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Telangana Considering Incentives to Boost Rice Exports: Uttam

Hyderabad: Telangana Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday said the state government is considering incentives to boost rice exports. In a post on X, he said the state government is exploring a new policy to help rice producers access overseas markets. Industries meeting export quality standards would receive government support, including speedy approvals and necessary clearances, he said.

"The government is preparing a dedicated strategy to encourage rice exports and support value-added products that



can increase returns for farmers and rice millers," Reddy said. Telangana's rice has significant potential in both domestic and international markets, he said. Uttam Kumar Reddy on June 9 said Telangana created a "record" in paddy procurement despite the Centre "reducing its procurement target" for the state. He said the state government had procured 75 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of paddy by June 9 itself during the current Yasangi (Rabi) season, against the Centre's approved target of only 52 LMT.

Congress Seeks Action Against Rajnath Singh Over Pahalgam Statement

New Delhi: Congress leader K C Venugopal on Tuesday wrote to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla demanding that privilege proceedings be initiated against Defence Minister Rajnath Singh for "misleading" Parliament by saying that no Indian soldier was martyred post the Pahalgam terror attack last year.

In his letter to the speaker, Venugopal gave a notice of privilege under Rule 223 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha against the defence min-



ister for having "misled" the House.

Venugopal said that on July 28, 2025, during discussions on the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and the Operation Sindoor that followed, Rajnath Singh said that no harm was caused to the Indian soldiers.

Later, Venugopal said, a statement was issued that said six armed forces personnel had died during Operation Sindoor.

"The aforesaid position clearly indicates that the minister of defence stating on the floor of the House that there had been no casualties during Operation Sindoor was clearly misleading and incorrect.

"It is well established that misleading the House or withholding information by a minister on the floor of the House constitutes a breach of privilege and contempt of Parliament.

"In view of the foregoing, I request that privilege proceedings be initiated against the minister of defence in the matter,"

Venugopal, who is the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament, said.

In a post on X, Venugopal claimed that during the debate on Operation Sindoor in Lok Sabha, Singh lied to the people of India.

"It was a straightforward, clear-cut lie to mislead the House. How could he, in July 2025, say that no Indian soldier was martyred, and then a year later the forces announce that we have lost 6 jawans?" the Congress leader asked.

"It is a grave insult to the families of these six martyrs and the entire armed forces that the people of India were not told of their bravery and ultimate sacrifice.

"They died in service of our nation while defending it against our enemies, and the so-called nationalist government simply lied about their martyrdom," Venugopal said.

The names of six military personnel – five from

the Indian Army and one from the Indian Air Force – who died in the line of duty during Operation Sindoor last year, were recently inscribed on a wall at the National War Memorial as a tribute to the fallen heroes.

It was the first time since the military operation conducted by the Indian armed forces in May 2025 that the government released the names of these six personnel.

Amid the row surrounding the six martyrs, the defence ministry said the nation paid homage to them at the "earliest opportunity", and their memory shall always be honoured with the dignity and reverence it deserved.

The ministry also said that "certain posts circulating on social media" have sought to "misrepresent" the defence minister's address delivered on the floor of Parliament on July 28 last year.

These have "selectively quoted an isolated portion of the speech to falsely imply that the defence minister claimed that no Indian soldier lost his life during Operation Sindoor", it said, adding that these posts were "deliberately misleading and factually incorrect".

Operation Sindoor was launched in response to the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, 2025, which claimed 26 lives, mostly civilians.

Kishan Reddy Says Warangal Airport Will Be Ready In A Year



Hyderabad: Union minister G. Kishan Reddy on Monday said the Warangal airport would be operational within a year and pledged to be among the first passengers there, promising to land in the city on the inaugural flight. Speaking at the party's booth workers meeting in Warangal, he presented detailed report card of Central projects for the city and challenged claims by Congress and BRS that the Centre had neglected local development. He invited rival leaders to a public debate at Martyrs Memorial or Ambedkar Chowrasta, saying the BJP would present full project details.

Kishan Reddy urged voters to opt for a double-engine government for comprehensive development. He appealed to voters to elect a BJP mayor in the upcoming municipal polls, promising to secure further funds for Warangal from the Prime Minister if the party won. He announced that construction of a 30-acre railway terminal would begin next month. Prime Minister Narendra Modi would perform the ground-breaking ceremony later this year for the proposed Sammakka-Sarakka Tribal University, he said.

Kishan Reddy said Warangal, despite never having elected BJP MLAs or MPs, shared a special fondness and respect for Modi. Kishan Reddy accused successive BRS and Congress governments of neglecting the city, and stated that the Modi government has sanctioned about ₹17,000 crore to transform Warangal into a major urban centre. Giving details of the projects sanctioned by the Centre, Kishan Reddy said the long-awaited Kazipet rail coach factory has been brought to Warangal, with roughly 90 per cent of work complete and coach production expected to start by January 2027. He noted that the Warangal railway station modernisation has been completed and inaugurated by the Prime Minister, and also recalled the ₹2,909 crore sanction for the Kazipet-Ballarsha third line.

On urban infrastructure, Kishan Reddy said one of seven national mega textile parks has been allotted to Warangal. The district has also secured 'PM Sri schools' on 110 acres of land and an MSME technology centre, he said. In health, he said a critical-care block costing ₹108 crore is complete and another ₹130 crore block had been sanctioned. On transport, the Centre was upgrading Hyderabad-Warangal and Warangal-Karimnagar national highways. The Centre had allocated ₹999 crore for high-quality cement roads and work valued at ₹1,250-crore work was underway on the Warangal-Karimnagar stretch. The Warangal ring road was 50 per cent complete with ₹500 crore sanctioned, and 50 new buses for the RTC had been approved.

Under the Smart Cities Mission and Urban Challenge Fund, Kishan Reddy said 70 projects worth ₹1,380 crore had been completed and another 40 projects worth ₹414 crore were in progress for beautification, roads and drainage. On farm welfare, he said ₹1,841 crore under PM-Kisan has been credited to farmers in Warangal district.

BJP Will Revive Telangana's Lost Dream, Says Nabin



Hyderabad: BJP president Nitin Nabin on Monday said that the vision with which Telangana was created has been lost due to misrule by the BRS and Congress governments and announced the BJP's resolve to revive and fulfil that dream. "The dreams of the people of Telangana have been lost in the quagmire of family-based parties," he said.

Taking part in the 'Booth Pramukh sammelan' in Warangal, Nabin claimed that the BJP did not think about political gains or losses during the separate Telangana movement, and the party leader Sushma Swaraj strongly raised her voice for it. "The Congress government is only concerned about its own family. It has no concern for the public. It is following its trusted old model of making promises, but never fulfill. The identity of the Congress government is — promise and forget."

He charged that the Congress government had promised to provide two lakh jobs in Telangana, but had turned the state into an ATM for its party's leadership in Delhi.

Asking booth presidents and party workers to reach every booth with a resolve to connect with every household, Nabin said that the central party had resolved to strive to form a double-engine government in 2028 that will stand on the ideals of nationalism and whose roots will be connected to Indian culture, to bring a new dimension to development here.

Claiming that every BJP worker was engaged in full-time politics for public service, and dubbed Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi a part-time politician. He asked party workers to ensure that every new eligible voter must be enrolled in the electoral roll, and people must be made aware of the welfare schemes of the central government.

The Congress did not give then-Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao the respect he deserved. It was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who conferred upon him India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna on Narasimha Rao. The BJP was not defined by dynastic and appeasement politics. But, believes in nationalism and is guided by the principle of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Nabin said.

BJP state president N. Ramchander Rao said the massive gathering was a clear sign of the BJP's victory in the upcoming Warangal Corporation elections.

Earlier, at a meeting with members of the tribal community, Ramchander Rao accused the KCR government of promising to provide a 10 per cent reservation to the tribal society in proportion to their population, but it had unfortunately linked it with the 12 per cent Muslim reservation Bill.

Later, the matter got stuck in court, and the 10 per cent reservation that Telangana's tribal society was supposed to receive was delayed and made thousands of tribal youth, students, and members of the community to suffer losses. But the BJP honoured tribals as it has the highest number of tribal MPs and MLAs in the country, he said.

PM Modi Meets Top Bureaucrats To Boost Governance, Viksit Bharat

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting of secretaries from all central ministries, with discussions centred around on government policy reforms, administrative efficiency, and the government's long-term vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. The discussion with top babus focused on two key themes-- deregulation and other reforms for ease of doing business and ease of living, while the other one was promoting Aatmanirbharta.

The meeting, however, comes after PM Modi concluded his official visit to Seychelles on Monday. This meeting was the Modi's second major institutional interaction with the top babus in less than two months. In the Tuesday's meeting, the Prime Minister stressed the importance of adopting a whole-of-government approach and breaking departmental silos. According to sources, the meeting was aimed at reviewing progress on major governance initiatives and accelerating administrative execution in the second half of this fiscal, while aligning the country's top bureaucracy with the government's policy reforms for ease of doing business in the country. "All top bureaucrats also reviewed measures to improve the ease of living through citizen-centric reforms and structural changes designed to strengthen governance and public service delivery," the source said.

During the interaction, the sources said, secretaries outlined the major steps being taken by their respective ministries and departments in line with the two key themes. "They highlighted ongoing efforts to translate the prime minister's vision into actionable outcomes, while



also discussing sector-specific challenges and outlining their future strategies to enhance governance and service delivery," the sources said.

