

Telangana state cabinet meeting: Massive escalation planned in irrigation project costs?



Hyderabad: The State government is reportedly planning a massive revision of the estimated costs of several major irrigation projects, citing factors like rising prices of raw materials, the impact of GST, design modifications, and other reasons. The proposals were discussed during the Cabinet meeting held here on Friday, sources said.

According to sources, the government is considering increasing the cumulative cost of various irrigation projects by around Rs. 1.26 lakh crore.

In the first phase, the estimated costs of the Sitarama Lift Irrigation Scheme, Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme, Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, Narayanpet-Kodangal Lift Irrigation Project, and the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) project are learnt to have been proposed for revision by nearly Rs. 35,000 crore.

Interestingly, the Cabinet also decided to constitute a Special Enquiry Team (SET) to probe the alleged irregularities in the Dharani portal. The announcement was made by Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy while briefing the media on the Cabinet decisions.

However, there was no official announcement regarding the proposed escalation of irrigation project costs, giving rise to speculation in political circles that the SET announcement was an attention diversion tactic.

Since the Congress government assumed office, only a few new irrigation projects have been launched, while work on several ongoing projects has continued. Although foundation stones have been laid for some schemes, the works are being taken up at snail's pace due to a shortage of funds.

The Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, originally conceived in 2015 with an estimated cost of Rs. 35,250 crore, had its cost revised to Rs. 55,086 crore. Sources indicate that the government is now planning another substantial upward revision.

Similarly, the estimated cost of the Narayanpet-Kodangal Lift Irrigation Project has risen to Rs.4,725 crore, of which Rs.1,197.61 crore has reportedly been earmarked for land acquisition, raising concerns in some quarters.

The estimated cost of the SLBC Project, which had earlier been revised from Rs. 4,500 crore to Rs. 6,000 crore, is now learnt to be under consideration for a further increase to around Rs.12,000 crore.

Telangana Seeks Centre's Help To Fight El Nino

Hyderabad: The Telangana Cabinet on Friday decided to write to the Centre seeking urgent financial assistance and intervention to tackle the drought-like conditions prevailing due to the impact of El Nino. The Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy also decided to submit a report detailing the adverse impact of the rainfall deficit on agriculture, allied sectors, drinking water, irrigation, and the livelihoods of rural labourers.

Briefing the media on the details of the meeting, minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said that the state government would urge the Centre to depute a special team to assess the ground situation and extend financial assistance for implementing El Nino contingency plans. The cabinet noted that Telangana was facing nearly a 40 per cent rainfall deficit, raising serious concerns over agriculture, water availability and power supply.



Revanth Reddy directed all departments to prepare contingency action plans to address drinking water supply, irrigation, agriculture and uninterrupted power supply. In view of the India Meteorological Department's warning that the situation could worsen, he instructed all departments to remain fully prepared with advance measures.

The Cabinet directed collectors to ensure that no drinking water scarcity arose anywhere. Officials were asked to respond promptly to public complaints and take measures to prevent

hardship to the people. All available water in reservoirs and irrigation projects should be prioritised for drinking water needs.

The government also decided to ensure uninterrupted power supply. Officials were instructed to make adequate arrangements for power generation and purchase electricity, if required.

Appealing to farmers to adapt to the prevailing conditions, the Cabinet advised them to avoid cultivating water-intensive crops and instead opt for crops that require less water. It also de-

cided to conduct statewide awareness programmes and public meetings to educate people about the impact of El Nino, the prevailing drought conditions, available water resources and the precautions farmers should take.

The cabinet directed Planning Board vice-chairman G. Chinna Reddy to lead a team of agricultural experts and scientists to prepare a special report on the impact of El Nino on the farm sector. The report will recommend suitable crops for the current conditions and suggest measures for crop management, farmer preparedness and livestock protection.

To closely monitor the evolving situation, the Cabinet decided to hold emergency review meetings across all districts. Special review meetings will be conducted on July 20 on a unified district basis under the leadership of district incharge ministers.

Modi Flags Off India's First Hydrogen-powered Train from Jind

Jind (Haryana): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday flagged off India's first hydrogen-powered train connecting Jind to Sonipat in Haryana from the railway station here. With this, India has joined a select group of countries that have operational hydrogen-powered trains and marks an important step towards the adoption of clean and sustainable mobility in the railway sector. The 89-km distance between Jind and Sonipat will be covered in two hours, with the train halting at 12 intermediate stations.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Haryana Governor Ashim Kumar Ghosh and Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini were among those present at the Jind railway station for the flag-



ging off ceremony. The prime minister waved as the train, which also had many school children onboard, chugged off from the Jind railway station. Designed, engineered and integrated in India, the train has been developed using indigenous technol-

ogy, reflecting the country's growing capabilities in advanced railway engineering.

The train, styled in a striking sky-blue and white colour scheme, is powered by hydrogen fuel cell technology, which converts hydrogen into elec-

tricity to propel the train. The process produces only water vapour as a by-product, resulting in zero carbon emissions during operation. Compared to diesel trains, they eliminate tailpipe emissions, lower dependence on fossil fuels and fossil fuel im-

ports, and operate with significantly less noise.

Unlike conventional electric trains, they do not require continuous overhead electrification infrastructure, as electricity is generated onboard through hydrogen fuel cells, making them a clean and efficient solution. The use of green hydrogen also reduces dependence on electricity generated from fossil fuel-based thermal power plants, supporting India's transition to sustainable transport. India's hydrogen train features a 10-coach configuration, making it among the longest hydrogen-powered passenger trains developed so far. Its 3,200 HP propulsion system makes it one of the most powerful hydrogen-powered trainsets in operation.

Parliamentary Panel Defers Report on PM, CMs Removal Bill

NEW DELHI: In a surprise development, a Joint Committee of Parliament on Friday deferred the adoption of its draft report on Bills seeking the removal of the Prime Minister, chief ministers and other ministers detained on serious criminal charges. The decision was taken while the committee was voting on five recommendations contained in the draft report. Members had completed voting on two recommendations and were discussing the third when the panel decided that further consultations with stakeholders and additional internal deliberations were necessary.

The committee, chaired by BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi, is examining the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, along with related Bills concerning Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territories. AIMIM MP Asaduddin Owaisi and NCP (Sharad Pawar) MP Supriya Sule had submitted dissent



notes but withdrew them after the committee unanimously decided to postpone the report's adoption. "The joint parliamentary committee unanimously said that we needed more consultations with stakehold-

ers," Sarangi said. She described the proposed legislation as a national issue requiring broad agreement among political parties.

Sources said some ruling party members had voted against the first two recommendations, though both were approved by a majority. The draft report reportedly recommended suspension, rather than permanent removal, of the Prime Minister, Union ministers and chief ministers if they remain in custody for 30 consecutive days in connection with serious criminal offences.

BJP Targets Singareni With 'Jai Shri Ram... Jai Singareni' Slogans

The BJP has coined a new slogan, "Jai Shri Ram... Jai Singareni," as part of its strategy to strengthen its presence among Singareni workers and their families and expand its footprint in Telangana's coal belt.

Union minister for coal and mines G. Kishan Reddy recently participated in the Singareni Bharosa Yatra from Kothagudem to Mancherial, wearing the blue work uniform associated with Singareni employees. The yatra came soon after the Centre allocated the Tadicherla Coal Block-II to Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), a move BJP leaders are projecting as a major achievement.

