha managed to bring attention for the team. And now, the word is being spread that Samantha invested around ₹30 crores on "Maa Inti Bangaram" and already she has recovered that money from the sale of OTT and Digital rights. However, this news might sound positive, but that won't help the film get big openings. These are old school techniques to raise curiosity over a movie, but such things are not working out in recent times.

Currently bookings are good for this Samantha starrer in A-centres, like in Hyderabad's premium multiplexes. However, the film needs to penetrate more into B&C centres. Today evening will decide how much penetration has happened due to marketing, and tomorrow morning, based on the talk, the film will get the openings. If the content crafted by Sam's husband, Raj Nidimoru and director Nandini Reddy clicks, then it's going to be awesome for the movie.