During that meeting, the sources further said that the Prime Minister urged officials to accelerate decision-making, ensure government files moved without unnecessary delays and simplify governance through structural reforms. "Stressing the importance of long-term planning, he told officials that Viksit Bharat 2047 was not merely a slogan but a long-term commitment of the government," the source said.

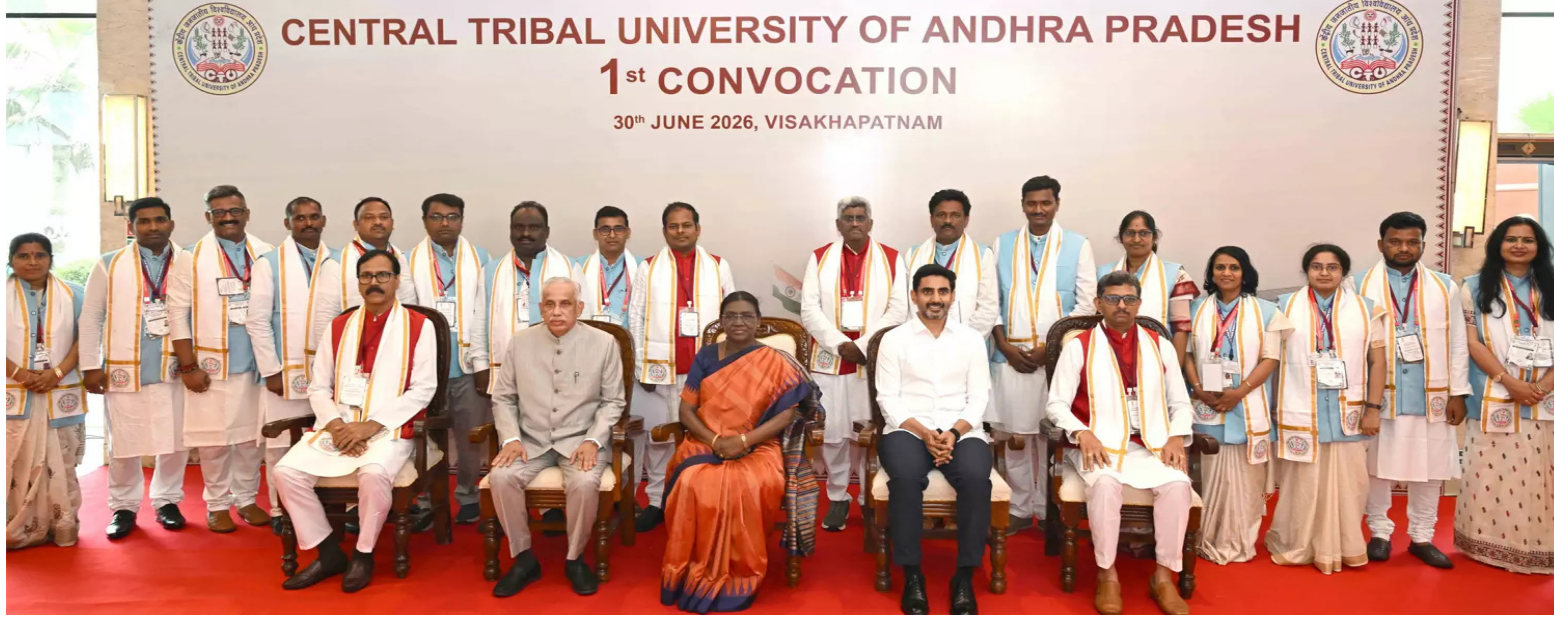
Highlighting the importance of integrated planning and coordination, Modi also encouraged wider utilisation of the PM GatiShakti as an effective platform for inter-departmental coordination and informed decision-making. He also exhorted the secretaries to focus on the tangible impact of Schemes on the lives of people. The meeting, however, focussed on a key mid-term stocktaking of the government's performance in all sectors, emphasising the need for faster decision-making and efficient governance in the country. The prime minister also pointed out that there should be maximising productivity in the minimum time possible. "The discussion was aimed at identifying administrative bottlenecks, reducing bureaucratic red tape, simplifying regulatory compliance and enhancing India's economic competitiveness," the sources said.

Tribal Youth Must Mentally Prepare For Change: Prez Murmu

Visakhapatnam: The first convocation ceremony of the Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh was held here on Tuesday with the President Droupadi Murmu gracing the event. Addressing the gathering, Murmu urged tribal youth to prepare themselves to bring about social, economic and educational transformation by making full use of the opportunities created through government initiatives. She said graduating students should contribute to the country's progress by ensuring inclusive development in which no one is left behind.

"The government is making every effort to bring tribal and Adivasi communities forward. But we must also ask ourselves what our responsibility is and how we can make the best use of this support. We should be mentally prepared not just to improve our own lives, but to transform society, education, culture, traditions and the economy," she said.

The President noted the



institution's unique responsibilities, highlighting its role in fostering self-confidence, leadership, and policymaking capabilities among tribal communities. Universities established with the aim of social justice must also work at the grassroots level, focusing on education, health, skill development, livelihoods, and forest rights, she said. The President expressed her

confidence that the university would contribute meaningfully to the holistic development of youth from marginalised and tribal communities while also advancing the region's overall progress. She urged universities, particularly tribal universities, to adopt innovative systems that enhance livelihoods through productive work in forest produce, handicrafts, millets, medicinal plants, eco-tourism, and local entrepreneurship.

Speaking about the significance of the con-

convocation, she saw it as both a celebration and a moment of resolution for students. She advised them to embrace emerging opportunities in skill development, to go beyond textbook learning, and to draw lessons from their surrounding ecosystem. She stressed the importance of remaining connected to community, culture, and traditions while striving to improve society

and the nation.

President Murmu underlined the need to balance heritage and modern science, citing the university's 'Science and Technology Hub' as an initiative to empower tribal communities in North Andhra Pradesh. She noted that the institution has been working on academic and grassroots projects in tribal welfare, public health, climate change, food and nutrition security, and energy conservation. These efforts, she said, would be vital in building an equitable and developed India. Looking ahead, she reiterated the national goal of achieving Viksit Bharat by 2047 and expressed confidence that the Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh would play a significant role in this mission. By integrating tribal communities with modern education and focusing on environmental conservation, she said, the university would enable local youth to contribute meaningfully to the country's equitable development.

AP CM Naidu Orders Statewide Mineral Mapping

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday directed officials to undertake a comprehensive mineral mapping exercise across the state to identify deposits of critical minerals, bulk minerals, precious metals and other high-value resources

He stressed the need to maximise revenue through value addition to products and start mineral-based industries in Andhra Pradesh.

Reviewing the functioning of the mines department, the CM said the state possesses vast untapped mineral wealth with significant potential for market capitalisation. Officials must scientifically assess mineral reserves and formulate long-term strategies to convert natural resources into sustainable economic growth.

Naidu suggested that the state mineral development corporation explore opportunities for market capitalisation of high-value mineral assets in consultation with industry experts and technical institutions. Mere extraction of minerals would not generate optimum returns. Greater focus should be placed on processing and manufacturing activities within the state.

The CM highlighted the importance of establishing value-addition units linked to industries based on beach sand minerals, rare earth elements, iron ore, manganese and alumina. Local processing of these resources, he said, would substantially enhance state revenues, create employment opportunities and promote



industrial growth. He observed that several Indian states have achieved strong fiscal positions by efficiently utilising and monetising their mineral resources.

Calling for a dedicated policy on mineral value addition, Naidu said officials must hold extensive consultations with stakeholders and ensure that downstream industries are established in Andhra Pradesh rather than allowing raw minerals to be transported elsewhere for processing.

Underscoring the strategic significance of rare earth minerals, the CM proposed the creation of a dedicated rare earth cluster covering resources found in Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Kerala. He asked officials to assess reserves of high-value minerals such as titanium, ilmenite and monazite and promote their extraction for use in electronics, magnets and advanced industrial products.

He noted that these minerals are crucial for the country's defence and nuclear energy sectors.

Naidu also directed officials to conduct detailed studies on additional gold-bearing blocks across the state. He pointed out that gold deposits have already been identified at Jonnagiri and Chigurugunta and said further exploration could unlock additional economic opportunities.

Officials informed the CM that 126 locations containing critical, bulk and other valuable minerals have already been identified and that mining revenue has increased by 18 per cent from existing operations.

The CM also ordered stringent monitoring of sand excavation and transportation under the state's free sand policy. He directed officials to install CCTV cameras at sand reaches, use satellite imagery for continuous surveillance and implement GPS tracking of sand-transport vehicles to curb illegal mining and ensure transparency.

Observing that the government had foregone nearly Rs.1,000 crore in potential revenue by providing sand free of cost to the public, Naidu said strict monitoring was necessary to ensure that genuine beneficiaries receive the intended benefits of the scheme.

Mines minister Kollu Ravindra, chief secretary Sai Prasad, principal secretaries Mukesh Meena and Piyush Kumar, mines director Chandrasekhar and other senior officials were present.

Maldives Delegation Applauds NTR District's Model of Transparent Rural Governance

Vijayawada: A delegation of elected representatives from the Maldives has lauded the transparency, accountability and participatory development practices being implemented in village panchayats of NTR district.

They termed the grassroots governance model as an inspiring example of decentralised administration.

The 26-member delegation, comprising elected representatives of Island Councils in the Maldives, is currently undergoing training at the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad. As part of their field exposure programme, the team has been touring NTR district since June 28 to study rural development initiatives and local governance mechanisms.