Party leaders have openly spoken of expanding the BJP's influence in the Singareni region. They believe the decline of Maoist activity in Telangana has made it easier for the party to reach interior coal belt villages that were once considered Left strongholds.

The BJP is also preparing to strengthen the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) and its affiliated union ahead of the



next elections for the recognised trade union in SCCL.

As part of its political outreach, local BJP leaders are planning to invite Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Uttaravahini at Chennur during the Godavari Pushkaralu in 2027. During the Singareni Bharosa Yatra, Mancherial BJP district president N. Venkateshwar Goud urged Union minister Kishan Reddy to facilitate the Prime Minister's visit. He said the Godavari flows northwards for about 12.5 km near Chennur, making it a sacred site after Kashi.

Local BJP leaders have also sought allocation of the Somanapelli coal block to

Singareni.

BJP deputy floor leader Payal Shankar said the party would focus on the 14 Assembly constituencies and two Lok Sabha constituencies in the Singareni coal belt spread across the erstwhile Adilabad, Warangal, Karimnagar and Khammam districts. He said the BJP intends to strengthen its position ahead of the SCCL recognised union elections.

The BJP has registered significant electoral gains in the coal belt. In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, BJP candidate Gomasa Srinivas secured 3.43 lakh votes in the Peddapalli constituency, a sharp rise from 92,606 votes polled by the party in 2019.

CM Naidu Seeks Central Help to Cut Shrimp Feed Costs, Boost Horticulture

Vijayawada:Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Friday urged the Union Government to adopt suitable policy measures to reduce the soaring cost of raw materials used in shrimp feed production.

He said the steep rise in input costs has placed severe financial stress on aqua farmers and threatened India's seafood export competitiveness.

During a meeting with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman here, Naidu said the aquaculture sector supported the livelihoods of nearly 30 lakh people in Andhra Pradesh, including farmers, workers, hatcheries, feed manufacturers, processors and exporters.

The shrimp feed manufacturers, he said, have reported a sharp increase in

raw material prices between January and April, pushing production costs up by over 20 per cent. The prices of fish meal, fish oil and soy lecithin have risen sharply, adding nearly `25,000 to the cost of producing one tonne of shrimp feed.

The Chief Minister urged the Centre to promote domestic consumption of shrimp, strengthen farmer producer organisations, improve branding, processing and market linkages, and create an institutional mechanism to shield the sector from fluctuations in global demand.

He also sought a `100-crore corpus through the national fisheries development board for the proposed AP prawn producers coordination committee.

Expressing concern over



US trade measures, Naidu requested the Centre to negotiate lower tariffs on Indian seafood exports. He felt the existing countervailing du-

ties, proposed anti-dumping measures and reciprocal tariffs could seriously impact Andhra Pradesh, which accounted for nearly 80 per

cent of India's shrimp exports. He also sought assistance in identifying alternative global markets.

Tobacco: Raising the is-

sue of tobacco farmers, the CM said the highest GST slab on tobacco products and heavy excise duties had slowed procurement, adversely affecting growers and allied sectors. Against an estimated production of 230 million kg, only 34 million kg has been procured so far this season. He urged the Centre to take steps to protect farmers' interests.

Naidu also sought full central support for the Rayalaseema integrated horticulture development plan, which envisages developing 201 horticulture clusters with an investment of `14,906 crore, benefiting around nine lakh farmers.

The ambitious plan proposes irrigation projects worth `20,884 crore, upgrading 5,721km of rural roads at a cost of `4,562 crore, and

attracting `1 lakh crore in public and private investments. The project aims to increase horticultural production to 435 lakh metric tonnes by 2030, generate an annual Gross Value Added of `81,000 crore and create employment for nearly 19.7 lakh people.

School of Agriculture: The CM also sought Central support for establishing the Indian School of Agriculture in partnership with Reliance Industries as a global centre for AI-driven, climate-resilient agriculture, research and innovation. He said the state would sign an MoU with Reliance on August 3 and had already identified land for the institution.

Naidu invited Sitharaman to inaugurate the Rayalaseema Horticulture Hub on August 6 and 7.

Telugu Desam MPs to Strongly Push AP Issues in Parliament

Vijayawada:Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Friday chaired the Telugu Desam parliamentary party meeting at his camp office in Amaravati and outlined the party's strategy for the upcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament beginning July 20.

Naidu, who's also the party president, called upon the MPs to actively pursue Andhra Pradesh's interests while maintaining close coordination with the NDA government at the Centre.

He reviewed key national legislations coming up during the session, including the Delimitation Bill, Women's Reservation Bill, the Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, and policies relating to agriculture, the economy, ethanol-blended petrol and viability gap funding (VGF) for infrastructure projects.

Naidu asked education minister Nara Lokesh to undertake a detailed study of the proposed Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, which sought to establish a unified higher education regulator replacing the UGC, AICTE and NCTE. While favouring wider adoption of ethanol-blended petrol to improve farmers' incomes, he said concerns over its impact on vehicle engines must also be addressed.

The CM instructed MPs to effectively counter Opposition attempts to corner the Centre on sensitive issues and coordinate closely with the BJP. He briefed them on the state's ongoing engagement with the central government on river interlinking, the Purvodaya project, Polavaram,



Amaravati capital works, Central funding, rehabilitation of project-affected families, investment promotion, the Godavari-Penna river link and infrastructure for the South Coast Railway Zone.

Naidu said he had urged the Centre to reduce aqua feed costs and regulate fish oil exports to support the aquaculture sector. He also encouraged MPs to organise credit outreach programmes on the lines of the successful Palnadu initiative and take government welfare and development programmes directly to the people.

The meeting also discussed alleged spread of misinformation via social media and the recent accident controversy involving the son of former minister Seediri Appalaraju. Naidu accused the Opposition of attempting to shield the erranta.

Local body polls: The CM said local body elections would be held soon and directed MPs to work closely with alliance partners to secure victory in all seats. He also announced a two-day workshop for elected representatives and party functionaries.

Lokesh urged public representatives to stay connected with party workers, saying strong grassroots engagement would further energise the cadre

India's Development Did Not Halt Despite Oil Supply Crisis: PM

Jind: Indian Railways would have come to a standstill had the situation from the West Asia conflict arisen before 2014 because most trains then ran on diesel, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday while stressing that nearly 99 per cent of the network has been electrified in the 12 years of his government. In a broadside against the Congress-led UPA government after flagging off India's first hydrogen-powered train connecting Jind to Sonipat in Haryana, the prime minister said the country has "got another gain" because of big changes that had taken place in Indian Railways since his government came to power.

The country, he said, has taken a giant leap towards green mobility with the hydrogen train. "You are seeing that for past several months, war has been going on in West Asia, across the entire region of (Strait of) Hormuz, involving Iran and the Gulf. It is through this sea route that India receives a huge quantity of petrol, diesel, LPG gas and fertilisers for our farmers.



But for the last three to four months, this route has continuously remained a battlefield....," he said.

Modi went on to ask what would have happened had this taken place before 2014 when his government came to power. But friends, this is not the situation of 2014. "It is Modi who thinks well before and also turns solutions to problems into reality on the ground," he said. The prime minister said electrification of Indian Railways began in 1925, almost 100 years ago but in the nine decades from then to 2014 only 30 per cent of the country's railway network was electrified. "The remaining 70 per cent depended on diesel. At the pace at which only 30 per cent was completed in those 90 years, it would have taken another 200 years to achieve full electrification. Indian Railways might never have been fully electrified and would have continued to rely on diesel," he said.

But in the past 12 years, nearly 99 per cent of India's railway network has been electrified and in Haryana, the railway network has been electrified 100 per cent, he said. "As a result, despite the war and the resulting oil supply crisis, India's railways did not come to a halt. The country's development did not come to a standstill. Trains continued to run without interruption," he said. Modi also spoke about his recent visits to Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand and stated that India signed several agreements during these visits, which received widespread attention.

"However, one important subject did not receive as much discussion. It concerns the youth of our country, especially the youth of Haryana, and that is sports," said Modi. The prime minister said he held extensive discussions with the governments of Australia and New Zealand on the matter. "In the coming years, we will work closely with both countries in areas such as the sports industry, athlete training, and several other related fields.

Galla Jayadev Reaffirms Amara Raja's Commitment to Andhra Pradesh After Lokesh's Post

Select Deccan Chronicle Now Amara Raja chairman Galla Jayadev on Friday thanked Andhra Pradesh Minister Nara Lokesh for his "kind words and best wishes" and reaffirmed the company's commitment to the state. Responding to a post by Lokesh on X, Galla said Andhra Pradesh, where Amara Raja's journey began, would "always be special" to the company. "Our roots are deep, our commitment remains unwavering, and I am confident they will only grow stronger in the years ahead," Galla said. He added that the company would continue working to create opportunities and build a brighter future. Galla also wished to continue Amara Raja's association with Andhra



Pradesh, while thanking Lokesh for his wishes on the company's new facility in Telangana

Murmu Set to Visit Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania From July 19-25

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu will undertake state visits to Moldova, North Macedonia and Romania from July 19-25 to boost bilateral ties with the three countries. She will visit Moldova on July 20 at the invitation of Moldovan President Maia Sandu. This is the first-ever visit by an Indian president to Moldova, the MEA announced on Friday. During her visit, President Murmu will meet and hold delegation-level talks with her counterpart. She will also meet President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, Igor



Grosu. President Murmu will also interact with members of the Moldova-India Parliamentary Friendship Group, address a business forum and have interactions with members of the Indian community in that country. At the invitation of the President of North Macedonia, Gordana Siljanovska-Davkova, President Murmu will visit North Macedonia from July 21-22.

This will be the first-ever visit by an Indian president to North Macedonia, the Ministry of External Affairs said. Also, at the invitation of Nicusor Dan, President of Romania, Murmu will then visit Romania from July 23-25. This would be the first visit by an Indian president after a gap of over three decades, the MEA said. Murmu's visit to the three countries reflects the importance India attaches to strengthening its bilateral ties with these nations alongwith India's engagement with the wider eastern European region, it said.

322 Farmers Get Pattadar Passbooks After Decades

Tirupati: A decades-old land records issue in Pothireddipalem village of Kovur mandal in Nellore district moved towards resolution on Friday, with 322 farmers receiving new pattadar passbooks.

Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy distributed the passbooks after inaugurating a Village Health Centre built at a cost of Rs 36 lakh.

Addressing the gathering, the MLA said several farming families had been cultivating their land for years without pattadar passbooks. She said the issue was taken up with the government, which facilitated the issuance of the documents.

Prashanthi Reddy thanked Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Revenue Minister Anagani Satya Prasad for their support. She said about 140 appli-



cations were still pending and expressed confidence that they would be cleared soon.

The MLA said the coalition government had repealed the Land Titling Act introduced by the previous government, addressing concerns raised by farmers.

She said development and welfare works worth about Rs 770 crore had been taken up in the Kovur Assembly constituency over the past two years, while nearly Rs 10 crore had been disbursed to around 1,000 beneficiaries under the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

Referring to the long-pending sugar factory issue, she said discussions with the Chief Minister and officials were under way to find a permanent solution.

AICC reviews Telangana Congress government through Ministers' feedback

Hyderabad: Amid mounting criticism of the Congress government over its handling of several issues in Telangana and growing internal differences within the party, the AICC has begun seeking direct feedback from Cabinet Ministers. AICC in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan held one-on-one meetings with several Ministers, including Tummala Nageswara Rao, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Jupally Krishna Rao and D Seethakka, in Hyderabad on Friday.

The Congress government has faced criticism over its handling of the Bandi Sai Bhageerath POCSO case and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's remarks referring to German dictator Adolf Hitler. Besides these issues,



sections of the public have expressed dissatisfaction over the implementation of welfare and development programmes. Against this backdrop, and amid criticism of the Chief Minister's functioning, the AICC is seeking feedback directly from the Ministers.

Each meeting reportedly lasted about 45 minutes. The Ministers were given a questionnaire and asked to submit their re-

sponses. The questions covered coordination between the party and the government, party appointments, internal differences, cadre motivation and the use of social media. The Ministers are also believed to have discussed the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise.

The AICC in-charge's direct interaction with the Ministers has drawn attention within Gandhi Bhavan and sparked political discussion. She also met District Congress Committee (DCC) presidents and sought their feedback. Several DCC presidents are learnt to have flagged poor coordination between local MLAs, district in-charge Ministers and the party cadre.

They also highlighted disputes over district and mandal-level party appointments.

Later in the evening, Meenakshi Natarajan held a meeting with TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud to discuss party affairs and other issues.

Telangana Govt Launches New EHS for Employees, Pensioners



Hyderabad: The state government on Friday launched the Employees Health Scheme (EHS), providing cashless medical treatment to nearly eight lakh government employees, pensioners and their 29.8 lakh dependent family members through a network of 886 empanelled private hospitals and 114 government hospitals. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka and Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha formally distributed health cards to employees and pensioners to mark the event.

Describing the initiative as a major employee welfare measure, Bhatti said the scheme was designed to provide reliable, comprehensive and fear-free healthcare while protecting employees from financial distress caused by medical expenses. He said the government had recognised the hardships faced by employees who often slipped into debt while meeting treatment costs and therefore introduced a completely cashless healthcare system.

Under the scheme, beneficiaries can avail free inpatient treatment covering 1,816 medical and surgical procedures at Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) package rates. To ensure transparency and efficient implementation, the government has established a dedicated trust with equal representation from government officials and employee unions.

Bhatti criticised the previous BRS government for allegedly ignoring employee demands for over a decade and leaving nearly Rs 10,000 crore in pending medical reimbursements. He said the present Congress government was clearing the backlog in a phased manner and releasing Rs 2,000 crore every month towards pending dues, while personally reviewing progress every fortnight.

Highlighting the government's focus on healthcare, he said Rajiv Aarogyasri coverage had already been enhanced from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh, benefiting 1.06 crore eligible families. He urged employees to serve with renewed commitment and help effectively implement the government's welfare programmes across the state.

Hyderabad to get India's first Green Skills and Applied AI Centre of Excellence

The 1M1B Foundation, Microsoft, MeitY Startup Hub and the Telangana government will establish India's first Green Skills and Applied AI Centre of Excellence in Hyderabad. The centre will focus on AI-driven green pharma, sustainable manufacturing and workforce development.

Hyderabad: 1M1B Foundation, Microsoft, the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology's Startup Hub, and the State government have announced the setting up of the Green Skills & Applied AI Centre of Excellence in Hyderabad.