During their visit to Guntupalli village, the delegates participated in various community programmes and interacted with local residents. They studied initiatives aimed at empowering women through Self-Help Groups, attended Gram Sabha, Mahila Sabha and Bala Sabha meetings, and reviewed skill-development programmes being conducted through the RISE Centre.



The team also examined the preparation and implementation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs).

On Tuesday, the delegation attended a meeting of district-level officials chaired by district collector Lakshmisha at the Sri Pingali Venkayya Conference Hall in the collectorate.

The collector explained the welfare schemes and development programmes being implemented in Andhra Pradesh. He outlined the vision of Swarna Andhra and Viksit Bharat @ 2047 and highlighted the innovative strategies being adopted

to achieve these goals.

Lakshmisha also briefed the delegation on the importance of Real Time Governance Society systems and the use of IVRS-based citizen feedback mechanisms in monitoring nearly 56 government schemes and programmes.

The collector explained the district's Swachh Bharat initiatives and highlighted the growth potential of the primary and secondary sectors alongside the service sector, which contributes nearly 67 per cent of the district's economy.

Members of the Maldives delegation said their field visits had been a rewarding experience. They noted that the success stories of women entrepreneurs trained through the RISE Centre were particularly inspiring. The delegates also praised the functioning of Self-Help Groups and appreciated the waste-to-wealth centres operating in the district.

NIRD coordinators Arun Raj and Sirisha, district panchayat officer Seeta Mahalakshmi and officials from various departments attended the meeting.

Wider Awareness of POSH Act Essential: AP Women's Commission Chief

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh State Women's Commission chairperson Rayapati Sailaja on Tuesday called for wider awareness and effective implementation of the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, 2013, saying every organisation has a responsibility to provide women with a safe, secure and dignified workplace. Addressing a POSH Act awareness programme in Guntur, she said all employees must be aware of the law enacted to prevent, prohibit and redress sexual harassment at workplaces.

Later, speaking to reporters, Sailaja urged government and private organisations to strictly implement the Act and constitute Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs) to ensure prompt disposal of complaints. She stressed the need to promote an atmosphere of equality while giving priority to the dignity



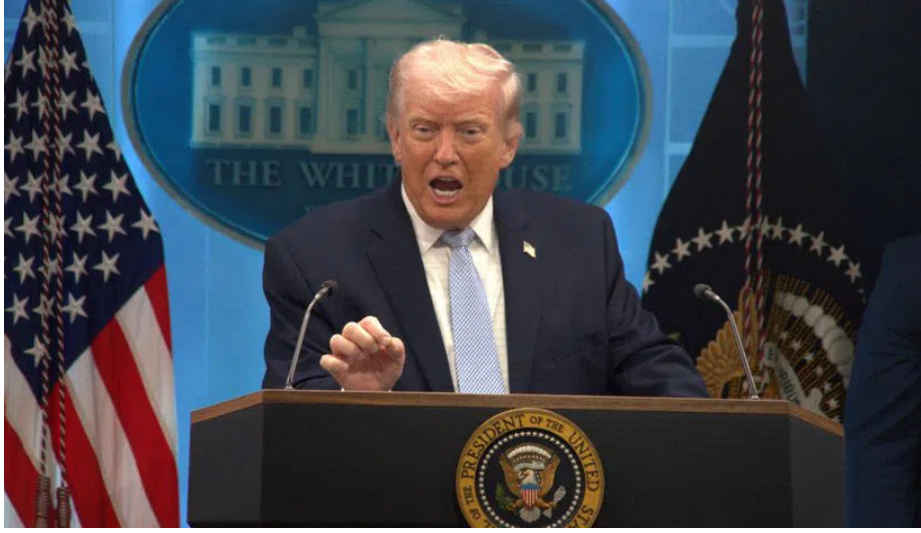
and safety of women employees.

Expressing concern over the ineffective functioning of internal commit-

tees in some organisations, she said workplaces should encourage victims to report harassment without fear. "Women cannot move ahead and realise their full potential unless safe working conditions are ensured," she said.

Sailaja also highlighted the She-Box (Sexual Harassment Electronic Box) portal, a centralised digital platform developed by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development for filing and monitoring workplace sexual harassment complaints. She assured women that the Commission would support those who come forward to seek justice.

Trump says Iran agrees to forgo nuclear arms



Washington: US President Donald Trump said Iran has agreed not to acquire a nuclear weapon ahead of fresh negotiations in Doha, expressing confidence that the US was making progress both diplomatically and militarily while insisting Tehran would not be allowed to develop nuclear arms.

Speaking in the Oval Office before signing a presidential memorandum on vehicle repairs, Trump said officials were already travelling to Qatar for talks scheduled on Tuesday.

"There'll be a meeting on that tomorrow, in Doha... we'll see how that goes," Trump said. "The meeting in Doha is going to be perhaps important, perhaps not. We're going to find out."

The President struck an optimistic tone about the negotiations, saying the US had gained the upper hand after recent military action against Iran's nuclear programme.

"We're winning militarily. It's almost won militarily, I would say," Trump said. He described Washington's objective as straightforward.

"It's really very simple; it's the denuclearization of Iran. We don't want them to have a nuclear weapon, and they're not going to have a nuclear weapon, and they've agreed to that, in all fairness," Trump said.

Trump did not elaborate on the nature of Iran's reported agreement or provide details of any understanding reached between the two sides. Nor did he specify what issues would be discussed during the Doha meeting.

Before taking questions from reporters, Trump also referred to lower global oil prices, linking them to developments surrounding Iran.

"Oil prices are way down. We hit \$69 today. It was higher than that prior to the denuclearization of Iran," he said.

His remarks came as he signed a presidential memorandum directing the Environmental Protection Agency to support consumers' ability to repair their own vehicles and to expand competition in the market for aftermarket automobile parts.

EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin said the memorandum would support "the freedom to fix", prevent action against Americans repairing their own vehicles and end what he described as California's monopoly over third-party certification of aftermarket parts.

The White House appearance quickly shifted to foreign policy and national security, with reporters asking Trump about Iran before moving on to domestic issues including election laws, Supreme Court rulings and immigration.

Airtel to Make Hyderabad 2nd HQ; Telangana Plans AI Campus

Hyderabad: Bharti Enterprises chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal said Hyderabad was being considered as the second headquarters of telecom major Bharti Airtel, during his meeting with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy here on Tuesday.

Revanth Reddy and Mittal discussed expanding Airtel's digital infrastructure and strengthening collaboration in skill development. The CM said the state government is planning to establish a massive, comprehensive data centre and AI infrastructure campus on the city outskirts.

The CM urged Bharti Enterprises to set up a big data centre, expand Airtel's digital, cloud computing, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence operations in Hyderabad.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister showcased Telangana's investor-friendly policies, progressive governance and reforms that have made the state one of the country's preferred investment destinations.

Revanth Reddy also requested Mittal to expedite the development of company's proposed data centre at Chandanvelli and suggested appointing a senior executive to coordinate directly with the state government for the smooth execution of existing projects and future investments.

Responding positively, Mittal said Bharti Enterprises was committed to expanding its presence in Telangana by increasing data centre capacity and strengthening fibre connectivity. He reaffirmed the company's interest in supporting Telangana's rapidly growing digital ecosystem and said Hyderabad was under consideration as Airtel's second headquarters.

The discussions also focused on education and workforce development. The Chief Minister briefed Mittal on the government's reforms aimed at preparing young people for emerging industries. These included the establishment of the Young India Skills University, the transformation of industrial training institutes into world-class advanced technology centres, the modernisation of polytechnic colleges and the comprehensive revamp of government schools.

Welcoming these initiatives, Mittal announced that the Bharti Foundation would partner with the state by providing scholarships to meritorious students studying in government schools and the newly upgraded Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs). The initiative is expected to support deserving students while creating a skilled workforce to meet the growing demands of the technology and digital sectors.



Study Tirumala Land Allocation Policy for Yadagirigutta: Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday directed officials to formulate a comprehensive policy governing the allocation of land to mutts and institutions within the jurisdiction of the Shri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam at Yadagirigutta, while making it clear that ownership rights over temple lands must remain with the shrine.

Reviewing the progress of the Yadagirigutta temple development works here, the Chief Minister instructed officials to study the land allocation policy followed by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) and adopt similar guidelines for Yadagirigutta. He stressed that any policy framed should safeguard the temple's ownership of its lands while ensuring transparent and regulated allotments.

Revanth Reddy suggested that land be allotted to the Hare Rama Hare Krishna (Charitable) Foundation at the prevailing market price. He directed officials to prepare a list of organisations and individuals willing to construct guest houses on the temple hill and said permissions should be granted in a phased manner by following the TTD model. He further called for framing a clear policy with well-defined regulations for allotting land to caste associations within the temple limits.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to release funds required for land acquisition in and around the temple. He also ordered a detailed examination of the engineers' committee report on the construction of the Yadagirigutta temple and directed officials to submit a comprehensive report within a week.

To strengthen the temple's tourism potential, Revanth Reddy asked officials to develop the Yadagirigutta tourism circuit under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, aimed at improving infrastructure and visitor amenities.

The review meeting was attended by MPs Vem Narender Reddy, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy and Kunduru Raghuvir Reddy, government Whip Beerla Ilaiiah, MLA Kumbam Anil Kumar Reddy, special chief secretary Jayesh Ranjan, principal secretary, endowments Shailaja Ramaiyer, endowments commissioner M. Hanumantha Rao, principal secretary, finance,



Sandeep Kumar Sultania, CMO secretary Manicka Raj, CMO OSD Vemula Srinivasulu, and officials from Yadadri district administration and the temple authorities.