The Centre, which is expected to begin operations by August, will be India's first Green Skills & Applied AI Centre of Excel-

lence featuring a specialized green pharma track. It will be operated by the 1M1B Foundation, while Microsoft, under its CSR initiative, will support it through AI technologies, digital learning resources, employee mentorship, innovation challenges, and capacity-building programmes.

Speaking on the occasion, IT Minister D Sridhar Babu said the proposed Centre



aligns with the State's vision of developing a future-ready workforce.

1M1B Foundation Founder and CEO Manav Subodh said through the Centre the company would prepare youth to use AI to transform green pharma, advance sustainable manufacturing, and build the

workforce for an AI-powered green economy.

Microsoft India Development Centre Managing Director and President Rajiv Kumar said the Microsoft's goal is to equip youth—especially women and first-generation learners—with applied AI and green skills, while connecting them with internships and employment opportunities in the green economy.

చేలో సరూర్ నగర్

యువ సంగ్రామ సదస్సు

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తేదీ : జూలై 18, 2026 | వేదిక : సరూర్ నగర్ | 10 AM

BRS TO HOLD YUVA SANGRAMA SADASSU ON JULY 18 OVER CONGRESS' JOB PROMISES

Hyderabad: Raising its voice against the Congress government's failure to fulfil its promises on jobs and student welfare, the BRS will hold the Yuva Sangrama Sadassu at Saroornagar stadium on July 18. The party made massive arrangements for the event, calling on unemployed youth and students to attend the meeting in large numbers.

BRS working president KT Rama Rao will address the rally and outline the party's roadmap for youth and students if voted back to power.

Speaking to mediapersons at Telangana Bhavan here on Thursday, BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy said Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy betrayed Telangana's youth despite the Congress' election promise of providing two lakh jobs annually. He said the BRS government pro-

vided 2.32 lakh government jobs and facilitated 10 lakh private-sector jobs during its tenure.

Kaushik Reddy alleged that the Congress mobilised youth through its Youth Declaration at the same Saroornagar stadium before the Assembly elections, but failed to deliver on employment and fee reimbursement promises.

Rajendranagar BRS in-charge P Karthik Reddy said the youth rally would remind the Congress of its commitments to unemployed youth and urged those who felt cheated to participate in the meeting without fail. World news digest

BRS leaders Errolla Srinivas and Talasani Sai Kiran Yadav accused the government of failing to provide clarity on job recruitment and alleged that unemployed youth protesting for their rights were being subjected to police action. They said the government owed Rs 1.2 lakh to every unemployed youth under its monthly honorarium promise.

BRS spokesperson Manne Krishank said that the Congress could no longer mislead unemployed youth. He said the ruling party was attempting to create hurdles in securing permission for the rally. He asserted that the BRS will approach the court if permission was denied.

Govt Likely to Table MSME Amendment Bill in Upcoming Monsoon Session

New Delhi: The government plans to introduce a bill to enhance the ease of doing business for micro, small and medium enterprises and strengthen the mechanism for addressing delayed payments in the upcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament. The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026, is expected to be taken up for consideration and passage in the session beginning next week.

The bill seeks to align the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, with the changing MSME (micro, small and medium enterprise) landscape, to enhance the ease of doing business and bring trust-based regulations in the ecosystem. It also seeks to strengthen the mechanism for addressing delayed payments, provide for the enforcement of arbitral awards for micro and small units, and introduce flexibility and create enabling provisions for states to decide the composition of the Micro and Small Enterprises Facilitation Council (MSEFC), thereby forming more MSEFCs.



Modi To Unveil Rs 25,000-Cr Projects in Three States

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Haryana, Chandigarh and Punjab on Friday to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for infrastructure projects worth over Rs 25,000 crore, with the outreach also seen as part of the BJP's preparations for the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections.

The Centre has scheduled projects worth about Rs 14,700 crore in Haryana, over Rs 6,600 crore in Chandigarh and Rs 5,470 crore in Punjab, focusing on connectivity, railways, healthcare and road infrastructure.

Key projects include flagging off a hydrogen-powered train between Jind and Sonapat, inaugurating stretches of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, national highway works, railway infrastructure upgrades, healthcare facilities at PGIMER, Chandigarh and medical colleges in Haryana.

In Punjab, the Prime Minister will inaugurate 75 redeveloped railway stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, launch rail services linking the state with Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, and unveil road projects including sections of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway and the Southern Ludhiana Bypass.

The visit comes amid the BJP's preparations to contest the Punjab Assembly



elections independently following its decision to end its alliance with the Shiromani Akali Dal. The party has since stepped up organisational activities across the state.

During the visit, the Prime Minister is expected to refer to initiatives related to the Sikh community, including the Kartarpur Corridor, celebration of Guru Nanak Dev's 550th Prakash Purab and observance of Veer Bal Diwas.

The BJP is focusing on issues such as development, law and order, drug abuse, corruption allegations against the state government, national security and welfare schemes as part of its campaign, while also targeting the Congress over internal divisions.

The visit is expected to mark the start of the party's campaign in Punjab, with development projects forming the focus of the programme.

Telangana Eyes Bigger UK Export Push After CETA, Says Sridhar Babu



Hyderabad: Telangana is preparing to tap the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) to expand exports and attract fresh investments, IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu said on Thursday. He said the agreement, which came into effect on Wednesday, has removed tariffs on 99 per cent of industrial products exported from India to the UK.

The minister made the remarks after meeting a UK delegation led by Deputy Trade Commissioner (South Asia)

Chandru K Iyer at the Secretariat. Telangana MLC and PCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud also attended the meeting. Sridhar Babu said bilateral trade has the potential to touch Rs 3.25 lakh crore, and Telangana wants to secure a larger share of that opportunity.

He pointed out that the state's exports to the UK currently stand at only Rs 3,553 crore. Telangana, he said, has strong strengths in pharmaceuticals, vaccines, aviation components, life sciences, semiconductors, electronics and IT. He asked officials to brief local industries on CETA benefits and urged the UK delegation to include Hyderabad in the itinerary of visiting mayors.



Saturday 18, July, 2026

INDIA-UK FTA OPENS NEW OPPORTUNITIES

As the historic free trade agreement with the United Kingdom comes into effect, culminating years of tough negotiations, a slew of opportunities beckons Indian exporters across key sectors. The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is a win-win proposition for both countries and would go a long way in deepening economic engagement and creating new opportunities for businesses, workers and investors. The most significant outcome is that the agreement will provide zero-duty market access for nearly 99% of India's exports, covering sectors like textiles, leather, gems and jewellery, engineering goods, marine products, chemicals and processed foods. Additionally, the social security agreement will provide support to Indian professionals working temporarily in the UK and strengthen the competitiveness of Indian enterprises. Indian professionals on temporary assignments will be exempt from double social security contributions for up to five years, enhancing the global competitiveness of our workforce. This provision is projected to benefit over 75,000 professionals and 900 companies across IT, financial, healthcare, education, telecommunication, and consultancy sectors. This is truly a significant moment for India, as its farmers, entrepreneurs and MSMEs will stand to gain. The free trade agreement was signed in London last year in the presence of visiting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his British counterpart Keir Starmer. It is expected to boost bilateral trade between the two economies by \$34 billion annually and open new avenues for India's IT, financial, education, professional and business services sectors.

For the agricultural sector, the agreement provides zero-duty access to all products, with specific exclusions for chicken, pork, eggs, rice, and sugar. It also grants duty-free access to 97.1% of tariff lines for processed food products, offering Indian exporters an immediate edge in the UK's agricultural import market, which exceeds \$90 billion. Gems and jewellery exporters expect shipments to the UK to grow by 230% to \$2.5 billion within the next three years, while exporters of engineering goods expect sales to almost double to \$7.5 billion over the next four to five years. At the same time, the agreement safeguards sensitive farm products such as dairy, vegetables, apples, edible oils, oats, millets, cooking oils and others by placing them on the sensitive list, and no duty concessions have been granted to the UK on these items. Enhanced market access and regulatory certainty will support Indian service providers in IT and IT-enabled services, financial and professional services, healthcare, education, engineering, telecom and consultancy services. The foundation for the agreement was laid through the India-UK Enhanced Trade Partnership and the Roadmap 2030, launched in May 2021, which set an ambitious target of doubling bilateral trade to \$100 billion by 2030. Following 14 rounds of negotiations, the agreement, comprising 30 chapters, was concluded on May 6 last year and signed in London two months later.

NDA Charts Plan for Stormy Monsoon Session

New Delhi: The NDA on Friday held a meeting to finalise its strategy for the Monsoon Session of Parliament beginning July 20, amid indications of a confrontational session with the Opposition planning to raise several issues. The meeting, held at Kartavya Bhawan, was attended by senior ministers including defence minister Rajnath Singh and home minister Amit Shah, along with NDA allies such as Lallan Singh (JD(U)), Jayant Chaudhary (RLD) and Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu (TD). Sources said the government discussed its legislative agenda, including its priority to convert two Ordinances into Acts during the session. The government plans to introduce the Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to replace an Ordinance issued last month that exempts foreign investors from income tax on interest earnings and capital gains from investments in government securities. Sources said the government may also bring an amended women's reservation Bill along with a delimitation Bill. It is working on proposals to increase Lok Sabha seats for all states by about 50 per cent to address concerns of southern states over representation. The draft is being prepared in view of concerns that population-based delimitation could reduce the political representation of southern states. An earlier Bill failed to secure the required two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha on April 17. The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, is also expected to be



introduced, likely in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill seeks to accord the national song Vande Mataram the same statutory protection as the national anthem Jana Gana Mana. The government is also set to introduce the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill to make provisions on delayed registration more stringent. The session will also see changes in seating arrangements, with the DMK seeking a separate bloc from the Congress. Recognition of the breakaway faction of TMC MPs, the Nationalist Citizens Party of India (NCPI), is yet to be decided by Speaker Om Birla. Meanwhile, NDA parliamentary party meetings will be renamed "Mangal Milan", with the first meeting under the new name scheduled for July 21 in the Parliament House complex. The Opposition has indicated it will raise issues including the NEET paper leak, ethanol blending, deaths of Indian seafarers in West Asia and allegations related to donations for the Ram temple.

Telangana Students Shine in NEET UG

HYDERABAD: Despite his doctor-father advising him against becoming a medico, Veeriahgari Sahyu chose to follow his parents' footsteps and secured all-India 13th rank in NEET UG 2026. Drawing inspiration from his father's free healthcare services, Sahyu scored 705 out of 720 marks and plans to pursue MBBS at AIIMS Delhi. Sahyu, a native of Hanamkonda, said his success was possible due to the support of his parents Dr Ramakanth and Dr Sridevi, teachers and friends. "I have not decided on specialisation but I am interested in oncology or cardiovascular surgery," he said. His success mantra included a fixed daily schedule, regular mock tests and focusing on weaker subjects. He advised aspirants not to neglect mathematics, which is crucial for solving physics questions. Eight students from Telangana figured in the top 138 ranks released by the Na-



tional Testing Agency. Apart from Sahyu, the other top rankers are Bura Sai Sharan (19), Kandagatla Haneesh (21), Andem Sai Charan Reddy (38), Mayuk Jayasimha (42), Kompella Sai Gayathri Tejoarunima (83), Rutumbika Mohanty (91) and Devesh Shreegopal Agarwal (123). Of the 65,121 candidates who appeared from Telangana, 38,026 qualified. Sai Sharan, a native of Kodad, said the service-oriented nature of the medical profession inspired him. "I started foundation classes from school days that helped in clearing the exam. I plan to specialise in cardiology or neurology," he said. Mayuk Jayasimha, who secured 42nd rank, said he was inspired by his doctor parents — his mother a gynaecologist and father a surgeon. He wants to become a surgeon and credited consistent hard work, quality study time and mock tests for his success. Rutumbika Mohanty said she initially struggled with physics but overcame it by understanding concepts. "My interest in biology motivated me to pursue medicine. I plan to join MBBS at JIPMER Puducherry," she said.

Sriharikota Set for Historic Vikram-1 Launch

Hyderabad-based private space start-up Skyroot Aerospace is set to script a new chapter in India's space programme on Saturday with the launch of its maiden orbital rocket, Vikram-1, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota. The mission marks a major milestone for India's private space sector, with Vikram-1 becoming one of the country's first privately developed orbital launch vehicles to attempt placing multiple satellites into orbit. The countdown is scheduled to begin at 6 a.m. and continue for about five-and-a-half hours, covering a series of technical checks, fuelling operations and launch readiness procedures ahead of the planned lift-off at 11.30 a.m. The mission aims to validate the performance of the Vikram-1 launch vehicle and demonstrate several indigenous technologies developed by Skyroot Aerospace for reliable and cost-effective satellite launches. A successful mission would provide a major boost to India's commercial space ambitions by strengthening the country's private launch capabilities and expanding opportunities in the global



satellite launch market. Ahead of the launch, Skyroot Aerospace CEO Pawan Kumar Chandana said the rocket is carrying a unique collection of signed cards from the company's employees, investors, policymakers and well-wishers as part of the Aagaman mission. Among them is a special card signed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, bearing the handwritten message, "Vande Mataram." "We also have a very special card from Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Reading it gives me goosebumps. He has written 'Vande Mataram'. All these cards are going to space on the Aagaman mission, and I am very excited," Chandana said.

KT Rama Rao questions Congress over Mallanna Sagar water decision

BRS working president KT Rama Rao criticised the Congress government for drawing Hyderabad's drinking water from Mallanna Sagar after calling the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme useless. He alleged the move exposed the government's contradictory stand on the irrigation project.



Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao flayed the Congress government over its decision to draw 30 million gallons per day (MGD) of drinking water for Hyderabad from the Mallanna Sagar reservoir after terming the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme as useless. Stating that the move exposed the government's double standards, Rama Rao said Mallanna Sagar was an integral part of the Kaleshwaram project, which the Congress had consistently criticised. He said that while the government continued to target the project politically, it was relying on the same infrastructure to meet Hyderabad's drinking water needs amid drought conditions. He added that the people of Telangana understood the government's contradictory approach.