Trust board appointed for Yadagirigutta temple

The state government on Tuesday appointed an 18-member trust board for Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam, Yadagirigutta, with MSN Group of Companies head Manne Satyanarayana Reddy as chairman.

A GO issued by endowments principal secretary Shailaja Ramaiyer constituted the board. Members include MLA Vinod Venkata Swamy; Konidela Surekha, wife of actor Chiranjeevi; Chilappagiri Vijaya Rajam, wife of SEW Infrastructure's C.L. Rajam; Vijayender Tulla, son of veteran politician Devender Goud; Pochaboina Eshwaramma Yadav, former chairman of Karmanghat Hanuman temple; trader Gundu Mallaiah of Miryalaguda; Swathi Kantamani of Natco Pharma; M. Raghavender Rao, father of IAS officer Raghunandhan Rao; and Dr Lakshminarayana Naik of Warangal dis-

trict, the founder trustee.

Ex-officio members include the Chief Secretary, principal secretary (revenue), commissioner of endowments, Yadadri-Bhongir collector, vice-chairman of Yadagirigutta Temple Development Authority, temple EO and the sthanacharya.

The term of nominated members, other than ex-officio and founder trustee, will be two years or until further orders. The temple EO has been directed to administer the oath of office and secrecy.

Officials said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy took care to nominate the board on par with the TTD Board to aid temple development. Raghavender Rao, a devotee of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy, was included in recognition of his past contributions, including funding roads to Yadagirigutta and construction of the arch at the hill shrine.

The temple had lacked a trust board for a decade, with the previous BRS government citing ongoing development works as the reason.

Telangana to Develop Aviation Projects in Warangal, Adilabad & Kothagudem

Hyderabad: Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday announced the development of aviation infrastructure projects in Warangal, Adilabad and Kothagudem, as Telangana was strengthening its position as a leading aerospace and defence hub. "The future of global aerospace collaboration is taking shape right here in Telangana," he said.

Opening the second edition of Aeromart Hyderabad here, Uttam Kumar Reddy, a former fighter pilot with the Indian Air Force, said Hyderabad had developed capabilities in advanced manufacturing and was taking a growing role in global aerospace and defence supply chains. "What we are building here in Hyderabad is truly world-class."

His announcement of aviation projects was presented as part of Telangana's long-term commitment to the aerospace sector and its plans to support future industrial growth. He also spoke about Hyderabad's role in advanced manufacturing and international supply chains.

Dr G. Satheesh Reddy, member of the National Security Advisory Board and former chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), said India's progress in manufacturing, exports and innovation had created new opportunities for companies and placed the country in a stronger position in the international aerospace and defence industry.

"The world is looking at India. The growth in manufacturing, exports and innovation is creating unprecedented opportunities for industry." He described Hyderabad as an established aerospace and defence



ecosystem and said the city was well placed to play a leading role in global supply chains.

Aeromart Hyderabad is designed around direct business engagement between manufacturers, suppliers and industry stakeholders. Participants will attend more than 8,000 pre-arranged meetings, networking sessions and discussions during the three-day event to examine business opportunities and industrial partnerships in the aerospace, defence and space sectors.

The second edition has attracted more than 500 companies and 2,000 delegates from over 25 countries.

The opening ceremony also included Andreas Schwab, head of regional procurement office, Airbus; Giandomenico Milano, consul-general of Italy in Bengaluru; Marc Lamy, consul-general of France in Bengaluru; Stephane Castet, CEO of BCI Aerospace; and Praveen P.A., director, aerospace and defence of the state government.

Reality, Govt Claims on Rythu Bharosa Don't Match, Say Harish, KTR

HYDERABAD: The BRS on Tuesday alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka were presenting different figures with regard to the money spent on farmer welfare.

Senior BRS leader and former minister T. Harish Rao, in a statement, said: "While Bhatti said that `1.56 lakh crore had been spent for farmers by the Congress government so far, Revanth Reddy claimed that `1.75 lakh crore had been spent for this purpose. Whose figures are true?"

He said: "If the Budget allocations for the agriculture sector up to March 31, 2027, were only around `82,000



crore, then how come the amounts claimed by them were spent by June 2026? Are they fabricating figures to mislead farmers?" Harish Rao said the BRS was ready for a debate on farmers welfare, not only in the Assembly but on any platform of Revanth Reddy's choice "to expose how promises made to farmers have been abandoned, and how

they were deceived by the Congress."

BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, in another statement, said "after denying farmers `30,000 crore, the Chief Minister was staging "dramas". Releasing Rythu Bharosa assistance merely required the government to transfer funds directly into farmers' accounts, yet the Congress government had chosen to organise extravagant public meetings for publicity.

"While farmers are struggling with procurement issues, shortage of urea and the looming threat of drought, the Chief Minister is busy conducting celebratory events instead of addressing their problems," Rama Rao alleged.

Wednesday 01, July, 2026

STUDENT SUICIDES, SYSTEMIC TRAGEDIES

Attributing student suicides on campuses solely to mental health problems is to ignore the larger structural issues responsible for the alarming trend. These tragedies should not be viewed in isolation as problems of individuals but rather as the culmination of institutional, social, and cultural breakdown. Every death is a cry in the wilderness; a silent scream that should haunt us collectively as a nation. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, over 13,000 student suicides are reported every year across the country. The Supreme Court-appointed National Task Force (NTF) on student suicides, headed by former judge Justice S Ravindra Bhat, has rightly concluded that there is now an urgent need to move beyond reactive measures towards structural, preventive, and sustainable solutions. Despite years of reports, University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations, and government strategies, India has no direct statutory framework for suicide prevention in higher education. The most glaring gap is the complete absence of any direct statutory, regulatory or institutional framework to address and prevent suicides. Most interventions so far have been generic and reactive. The NTF surveyed over 2.43 lakh students and 2,119 higher educational institutions across the country, but despite several deadline extensions, only 3.5% of the institutes submitted their responses to the survey. This shows their callousness towards the problem.

Last year, the apex court held that mental well-being is inseparable from the right to life under Article 21 and noted that there was a legislative and regulatory vacuum in the country with respect to a unified, enforceable framework for suicide prevention. An exacting examination system, parental expectations, an individual's limitations, and the debilitating fear of failure can take a heavy toll on young minds. What is more appalling is that student suicides are reduced to cold statistics, and society is becoming increasingly numb to these tragedies. The entire education ecosystem that puts a premium on success and shuts the doors on alternative career avenues is to blame for the sorry state of affairs. A mismatch between rising aspirations and shrinking opportunities has created enormous stress — a pressure-cooker kind of situation for the youth. This must be treated as a public health crisis requiring urgent attention. Parents, too, must candidly discuss career choices and the aptitude of their children and not push them into difficult corners. The government needs to enact a robust oversight mechanism and invest in creating some support structures to lessen anxiety among students. The Task Force identified "extensive delays, inconsistencies and inequities in scholarship disbursement" as a primary factor, compounding stress for students from poorer backgrounds, alongside steep fee hikes across public universities that have repeatedly pushed students to desperation. Institutional failures include extremely rigid attendance policies, poorly planned academic curricula, faculty shortages, and excessive reliance on inexperienced guest faculty.

Telangana Considering Incentives to Boost Rice Exports: Uttam

Hyderabad: Telangana Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday said the state government is considering incentives to boost rice exports. In a post on X, he said the state government is exploring a new policy to help rice producers access overseas markets. Industries meeting export quality standards would receive government support, including speedy approvals and necessary clearances, he said.

"The government is preparing a dedicated strategy to encourage rice exports and support value-added products that can increase returns for farmers and rice millers," Reddy said. Telangana's rice has significant poten-



tiated a "record" in paddy procurement despite the Centre "reducing its procurement target" for the state. He said the state government had procured 75 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of paddy by June 9 itself during the current Yasangi (Rabi) season, against the Centre's approved target of only 52 LMT.

Uncertainty looms over Rythu Bharosa disbursement

Even as the Telangana government began disbursing Rythu Bharosa assistance for the Vaanakalam season, uncertainty remains over whether all eligible farmers will receive support. The scheme continues to face criticism over delayed payments, pending dues and the lack of a clear implementation framework.

Hyderabad: Even as the Congress government launched the disbursement of Rythu Bharosa financial assistance to farmers on Tuesday, uncertainty persists over how many beneficiaries the scheme will eventually cover in the ongoing Vaanakalam (Kharif) season. Though the government announced that the first phase will cover 41.37 lakh farmers owning up to two acres, with an outlay of Rs 2,482.02 crore, it did not specify a timeline for subsequent phases or confirm whether farmers with larger holdings will receive their due.

Nearly two-and-a-half years after coming to power on a promise of enhanced investment support for farmers, the government continues to face criticism over the scheme's implementation, with unpaid dues, delayed disbursements and the absence of a clear policy framework remaining unresolved.

The Congress had promised Rs 15,000 per acre annually, which works out to Rs 7,500 per acre per season, but later restricted this to Rs 12,000 annually. However, even the revised commitment has not been implemented uniformly across seasons. As per official records, the previous BRS government provided Rythu Bandhu investment support to around 1.48 crore acres of land per season. But after the Congress came to power, it has never been extended in full in any season, excluding Vaanakalam 2025.

Based on the original manifesto promise, farmers should



have received about Rs 55,800 crore over the five cropping seasons since the Congress took office. Only around Rs 27,080 crore has reportedly been disbursed, leaving a shortfall of Rs 28,720 crore. Even when calculated at the revised rate of Rs 6,000 per acre per season, the outstanding amount works out to Rs 17,560 crore.