Telangana Cabinet Forms SET to Probe Dharani Irregularities

Hyderabad: The Cabinet on Friday approved the constitution of a special enquiry team (SET) of senior officials is to conduct a comprehensive probe into the alleged irregularities and illegalities in land records and land transactions carried out through the Dharani portal since its launch on October 29, 2020 during BRS regime, as well as those under the Bhu Bharati portal since its launch in April 2025. Approving the measure the state Cabinet on Friday said the SET would undertake an in-depth investigation into suspicious land registrations, mutations and changes in land records, including transactions involving agricultural land holdings, assigned land and government land parcels. The probe will cover every "questionable transaction" carried out through the Dharani portal since its inception. The decision followed a forensic audit conducted previously by the government, which identified more than 10,000 suspicious transactions linked to the Dharani portal. The Cabinet directed the proposed SET to thoroughly examine digital records relating to land transactions, login credentials used to access the system, alterations made to land records, approvals granted by officials, changes in land classification and details of beneficiaries involved in such transactions. The Cabinet also ordered a detailed investigation into the role of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (IL&FS), which was entrusted with the management of the Dharani portal. The inquiry will examine the selection of the agency, the tendering process, award of the contract, portal design, system architecture and possible deficiencies in data security that may have facilitated irregularities. The Congress after coming to power in December 2023 had introduced the Bhu Bharati replacing Dharani portal by modifying several Dharani modules to make the land management system more farmer-friendly. However, the government observed that irregularities continued to surface in Bhu Bharati portal because of flaws in the software architecture originally developed for the Dharani portal.

Stating that those responsible for the alleged irregularities would not be spared irrespective of their position or influence, the Cabinet decided that stringent action should be initiated against all those found guilty. It resolved that the SET comprising senior officials would identify the persons responsible for the alleged manipulation of land records and transactions and recommend appropriate legal action against them.

KTR says Congress bid to block Yuva Sangrama Sadassu fails after HC nod

The Telangana High Court has permitted the BRS to hold its Yuva Sangrama Sadassu at Saroornagar Stadium, rejecting the Congress government's bid to block the event. BRS working president KT Rama Rao accused the Revanth Reddy government of suppressing unemployed youth and vowed to continue raising issues affecting students and job aspirants.

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao stepped up the attack on the Congress government accusing the Revanth Reddy government of trying to suppress the voice of unemployed youth.

Welcoming the High Court verdict permitting the party's Yuva Sangrama Sadassu at Saroornagar Stadium, Rama Rao said the government's attempt to prevent the meeting had failed after the High Court upheld the party's democratic right to hold the youth meeting.

He said despite the hurdles created by the Congress government, the BRS would continue to raise issues affecting unemployed youth and students. He urged students and job aspirants to attend the meeting in large numbers to question the ruling Congress on its failed promises under the Youth Declaration.



Speaking to mediapersons separately, BRS general secretary RS Praveen Kumar said the party respected the court's verdict and would ensure the convention was conducted peacefully. He raised strong objections to the arguments made on behalf of the State government in the court, portraying the BRS as a source of law and order problems.

He also criticised the government for allegedly violating democratic rights while claiming to uphold the Constitution. Drawing a comparison with the Congress' own public meetings held before the Assembly elections, he questioned why permission was now being resisted for an Opposition programme. He said volunteers would be deployed to ensure smooth conduct of the event and minimise traffic disruption.

Telangana: BJP, Students Protest Fee Reimbursement Delay In Nizamabad

NIZAMABAD: BJP leaders and students staged a protest in Nizamabad on Friday demanding immediate release of pending fee reimbursement dues. Under the Indur R a n a b h e r i programme, they gathered at Dharna Chowk and raised slogans against the state government. Students from various educational institutions participated.

Speaking at the protest, MP Dharmapuri Arvind said the movement against the Congress government had begun from Nizamabad and alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had failed to meet student expectations. He



also referred to the Congress manifesto promise under the "Yuva Vikasam" initiative to clear dues amounting to ₹12,000 crore and claimed that only ₹200 crore had been released so far.

MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta demanded immediate clearance of fee reimbursement dues and alleged that the government was prioritising other projects over student welfare. He said the BJP would support further protests by students.

MLA Rakesh Reddy said students were facing difficulties due to non-payment of dues and urged the government to address the issue.

BJP district president Dinesh Kulachari, state secretary Sravanthi Reddy and other party leaders were present.

CMC COMMISSIONER INSPECTS JEEDIMETLA, DUNDIGAL FACILITIES TO STUDY SCIENTIFIC WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Hyderabad: Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) officials visited the waste processing facilities at Jeedimetla and Dundigal on Friday to study the technologies and operational practices adopted for scientific waste management. CMC commissioner G. Srijana reviewed the process of collection, segregation, recycling and processing of construction and demolition waste at Jeedimetla. The functioning of the plant and the reuse of processed materials were also examined.

At Dundigal, the commissioner inspected the waste-to-energy plant, hazard-



ous waste management facility and e-waste recycling unit. She reviewed waste processing systems, pollution control measures, resource recovery practices and energy generation processes.

During the visit officials held discussions with officials and technical experts on the existing processing capacity of the facilities, operational practices, infrastructure requirements, future capacity expansion and the scope for adopting suitable technologies based on the city's waste management needs.

They also reviewed the implementation of smart waste management practices, digital monitoring systems, automation and resource recovery models being adopted at the facilities and discussed their applicability in strengthening waste management services in Cyberabad.

WEST BENGAL: SHAH ON TWO-DAY WB VISIT

KOLKATA: Union Home Minister Amit Shah reached West Bengal on Friday night on a two-day tour to review and launch border infrastructure projects along strategic Chicken's Neck, also known as Siliguri Corridor, and take stock of the law-and-order situation in the state after BJP came to power here.

Mr Shah, who landed at Bagdogra Airport in Siliguri, spent the night at Border Security Force (North Bengal Frontier) headquarters in Kadamtala. On Saturday morning, he will attend a BSF event and inaugurate various border-related projects at Seema Chowki in Jumagachh where the 18th battalion of the BSF has been deployed for the vigil at the India-Bangladesh border.

In the afternoon, Mr Shah will chair a meeting of the North Bengal development department over two hours at Uttar Kanya, the state government's northern secretariat. Chief minister Suvenudh Adhikari, North Bengal development department minister Nisith Pramanik will attend it along with their cabinet colleagues.

All eyes are however, set on whether the issue of a permanent political solution to the demand of Gorkhaland, which BJP had indicated



among its Assembly Election manifesto promises to woo the Gorkhas, will feature in the discussion or not.

Mr Shah will later convene two more meetings at the same address on the implementation of the new criminal laws in the state and the birth and death registration process before flying in the evening to Kolkata for night stay at Soujanya Guest House in Alipore.

On Sunday morning, he will chair a meeting there to take stock of the law and order in Bengal before heading to the National Library to inaugurate a new museum. Before leaving the city, the Union Home Minister will lay the foundation stone for Amul Bengal Dairy's Curd Plant at an event in Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in New Town.

India Slams Pakistan Over Hafiz Saeed Remarks, Reaffirms Claim on Gilgit-Baltistan

New Delhi: India on Friday rubbished Pakistan's claim that issuing a non-bailable warrant against Lashkar-e-Tayyaba chief Hafiz Saeed is part of India's standard playbook to use sham legal processes and promote mischievous activities. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) countered by saying it is Pakistan's decades-long sponsorship for terrorism which it continues to use as an instrument of state policy.