Beyond the funding gap, the scheme has suffered from the absence of comprehensive guidelines and a transparent eligibility framework. The government has changed its mode of disbursement across seasons and restricted payments to farmers owning up to two or three acres during a couple of seasons, without clearly articulating the basis for such exclusions.

Unlike the earlier Rythu Bandhu scheme, under which investment support was released to all eligible landowners at the start of every cropping season, Rythu Bharosa has not been implemented uniformly in any of the five seasons since the Congress assumed office. The 2024 Vaanakalam season reportedly saw no disbursement at all, while subsequent seasons saw phased payments with acreage limits, leaving a section of farmers outside the scheme's ambit.

With investment support continuing to arrive in instalments rather than as a predictable seasonal benefit, questions remain over whether the government can fully deliver on one of its flagship electoral promises.

Rythu Bharosa for 2025 Vaanakalam season
Total 1.48 crore acres
Total 73.32 lakh farmers
First phase to cover 41.37 lakh farmers owning up to two acres
Rs 17,560 crore pending financial assistance to farmers at the rate of Rs 6,000 per acre
Rythu Bharosa for 2024 Vaanakalam was skipped altogether and implemented partially for the other four seasons.

MP Minister Pratima Bagri Asked To Establish Her SC Caste Before Scrutiny Committee



Bhopal: Madhya Pradesh minister Pratima Bagri was on Tuesday issued a notice asking her to establish her scheduled caste (SC) identity before the state SC scrutiny committee on July six.

The notice was issued by the commissioner of state SC development department in the wake of Madhya Pradesh high court taking note of the issue.

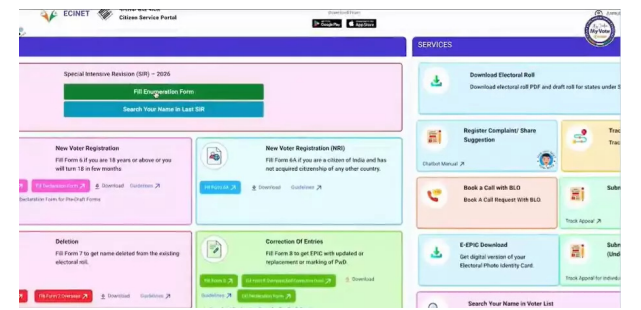
The notice asked Ms. Bagri, who is a minister of state for urban development and housing in the Mohan Yadav ministry, to be present before the state SC scrutiny committee on July six, and submit all necessary documents to establish that she comes in the category of SC.

The Madhya Pradesh high court has earlier taken note of the matter in response to a petition filed by Congress leader Pradeep Ahirwar alleging that the minister won the Raigaon Assembly constituency in Madhya Pradesh, reserved for SC, by falsely claiming herself to belong to SC.

The petition alleged that the minister maintains relations in the Rajput or Thakur families and hence, she cannot belong to SC.

The court had issued a directive to the state SC scrutiny committee to probe the matter and submit a report within 60 days

SIR: Poll Officials Relax Closing Date of Distribution of EFs, Voters Can Get Till July 24



Hyderabad: With less than two-third of the voters covered in Telangana, and just about one third in the state capital, the Election Commission of India has extended the deadline for distribution and collection of enumeration forms for the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral roll till July 24.

The earlier deadline was to expire on Wednesday. The enumeration forms process will continue in parallel with the house-to-house verification, the poll panel said.

Separately, following the Telangana High Court recommendation of Monday the Election Commission began distributing 'dummy copies' of the enumeration forms in Urdu where the language voter population was more than 20 per cent. These included the 15 Assembly constituencies of Hyderabad district and Nizamabad Urban.

According to data available at 8 pm, 2.16 crore forms were distributed across Telangana, representing 63.8 per cent of voters who took part in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. In the Hyderabad district comprising 15 Assembly constituencies, the figure stood at 35 per cent.

Chandrayangutta constituency recorded the highest performance at 51 per cent while it was 19 per cent Musheerabad where the process was affected by a shortage of enumeration forms. Statewide, Nalgonda topped with 97 per cent coverage, followed by Sircilla at 96.

"Voters who didn't receive the forms need not worry as your booth level officer (BLO) will visit your household for enumeration form distribution as well as verification. The one week time wsa given to BLOs for administrative convenience and people will continue to receive the forms till July 24," an official said.

With continued complaints of inefficient BLOs on ground, officials said such persons were being replaced them with more competent ground staff. "Where there are issues with BLOs, the supervisor is coordinating for smooth conduct of the exercise. If the issue persists, they are being replaced based on inputs by electoral registration officers," the official added.

Voters who failed to receive the enumeration forms as the deadline loomed continued to remain anxious. Mohd Ahmed, a resident of Khilwat, who is also TD's state minority spokesperson, alleged that only five out of seven of his family members received the forms. He has since been trying to get the enumeration forms for the two family members who had been missed out.

"While two genuine members from my family failed to receive the forms, I found four fake voters registered with my door number. Never ever has our family given this house on rent to others since my grandfather's days," Ahmed said.

Ahmed said that the booth-level agents (BLAs) appointed by political parties continued to overpower BLOs in parts of Old City and only BLAs from a single political party remain active in those parts. "A BLO, who is a GHMC sanitation worker in the Charminar circle, handed over all the documents to the BLA. When I called him on the phone, he expressed his reluctance to undertake this task," Ahmed alleged. "Even though other political parties have sent the list of BLOs to the Election Commission, on ground you won't find BLOs except for the representatives of a single party (AIMIM) on ground."

In other parts of the city, there were reports of confusion being created about the physical forms and online forms. While distributing the printed forms, BLOs reportedly asked some residents of Jalpally municipality to also fill the forms online. "Those who distributed the form asked also fill in online. The person asked us to pay Rs. 150 per online form. After confirming the matter, we refused to do so," said a resident of Quba Colony near Pahadishareef, on condition of anonymity.

Similar incidents were reported even from slums near Jubilee Hills, where the voters were charged for getting help filling the forms. "In our basti those who are visiting the houses are charging Rs.500 to Rs.1,000 per form depending on the work. Those whose family members were not present were charged Rs.1,000 for filling their forms in absence," said Razia Begum, a resident of a Filmnagar basti.

Collector, SP Review Preparations Ahead of CM Revanth Reddy's Urkonda Visit

Nagar kurnool : Nagarkurnool District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil and District SP Dr. Sangram Singh G. Patil conducted a field inspection in Urkonda on Tuesday ahead of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's proposed visit to the renowned Pabbathi Anjaneya Swamy Temple in July. The officials reviewed arrangements related to temple surroundings, visitor movement, parking, traffic management, security, drinking water, sanitation, and medical facilities.

The Collector and SP later visited the Zilla Parishad Boys High School ground at Urkondapet to inspect the proposed helipad site for the Chief



Minister's helicopter landing. They reviewed safety standards, convoy movement, police deployment, fire services, ambulance access, and other emergency arrangements.

As part of the visit, the officials also inspected sites proposed for the construction of the Integrated Mandal Level Government Office Complex and a new Police Station building. Directions were issued to ensure that the infrastructure is planned with adequate facilities and remains easily accessible to the public.

During a review meeting held at the Urkonda Rythu Vedika, the Collector stated that the Chief Minister's visit is important for the district and directed all departments to work in coordination. Officials were also instructed to focus on cleanliness, greenery, public health measures, and ensure timely availability of urea and seeds for farmers during the agricultural season.

Grand Rythu Bharosa Celebrations... MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Performs Milk Abhishekam to CM Revanth Reddy's Portrait

Manuguru Correspondent: Manuguru, June 30: Grand celebrations of the Telangana Government's prestigious Rythu Bharosa scheme were held on Tuesday at the Gutta Mallaram Rythu Vedika in Manuguru Mandal, Bhadradi Kothagudem district. Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu attended the event as the chief guest and addressed the gathering of farmers.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said that the welfare of farmers is the State Government's highest priority. He stated that under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the Rythu Bharosa scheme has provided timely financial assistance directly into the bank accounts of eligible farmers, offering much-needed support for agricultural activities. He added that the government is committed to ensuring farmers receive investment assistance well before the commencement of the Kharif



season.

Later, expressing gratitude for the successful implementation of the Rythu Bharosa scheme, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu performed a milk abhishekam to the portrait of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and appreciated the government's commitment to the welfare of farmers. He said the State Government stands firmly with the farming community and is dedicated to their overall development.

The MLA also directed officials to ensure that every eligible farmer in the Pinapaka constituency receives the benefits of the Rythu Bharosa scheme and all other government welfare programmes without any delay. He advised farmers to approach the Agriculture Department officials for any clarification and assured them of the government's full support.

Agriculture Department officials, public representatives, local leaders, Congress Party leaders, party workers, and a large number of farmers participated in the programme, making the Rythu Bharosa celebrations a grand success.

SP Sangram Singh G. Patil Felicitates Retiring Police Officials

Nagar kurnool : Nagarkurnool District SP Dr. Sangram Singh G. Patil extended retirement wishes to police personnel who rendered distinguished service in the district police department and retired from service on Tuesday. Those who retired include A. Chandrareddy, SI-2 of Kollapur Police Station, N. Srinivas, ASI of Achampet Police Station, T. Ramesh, ASI of Siddapur Police Station, and Jaanimiya, AR Head Constable, Nagarkurnool.

Speaking on the occasion, the SP appreciated their years of dedicated service and stated that their honesty, discipline, and commitment towards ensuring public safety would remain memorable. He said the respect they earned and the trust they built among people stand as recognition of their professional contribution.

The SP added that retirement marks the completion of official service and wished them a healthy, happy, and peaceful life ahead with their families.

Additional SP N. Venkateswarlu, CCS CI Shankar, RI Admin Jagan, AO Krishnaiah, RSI Ghouse Pasha, SB SI Parvathalu, CC Balaraju, Police Welfare Association President ASI Gunavardhan and other officials participated in the programme.



Strict Action Needed Against Fake and Adulterated Food Products

District Collector Bhavesh Mishra

Nirmal District : Staff Reporter : District Collector Bhavesh Mishra directed officials to ensure that all food business operators in the district strictly comply with food safety rules and regulations.

On Tuesday, the Collector chaired a meeting on food safety at the Collectorate conference hall. Speaking on the occasion, the Collector instructed the owners and managers of restaurants, hotels, tiffin centres, sweet shops, dhabas, and other food establishments to strictly adhere to food safety standards. He stated that providing safe, hygienic, and quality food to the public is the responsibility of every food business operator.

He emphasized that only quality raw materials such as cooking oils, spices, milk, curd, and other ingredients should be used in food preparation. Food Safety Department officials were instructed to conduct regular inspections and verify that all food establishments possess valid licenses. They were



also directed to check expiry dates and product labels regularly.

The Collector made it clear that strict action would be taken against anyone using expired food products or unauthorized food colours. He also instructed officials to ensure that vegetables, leafy greens, fruits,

eggs, milk, dairy products, and meat used in food preparation are fresh and of good quality.

He warned that stringent action would be taken against establishments that sell or store unhygienic, expired, or substandard food products. Officials were directed to continuously monitor whether food outlets are maintaining the prescribed quality standards.

Later, the Collector and other officials distributed certificates to several Anganwadi teachers who had recently completed training on food safety.

The meeting was attended by District Food Safety Officer Sunitha, District Medical and Health Officer Rajender, DWO Vinutha, DPO Srinivas, DEO Bhojanna, Municipal Commissioner Ravi Babu, along with other officials and staff members.

Monsoon Preparedness Alert... MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Issues Key Directions to Officials

Manuguru Correspondent: Manuguru, June 30: With the monsoon season approaching, Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu directed officials to complete all precautionary measures on a war footing to ensure that the public does not face any inconvenience during the rainy season.

The MLA chaired a review meeting at his camp office in Manuguru with the Municipal Commissioner and officials from various departments to assess the monsoon preparedness measures within the Manuguru Municipality.

Addressing the officials, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu instructed



them to expedite the repair of main roads and internal roads and ensure the complete cleaning of drains and canals to prevent waterlogging. He also directed the authorities to strengthen the drainage system and intensify sanitation drives across the town.

The MLA advised officials to identify flood-prone areas in advance, prepare a comprehensive action plan, and keep the re-

quired machinery and personnel ready at all times. He emphasized that officials must respond immediately to emergencies and give top priority to safeguarding the lives and property of the public.

He further instructed all departments to work in close coordination and effectively implement all pre-monsoon preparedness measures to avoid any untoward incidents during the rainy season.

The review meeting was attended by the Municipal Commissioner, municipal officials, engineering department officials, sanitation staff, and other concerned officers.

BLOs Must Personally Visit Every Household to Distribute Enumeration Forms: Telangana CEO

SANGAREDDY, Correspondent : June 30, 2026: Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Sudarshan Reddy has directed that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) must personally visit every household to distribute Enumeration Forms as part of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls. He clarified that only voters who fill and submit the forms will have their names included in the draft electoral roll.

Chairing a video conference with District Collectors, Election Registration Officers, and other senior officials on Monday, the CEO reviewed the progress of the SIR programme, including the distribution and collection of Enumeration Forms. He instructed officials to complete the exercise



transparently and within the stipulated timeline.

Sudarshan Reddy emphasized that the responsibility of distributing the forms rests solely with BLOs and cannot be delegated to others. He also directed BLO Supervisors to regularly inspect villages and urban areas under their jurisdiction to monitor the perfor-

mance of BLOs.

To assist voters, the CEO asked officials to widely publicize the 1950 Voter Helpline and the Help Desks established at Collectorates and Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) offices. Citizens facing difficulties in filling the forms were advised to make use of these facilities.

He further instructed BLOs to wear

the Election Commission-issued T-shirt, cap, identity card, and bag while on duty so that the public can easily identify them. BLOs were also advised to interact with voters courteously and patiently. Officials were directed to give wide publicity through print, electronic, and social media to activities related to the distribution and collection of Enu-

meration Forms, voter awareness campaigns, field visits by officials, and other special initiatives.

Participating in the video conference from the Sangareddy Collectorate, District Collector Prateek Jain informed the CEO that 55 percent of the Enumeration Forms have already been distributed in the district. He said awareness among voters regarding the SIR programme is increasing and that efforts are underway to achieve 100 percent distribution and collection of duly filled forms within the prescribed deadline.

Additional Collector Pandu, RDOs Rajender, Ramesh, Venkatesham, and officials from the Election Department also participated in the review meeting.

Why Waiver of Premium Deserves More Attention from Indian Investors

Most people buy investment insurance plans with a simple belief: the policy will help secure life's non-negotiable goals such as a child's education, marriage, retirement, or an emergency fund.

But there is one critical question many policyholders overlook at the time of purchase: what happens to these goals if the policyholder is no longer there to pay future premiums?

Vivek Jain, CBO-Life Insurance, Policybazaar says, "For most families, financial planning is built around discipline and continuity. A monthly SIP, a long-term investment plan, or a retirement corpus is designed with the assumption that income will continue uninterrupted for years, sometimes decades. Yet life does not always move according to plan. Mr. Kumar wants to financially prepare for his child's post-graduation at an esteemed university. With a 20-year horizon in mind, he starts investing ₹10,000 every month through a Systematic Investment Plan (SIP), aiming to build a corpus of nearly ₹1 crore over two decades, assuming a 15% CAGR. The planning appears sound. The investment amount is fixed, the timeline is defined, and the goal is clear. But there is one aspect Mr. Kumar had not fully accounted for: what happens if the SIP suddenly stops midway?"

"In the unfortunate event of his demise, who would continue paying the remaining premiums? Would his child still be able to pursue higher education at the institution he had dreamed of, or would that aspiration become financially difficult to achieve? This is the difference between merely planning a financial goal and actually protecting it. Because long-term wealth creation is not only about returns. It is equally about continuity. This is where the Waiver of Premium (WOP) feature plays a significant role, particularly when combined with a Unit Linked Insurance Plan (ULIP)."

The feature is simple in principle but powerful in impact: in the event of the policyholder's demise, future premiums are funded by the insurer, ensuring that the investment journey continues uninterrupted.

Returning to Mr. Kumar's example, suppose he passes away after paying premiums for only one year, amounting to a total investment of ₹1.2 lakh.

Under a regular ULIP without the Waiver of Premium benefit, the family may receive the life cover amount of ₹12 lakh, after which the policy would terminate.

The obvious question then arises: will ₹12 lakh be enough to fund a post-graduation course 20 years later, especially in an environment of rising education costs and inflation?

Similarly, in the case of mutual funds, if the family is unable to continue future SIP contributions after

Mr. Kumar's demise, the invested amount of ₹1.2 lakh may grow to only around ₹20 lakh over the remaining tenure.

While both options provide some financial support, neither may be sufficient to fully secure the original ₹1 crore goal corpus planned for the child's future.

In such a scenario, the family would receive a lump sum payout of up to 10 times the annual premium, which in this example would amount to ₹12 lakh, helping them manage immediate financial needs.

Additionally, the family could also receive a regular income stream to support day-to-day expenses till the end of the policy term. In this case, that would mean ₹1.2 lakh every year for the remaining 19 years, amounting to a total of ₹22.8 lakh.

Most importantly, the insurer continues funding the remaining premiums, allowing the investment to stay invested in the market for the full tenure.

As a result, the child still receives the intended ₹1 crore corpus for post-graduation, ensuring that the dream remains intact despite life's uncertainties.

In simple terms, the insurance continues even when the family's ability to pay does not.

That is the true purpose of goal protection: not just creating wealth for one's family, but ensuring their aspirations continue uninterrupted, with or without the earning member.

Despite its importance, the Waiver of Premium feature often remains overlooked during purchase decisions.

Most buyers tend to focus on visible aspects such as premium amount, tax benefits, expected returns, or the sum assured. Very few stop to ask a more fundamental question: will this plan continue if the family is unable to pay future premiums?

The answer to that question can determine whether a long-term financial goal survives an unexpected life event.

The reality is that the biggest threat to a long-term financial goal is not market volatility. It is the possibility that the investment itself may stop midway.

This is precisely where Waiver of Premium proves its value. It may appear secondary when income is stable and life feels predictable, but its importance becomes evident during moments of uncertainty.

As India's financial planning ecosystem matures and more households invest towards long-term aspirations, conversations must move beyond wealth creation alone and towards protecting continuity. Because planning a goal is important. But protecting that goal is what truly secures a family's future.

Veteran TGMFC Officer Abdul Hameed Felicitated on Retirement After Four Decades of Dedicated Public Service :

Minority Welfare Leaders Praise His Remarkable Contribution to Institutional Growth and Community Development

Hyderabad June 30, 2026 : In a heartwarming and dignified ceremony marked by appreciation, respect, and emotion, the Telangana Minorities Finance Corporation (TGMFC) bid farewell to one of its most dedicated senior officers Abdul Hameed General Manager, TGMFC, who retired from government service on attaining superannuation on June 30, 2026, after rendering more than 41 years of distinguished public service.