"The Pahalgam terror attack took several innocent lives. You all saw its barbarity. Our authorities have begun investigations in the matter and it continues. As far as cross-border terrorism is concerned, you are well aware of Pakistan's decades-long sponsorship and support for it as also its continued use as an instrument of state policy... Pakistan has no locus standi to comment on matters which are internal to India," said Mr Randhir Jaiswal, MEA spokesperson.

While responding to media questions on the issue of NBW



to Hafiz Saeed, for his alleged role in Pahalgam terror attack, and the chargesheet filed by National Investigation Agency (NIA) against senior leaders of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) in connection with a mob violence incident of 1996, Pakistan foreign office spokesperson had said on Thursday that all these are "part of the standard Indian playbook to use sham legal processes and promote fabricated and politically motivated rhetoric for a range of mischievous objectives." He also termed action on Hurriyat leaders as a policy to target the Kashmiri

political leadership while using sympathetic words for them.

Meanwhile, the Indian government reacted strongly to the Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly's unanimous resolution seeking provincial status from Pakistan stressing that the region "was, is and will always be a part of India". Mr Jaiswal said India has consistently maintained that the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are an integral part of the country.

MP Minister Given Clean Chit On Caste Row By Scrutiny Committee

Bhopal: The scrutiny committee of the Madhya Pradesh government has given a clean chit to minister of state for urban administration and housing development Pratima Bagri by upholding her scheduled caste (SC) certificate.

The scrutiny committee had summoned the minister to be present before it with necessary documents to establish that Bagri caste falls under the SC category, following a directive by the Madhya Pradesh high court.

Congress leader Pradeep Ahirwar had earlier moved the Madhya Pradesh high



court questioning the minister's caste status alleging that Bagri does belong to SC since the community maintains social and marital relations with the Rajputs.

Following this, the Madhya Pradesh high court had directed the state scrutiny committee to examine the case and submit a report to it within 60

days.

The Congress leader had alleged that the minister had taken undue advantage of an SC certificate to win the elections in the Raigaon (reserved) Assembly seat in Satna district in the state in 2023.

The minister submitted her family records dating back more than 110 years

before the scrutiny committee to establish that she belongs to SC. During the examination, the scrutiny committee found that the Bagri community has no social, or marital relations with the Rajputs and upheld the SC certificate issued to her.

The committee has also gone into references of the caste in the records available with the state tribal research institute on the anthropology of the Bagri community (2002-03) which helped it to establish that Bagri community has no 'roti beti ka rishta' (kinship) with the Rajputs.

Crop Cultivation Should Be Planned According to Drought Conditions

Nirmal District Staff Reporter :
Farmers Should Shift to Low Water-Requirement Crops
Everyone Should Participate in Groundwater Conservation Through 'Telangana Jalasiri'
SIR Deadline Extended Till August 3
District Collector Bhavesh Mishra

District Collector Bhavesh Mishra advised farmers to plan crop cultivation based on the availability of water in view of the prevailing drought conditions in the district. He addressed a press conference held on Friday evening at the Collectorate Conference Hall to review the progress of the Agriculture, Horticulture, Water Conservation, and Special Intensive Revision (SIR) programmes.



The Collector stated that due to the impact of El Niño, the district recorded nearly a 30% rainfall deficit during July, with Son Mandal witnessing up to a 50% rainfall shortage. He said that crops are currently being cultivated in approximately 4.30 lakh acres across the district.

He advised farmers to assess water availability before taking up paddy transplantation. In areas with limited irrigation facilities, farmers were urged to cultivate alternative crops such as red gram (pigeon pea), oil palm, vegetables, and other horticultural crops instead of paddy. He said that farmers could earn good profits by cultivating red gram, which can yield around 7–8 quintals per acre. He cautioned that paddy cultivation under water-scarce conditions could result in heavy losses.

The Collector said awareness among farmers regarding oil palm cultivation is increasing. The area under oil palm cultivation has expanded from 400 acres in previous years to nearly 1,200 acres this year. He noted that intercropping is possible in oil palm plantations and that the government is providing subsidies and incentives. A 50% subsidy is also available for trellis vegetable cultivation. He further explained that drip irrigation helps achieve higher yields with less water and that the government offers financial assistance for micro-irrigation systems.

To provide technical guidance and expert advice to farmers, the district administration has established a helpline: 89777 51785.

Highlighting groundwater conservation, the Collector said the government is implementing the prestigious 'Telangana Jalasiri' programme. Under the slogan "One Soak Pit for Every House and One Farm Pond for Every Field," the initiative aims to improve groundwater recharge. Farmers were encouraged to construct farm ponds in sizes such as 8×8, 16×16, and 20×20, enabling rainwater storage and groundwater replenishment. The government is also promoting recharge pits near borewells and extending support for farm pond construction under the VBG Ramji Scheme.

He added that the Agriculture, Horticulture, and Irrigation Departments are jointly conducting awareness programmes at the village level on crop diversification, water conservation, and alternative crop cultivation. Farmers were requested to use water judiciously and opt for low water-requiring crops to minimise losses and ensure sustainable and profitable agriculture during the current drought conditions.

The Collector also announced that the government has extended the deadline for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) programme until August 3. So far, 75% of digitisation has been completed in the district, and with the processing of uncollected forms, overall progress has reached 81%. The remaining collection and digitisation work will be completed within the stipulated time through the coordinated efforts of BLOs, BLAs, Sarpanches, and Ward Members.

Additional Collector (Local Bodies) B. Venkateshwarlu, District Agriculture Officer Anji Prasad, Horticulture Officer Ramana, District Public Relations Officer Vishnuvardhan, and representatives of the print and electronic media were present at the press conference.

The Body Shop Announces Its Iconic End of Season Sale with Up to 50% Off on Customer Favorites

The limited-time sale features major discounts on most-loved Skincare, Bodycare, Haircare, and Fragrance essentials.

Hyderabad, July 2026: The Body Shop, the British-born international ethical beauty brand, has unveiled its much-anticipated End of Season Sale (EOSS), offering discerning beauty enthusiasts discounts of up to 50% on an expansive portfolio of its most-loved ranges. Running for a limited period, the sale makes premium, ethically crafted self-care more accessible to customers across the country.

This season's EOSS spans The Body Shop's signature categories, with substantial savings on cult favorites that have defined beauty routines for generations. Skincare lovers can rediscover the hydrating power of Vitamin E Intense Moisturiser (100ml) or the purifying clarity of Tea Tree Face Wash, while Bodycare aficionados can stock up on the uplifting Marigold Shower Gel and nourishing Moringa Body Lotion. The sale also extends to The Body



Shop's fragrance wardrobe, with signature scents including the romantic Full Rose Eau de Parfum and the bold, gender-neutral Black

Musk Eau de Toilette available at exceptional prices.

Celebrating its commitment to ethically sourced ingredients and high-performance formulations, The Body Shop's End of Season Sale invites customers to indulge in conscious self-care while enjoying meaningful savings. From everyday essentials to iconic fragrance favorites, the offer reflects the brand's belief that beauty should do good for people and the planet.

With its nature-inspired formulations and community-conscious values, The Body Shop's End of Season Sale presents a thoughtful way to refresh beauty routines and embrace responsible consumption, without compromise.

The Body Shop's End of Season Sale is now live for a limited period across all The Body Shop stores in India and online at www.thebodyshop.in. Offers are valid on select ranges while stocks last.