The retirement felicitation programme was held at the TGMFC Head Office in Hyderabad in the presence of senior government officials, board members, staff, family members, and well-wishers, who gathered to honour the remarkable journey and contributions of the retiring officer.

Hon'ble Minister for Public Enterprises & Minorities Welfare, Mohammed Azharuddin, attended the programme as the chief guest and personally felicitated Abdul Hameed. Speaking on the occasion, the Minister praised the officer's unwavering commitment, sincerity, honesty, and tireless efforts towards strengthening minority welfare administration in Telangana.

The Minister stated that officers like Abdul Hameed serve as an inspiration to younger generations of public servants due to their disciplined work culture, dedication to public welfare, and administrative integrity. He further noted that the growth and credibility of welfare institutions largely depend on committed officers who work selflessly for the upliftment of society.

Mohd. Obedullah Kothwal Hon'ble Chairman TGMFC, also paid rich tributes to the retiring General Manager and highlighted his invaluable role in the functioning and development of the Corporation over the years. He said that Abdul Hameed had served the institution with exceptional dedication and had contributed immensely towards implementing welfare schemes benefiting economically weaker sections of minority communities across the State.

The programme was attended by B. Shafiqullah IFS, Special Secretary to Government, Minorities Welfare Department, the Director of Minorities Welfare, the Chairman of the Waqf Board, senior officers of TGMFC, staff members, and relatives of the retiring officer.

Several speakers recalled Abdul Hameed's humble personality, cooperative nature, administrative experience, and dedication towards public service. They described him as an officer who always maintained professionalism while also extending support and guidance to colleagues and junior staff members.

The atmosphere at the farewell ceremony turned emotional as colleagues and employees shared memories of working alongside him over the decades. Many staff members acknowledged his role in mentoring employees and strengthening the administrative functioning of the Corporation.

As a token of appreciation and respect, the dignitaries presented shawls, mementos, and flower bouquets to the retiring officer. Family members of Abdul Hameed expressed gratitude to the department and officials for organizing such a memorable and respectful farewell programme.

In his brief address, Abdul Hameed thanked the Government, senior officials, colleagues, and staff members for their support and cooperation throughout his long professional journey. He expressed satisfaction over serving in the minority welfare sector and contributing towards the welfare and empowerment of underprivileged communities.

The dignitaries extended their heartfelt wishes for his good health, happiness, and peaceful retired life while acknowledging his exemplary service and lasting contribution to the Telangana Minorities Finance Corporation and society at large.



Farmers' Welfare is the Primary Goal of the People's Government: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy stated that the welfare of farmers is the foremost objective of the people's government.

On Tuesday evening, the Chief Minister, along with Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, other ministers, and senior officials, launched the Rythu Bharosa financial assistance disbursement programme from Hyderabad.

Collectors and farmers from all districts participated in the programme through video conferencing from various Rythu Vedikas.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister extended his greetings to farmers and announced that ₹9,000 crore under the Rythu Bharosa scheme will be credited to farmers' bank accounts within nine days. He said the government has transformed agriculture into a festival-like activity and that, with this phase, a total of ₹36,000 crore has been released under the Rythu Bharosa scheme.

He further stated that the government has spent ₹26,670 crore on farm loan waivers and ₹30,000 crore on free electricity for the agriculture sector. Additionally, ₹3,500 crore has been allocated under the Rythu Bima (Farmers' Insurance) scheme. On average, the government is spending ₹6,000 crore every month for the welfare of farmers. Despite the state's financial challenges, the government remains committed to farmers' welfare, he added.



The Chief Minister also advised farmers to cultivate crops that require less water, as rainfall is expected to be below normal this season. He urged them to grow crops with strong market demand and to adopt crop diversification practices.

From the Rythu Vedika at Chityal village in Nirmal Rural Mandal, District Collector Bhavesh Mishra, Additional Collector (Revenue) Kishore Kumar, RDO Devadas, Agriculture Officer Anji Prasad, Horticulture Officer Ramana, Tahsildar Prabhakar, ATMA Committee Chairman Ram Reddy, Village Sarpanch Supriya, farmers, and other officials participated in the programme. If you'd like, I can also rewrite this in a newspaper-style English news report suitable for publication.

Sigachi Tragedy: CITU Demands Full Compensation for Victims on First Anniversary

SANGAREDDY, Correspondent : June 30, 2026: Marking one year since the devastating Sigachi Industries accident that claimed the lives of 54 workers, the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) organised a candlelight rally and paid tribute to the victims at BPL Crossroads in the Pashamailaram industrial area of Patancheru Sangareddy District.

Addressing the gathering, CITU State Working Committee Member Athimela Manik alleged that industrial management was prioritising profits over workers' lives and neglecting essential safety measures. He said the Sigachi tragedy, in which 54 workers lost their lives and 28 others suffered se-



rious injuries, was the result of gross negligence by the management. Manik stated that despite the magnitude of the tragedy, industries had failed to learn any lessons, with workplace accidents continuing to occur frequently. He criticised the management for not ensuring adequate safety standards and expressed concern that many injured workers were still struggling to rebuild their lives.

He further said that the company had reportedly informed the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) that it would pay Rupees1 crore compensation to the family of each deceased worker, while Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had also announced similar compensation. However, even after one year, the victims' families had not received the full amount, he alleged.

According to CITU, families of the deceased have so far received around 42 lakh each, while injured workers have received 3 lakh to 5 lakh, leaving a substantial balance yet to be paid. Manik urged the State Government to intervene and ensure that the promised compensation is paid in full to all affected families.

The programme was attended by CITU District Vice-President B. Nageswara Rao, District Committee Member Raju, and union leaders Suresh, Srinivas, Shekhar Reddy, Praveen, Yadagiri, Annaji, Durgaiyah, Anand, along with workers from various industrial unions.

Massive Ganja Seizure in Bhadradi Kothagudem District; 525 kg of Cannabis Confiscated

Bhadradi Kothagudem District Correspondent: In a major crackdown on interstate narcotics smuggling, the Eagle Force Police seized 525 kilograms of ganja (cannabis) in Burgampahad mandal of Bhadradi Kothagudem district. Three accused, including a juvenile, were arrested while allegedly transporting the contraband from Odisha to Uttar Pradesh.

According to the police, the smugglers had constructed a specially designed secret compartment inside a container lorry to conceal the ganja and avoid detection. Acting on credible intelligence, the Eagle Force intercepted the vehicle and uncovered the hidden consignment.

During the operation, police seized 525 kg of ganja, one two-wheeler, five mobile phones, and ₹10,500 in cash. Officials estimated the value of the seized ganja at approximately ₹2.65 crore.

Police said that four other suspects involved in the smuggling network are absconding, and special teams have been deployed to trace and arrest them.

The seized container lorry has been shifted to the ITC factory lorry yard and secured by Burgampahad Police. The incident has created a sensation in the district, while officials stated that surveillance against interstate ganja trafficking has been intensified.



Naidu Orders Simpler Public Services, Expands Digital Grievance Redressal

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Monday directed officials to simplify the delivery of government services and make them more accessible to the public. Chairing a review meeting at the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) Centre in the State Secretariat, he stressed the need for citizen-friendly governance and faster grievance redressal.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to introduce a simplified process for key government services, with the first phase covering 11 categories of public services. He also directed that the public grievance system be expanded by allowing citizens to submit complaints through the Mana Mitra WhatsApp platform, including voice messages.



Naidu further asked officials to address mobile network connectivity issues across the state within the next three months. Officials informed the meeting that nearly 3,000 locations currently face connectivity problems. The Chief Minister directed them to co-

ordinate with telecom service providers to resolve the issue on priority.

During the meeting, officials also presented the progress of the **Navachetana Early Childhood Development Screening** programme being implemented by the Women and Child Wel-

fare Department. They said 33,949 children have been screened so far through Anganwadi centres and household visits, with a pilot project planned for follow-up interventions.

Officials informed the Chief Minister that a circular has been issued directing senior officers to un-

dertake regular field visits. As per the new guidelines, Secretaries will spend three days, Heads of Departments six days, and District Collectors eight days every month in the field to identify issues and ensure their timely resolution.

Naidu also reviewed improvements to the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) and was briefed on the use of artificial intelligence and other digital technologies in governance. Representatives of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) visited the RTGS Centre during the review and were shown how the platform is used for governance and disaster management. The Chief Minister also urged CII to establish its Global Leadership Centre in Andhra Pradesh at the earliest.

CM Naidu Calls For Citizen-Friendly Services, Voice Message Grievance Redressal on Mana Mitra



Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to make government services more citizen-friendly and ensure that public grievances received through voice messages on the Mana Mitra WhatsApp governance platform are also addressed. Chairing a review meeting with senior officials at the Real Time Governance Society in the Secretariat on Monday, he stressed the need to simplify access to government services, particularly those availed frequently by the public.

Officials said the process of simplifying procedures had begun, but so far covered only 11 categories of services. Naidu called for strengthening the public grievance redressal system by making it more accessible. Officials must facilitate the submission of grievances through online platforms and the Mana Mitra WhatsApp service, including complaints received through voice messages. Reviewing mobile connectivity across the state, the CM said gaps in network coverage should be addressed on priority. Officials informed him that nearly 3,000 locations were facing connectivity issues. He directed them to coordinate matters with telecom service providers and resolve these within three months.

Officials also made a presentation on the women and child welfare department's 'Navachetana' early childhood development screening programme. They informed the CM that 33,949 children had been screened across the state through visits to Anganwadi centres and households. They said a pilot project would also be taken up to provide follow-up interventions for children identified with developmental issues.

Officials informed the CM that, based on his earlier directions, a circular had been issued prescribing mandatory field visits by officials. Under the guidelines, secretaries will undertake field visits for three days a month, heads of departments for six days and district collectors for eight days. Naidu directed officials to use these visits to identify and resolve local issues. Officials also informed him that standard operating procedures had been issued to strengthen the Public Grievance Redressal System.

Later, the Chief Minister, accompanied by director general of the confederation of Indian industry Chandrajit Banerjee and other representatives, visited the RTGS Centre at the Secretariat. IT secretary Katamaneni Bhaskar explained its functioning and presented case studies on the use of RTGS during natural calamities. Naidu also called for the early establishment of the CII global leadership centre.

Farmers Honoured At Eruvaka Dhanya Lakshmi Utsavam

NELLORE: Eruvaka Dhanya Lakshmi Utsavam was celebrated with religious fervour at the Sri Udaya Kaleswara Swamy Temple in Gandavaram on Monday on the occasion of Eruvaka Pournami. The programme was organised by the Hindu Dharma Parirakshana Trust.

Women farmers performed Dhanya Lakshmi Puja to paddy grains at the temple, following which new clothes and paddy seeds were distributed to them.

APSRTC regional chairman and BJP Kisan Morcha national vice-



president Sannapureddy Suresh Reddy, Trust state coordinator Kota Sunil Kumar, district coordinator P.T. Jagannatham, library corporation chairperson M. Shanthy Kumari, former MLA Mekapati Chandrasekhar Reddy and civil supplies corporation director Vemireddy Pattabhirami Reddy participated in the celebrations.

Addressing the gathering, the speakers described agriculture as a "great yajna" and farmers as its true performers. They said Eruvaka Pournami marks the beginning of the agricultural season, when farmers traditionally worship farm implements, paddy seedlings and grains. They stressed that the prosperity of society depends on the well-being of the farming community and called for continued support for farmers.

Public representatives, temple officials and a large number of women farmers attended the programme.

Yeruvaka Pournami Celebrated Across Godavari Districts

Kakinada: Yeruvaka Pournami, marking the commencement of the agricultural season, was celebrated across Kakinada, the Ambedkar Konaseema, Eluru, Polavaram, East Godavari and West Godavari districts on Monday, with farmers performing traditional rituals before beginning cultivation.

Tourism minister Kandula Durgesh extended his greetings to the farming community and urged farmers to adopt natural farming and alternative crop cultivation. He said the government would extend all possible support to farmers.

The tradition of worshipping farmland and livestock, he said, reflected the close bond between farmers and nature and expressed hope for good rainfall, abundant harvests and prosperity despite the threat of the El Niño effect.

In Polavaram district, collector Dinesh Kumar, state ST commission chairman S. Bojjireddy, Rampachodavaram MLA and legislative committee chairperson Miriyala Sirisha Devi, joint collector Surapati Prashant and others participated in the celebrations at Gangavaram village.

The collector said the programme was organised



to create awareness on kharif cultivation, promote modern agricultural practices, encourage the use of quality seeds and fertilisers, disseminate information on government schemes, strengthen coordination between agriculture officials, scientists and farmers, and improve farm incomes through higher productivity.

He urged farmers to adopt scientific farming methods and make effective use of government schemes. He said 10,430 quintals of paddy seed had been supplied to farmers in Polavaram district with a 90 per cent subsidy.

At Pithapuram, Sri Viswa Vignana Vidya Adhyatmika Peetham seer Umar Alisha participated in the traditional Bhijarohana programme after ceremonially ploughing the ashram land. He expressed hope that farmers would receive good yields despite the possible impact of El Niño and said the Peetham had been organising Yeruvaka Pournami celebrations for the past seven years, beginning each year with worship of cows before cultivation.

Rajamahendravaram's entomology coordinator and principal scientist Narasimha Rao, Peruri Suribabu, progressive farmer Padma Reddy and others were present.

Kakinada collector Harendhira Prasad and Jaggampeta MLA Jyothula Nehru participated in the celebrations at Mamidada village in Jaggampeta mandal. The collector distributed subsidised red gram seeds to farmers.

Konaseema collector Mahesh Kumar and Amalapuram MLA A. Ananda Rao took part in the celebrations at Samanasa village, while West Godavari collector Nagarani and Tanuku MLA Radhakrishna participated in the programme at Mandapaka village in Tanuku mandal.

AP Aims At Shift Of 2 Lakh Students From Private To Govt Schools: Lokesh



Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh government has set a target of attracting two lakh students from private schools to government schools in the next academic year. Stating this on Tuesday, education minister Nara Lokesh said on Monday that 1.06 lakh students had shifted to government schools this academic year. Speaking at a

programme in Tadepalli to facilitate meritorious students from government educational institutions, Lokesh said the government's education reforms were aimed at improving the quality of public education and restoring confidence in government schools. A total of 55 Class X students and 61 Intermediate students, recognised as Shining Stars

for their academic performance, were honoured. Class X students received a cash award of ₹30,000, a medal and a certificate, while Intermediate students were presented with laptops and medals. Congratulating the students, Lokesh said their achievements had restored the reputation of government educational institutions. Their

performance had also reflected positively on the government's efforts to strengthen the education sector.

The minister announced that a statewide Parent-Teacher Meeting would be organised in July. Comparing education with farming, he said sustained effort and patience were essential to achieve

lasting results. Referring to 'Dream Walls' and 'Gratitude Walls' introduced in schools, Lokesh observed that many students aspired to become doctors, engineers and IAS officers, but very few expressed an ambition to enter public life. He encouraged young people to consider politics as a means of effecting social transformation.



Rashi Singh's Latest Saree Look is Pure Elegance

Rashi Singh looks absolutely radiant in this elegant new photograph, captured by @absolutelyrahul. Draped in a vibrant red saree with a stylish gold border from @thesjlabel_, complemented by exquisite jewellery from @gokulamsignaturejewels, she dazzles with her warm smile and graceful presence. Styled by @stylebyannapurna, with flawless makeup by @reshma.makeupandhair and hair by @arkaa_makeovers, this glowing look is pure elegance.

The Chhattisgarh-born actress, who previously worked as an air hostess, made her Telugu film debut in 2021 with Sashi opposite Aadi Saikumar. She has since delivered memorable performances in Prem Kumar (2023), Bhoothaddam Bhaskar Narayana (2024), and Prasanna Vadanam (2024) as ACP Vaidehi.

In 2025-2026, she appeared in Blind Spot, Paanch Minar, Santhana Prapthirasthu, and the recently released Gossip (June 2026). She continues to expand her footprint in Telugu cinema with her natural acting and screen presence.

With several promising projects on the horizon, Rashi Singh is steadily rising as a talented and versatile actress in Tollywood.

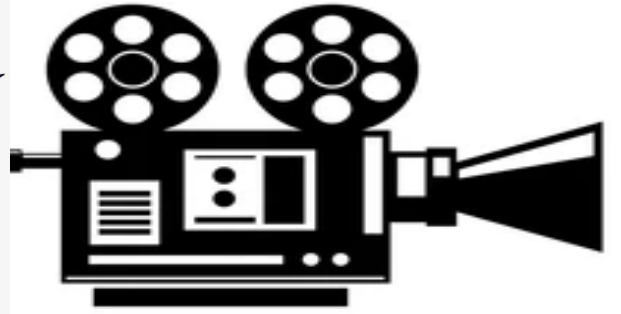
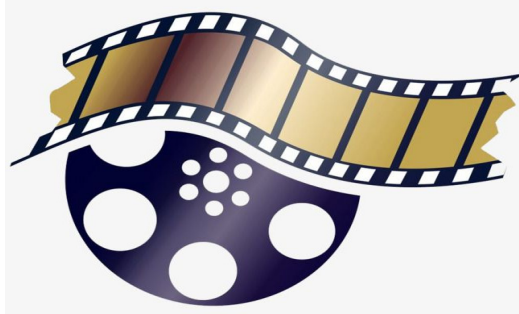
Aakankshaa Sharma Graceful Traditional Look

Leaning against a dark stone wall with sunlight highlighting her features, she gently touches her hair while gazing softly at the camera. In this graceful photograph, Aakankshaa looks ethereal in a classic cream and white saree paired with a matching short-sleeved blouse. Leaning against a dark stone wall with sunlight highlighting her features, she gently touches her hair while gazing softly at the camera.

Aakankshaa (Aakanksha Singh) began her career in theatre before making her television debut with the popular series Na Bole Tum Na Maine Kuch Kaha. She made her film debut in Bollywood with Badrinath Ki Dulhania (2017) and impressed in Telugu cinema with Malli Raava the same year, earning a SIIMA Award nomination for Best Female Debut. She has since delivered notable performances in films like Devadas, Pailwaan, and Runway 34.

Known for her expressive acting and poised screen presence, she has worked across Hindi, Telugu, and Kannada industries. With her dedication and versatility, Aakankshaa continues to explore meaningful roles.

She remains active with upcoming projects that are expected to showcase her range further in Indian cinema.



CINEMA

SM GUNDE PELIPOTHONDHE SONG: A RELATABLE MELODY

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

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

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

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

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



Oh Sukumari Teaser: Thiruveer and Aishwarya Deliver their best

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

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

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

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

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