Land Re-Survey Works Must Be Expedited; Farmers Should Adopt Crop Diversification to Tackle El Niño: Collector Ankit

Pre-Primary Admissions to Be Completed Within Two Days

Palvoncha | July 17:
B h a d r a d r i
Kothagudem District Collector Ankit conducted an extensive tour of Palvoncha Mandal on Friday, inspecting land re-survey works, participating in a farmers' awareness programme on the impact of El Niño, and reviewing the functioning of a government primary school. During the visit, he directed officials to expedite the land re-survey process, advised farmers to adopt crop diversification in view of changing climatic conditions, and instructed education officials to complete pre-primary admissions within two days.

The Collector first inspected the ongoing land re-survey works at Sarekallu village. He reviewed the progress of the survey and emphasized that the State Government's prestigious land re-survey programme would ensure accurate land boundaries, updated land records, and help resolve long-pending land disputes. He in-



structed officials to complete the survey within the stipulated timeframe and immediately report any issues encountered during implementation.

Officials informed the Collector that the re-survey was being carried out across 28 survey numbers covering 84 acres in Sarekallu Gram Panchayat and would be completed within two days.

Later, addressing a farmers' awareness meeting organized by the Agriculture Department at Kodipunjula Vagu village, Collector Ankit said that due to the possible impact of El Niño, rainfall may

decrease while temperatures could rise. He advised farmers to shift from water-intensive crops to climate-resilient crops such as millets, pulses, oilseeds, and vegetables that require less water.

He recommended cultivating crops like foxtail millet, finger millet, sorghum, little millet, pigeon pea, green gram, black gram, sesame, and sunflower. He also encouraged farmers to focus on market-driven vegetable cultivation and adopt scientific farming practices, crop diversification, and water conservation measures to minimize the impact of

adverse weather conditions. Farmers were urged to prepare cultivation plans based on technical guidance from Agriculture Department officials.

The Collector later made a surprise inspection of the Mandal Parishad Primary School at Karakavagu. He examined the quality and hygiene of the mid-day meal programme and instructed officials to ensure nutritious food is served to students every day. He visited classrooms, reviewed student attendance, assessed teaching standards, and interacted with Class V stu-

dents in English to evaluate their language proficiency. He directed teachers to provide special training to improve students' English communication skills.

During his inspection of the pre-primary section, the Collector noted that only 14 students had been admitted against the target of 20. He instructed the concerned officials to take immediate steps and complete all pending admissions within the next two days. He also stressed the need for coordinated efforts by education officials and teachers to improve enrolment, attendance, teaching quality, and learning outcomes in government schools.

The programme was attended by Kothagudem RDO Madhu, Palvoncha Tahsildar Dhara Prasad, Kodipunjula Vagu Sarpanch Maheshwari, officials from the Survey, Agriculture, Revenue, and Education Departments, school staff, farmers, and other concerned officials.

'Designing for Tomorrow': Industry Leaders and Academics Converge at Mahindra University

Hyderabad, July 17, 2026: Mahindra University, in collaboration with the School of Architecture at Virginia Tech, USA, successfully hosted the MU Architecture Conclave 2026 under the theme, "Designing for Tomorrow: Reimagining Architecture for a Changing World." The conclave brought together leading architects, academicians, urban planners, industry leaders and policy experts to deliberate on how architectural education and practice must evolve to address emerging global challenges.

Jointly organised by the Centre for Architecture, Mahindra University, and the School of Architecture, Virginia Tech, the conclave served as a platform for cross-disciplinary dialogue on the future of the built environment, highlighting the intersection of design, technology, sustainability and human well-being. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Yajulu Medury, Vice-Chancellor, Mahindra University said, "Architecture today extends far beyond designing buildings. It is about creating resilient, sustainable and inclusive environments that improve the quality of life while responding to rapid technological, environmental and societal change.

Through collaborations with globally respected institutions such as Virginia Tech, Mahindra University is nurturing an ecosystem where students learn to think across disciplines, challenge conventional approaches and develop solutions for the cities and communities of tomorrow. The Architecture Conclave reflects our commitment to preparing future architects who are not only technically proficient but also socially conscious and globally relevant." The event featured three high-impact panel discussions covering 'The Future of Architectural Education: Preparing Architects for 2035', 'Architecture Beyond Practice: Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Emerging Opportunities', and 'Designing for People: Human-Centric Architecture'. The discussions explored how changing technologies, climate imperatives, entrepreneurship, and evolving societal needs are reshaping both architectural education and professional practice. Speaking at the event



place. Our partnership with Mahindra University represents a shared commitment to advancing architectural education and fostering meaningful exchanges that will inspire the next generation of design leaders." The conclave witnessed participation from distinguished speakers including Lu Liu, Dean, College of Architecture, Arts, and Design, Virginia Tech; Jim Bassett, Direc-

tor, School of Architecture, Virginia Tech; Bobby Vance, Assistant Professor of Architecture, Virginia Tech, Ponni M. Concessao and Oscar G. Concessao, Principal Architects, OCI Architects; C. Shekar Reddy, National Chairman, CII Indian Green Building Council; Jaffer AA Khan, Director, INZAC – India New Zealand Architecture Collective; V.V.L. Narasimham, Chairman, Indian Institute of Architects (IIA), Telangana Chapter; Arindam Biswas, Professor, IIT Roorkee; Vinayak P. Nabar, Adjunct Professor, IDC, IIT Bombay; Ajay D. Kulkarni, Interface De-

signers; Meena Murugappan, Director, Organo, Manoj Wahi, Principal Architect, Designer Web and Ramprasad Akkiseti, Managing Director, CCBA Designs. The conclave highlighted the importance of strengthening academia-industry partnerships and international collaboration to equip future architects with the skills required to design resilient, technology-enabled and human-centred spaces. It also highlighted the growing role of interdisciplinary learning in shaping solutions for rapidly urbanising societies and evolving global challenges.

Former Mayor D. Sanjay Participates in Village Festival, Prays for Good Rains :

Nizamabad, July 17, 2026 : Former Nizamabad Mayor Dharmapuri Sanjay participated in a traditional village festival at the invitation of party workers, well-wishers and local residents. The celebrations were marked by religious fervour and enthusiastic public participation. Interacting with the media, D. Sanjay extended his greetings to the people on the festive occasion and offered prayers for timely and abundant rainfall. He expressed hope that a favourable mon-



soon would ensure a prosperous agricultural season, improve farmers' livelihoods and bring peace, good health and prosperity to every family. He said that village festivals reflect the rich cultural heritage of rural Telangana and strengthen social harmony and unity among the people. A large number of party leaders, supporters, village elders, youth and devotees participated in the celebrations and accompanied D. Sanjay during the programme.

Farmers Advised to Adopt Climate-Suitable Crops; Shift from Paddy to Alternative Cultivation



Bhadradri Kothagudem District Bureau July 17:“Farmers should plan their cultivation based on changing weather conditions and adopt climate-resilient cropping patterns instead of relying solely on traditional paddy cultivation, said Agriculture Department Officer Babu Rao.“Addressing a farmers' awareness programme held on Friday at Gumpena village in Annapureddypalli mandal of Bhadradri Kothagudem district, Babu Rao urged farmers to diversify their crops by cultivating pulses, vegetables, and oil palm as suitable alternatives to paddy.“He explained that selecting crops based on water availability, soil conditions, and prevailing climatic conditions would help farmers reduce risks and improve productivity. He also encouraged farmers to follow scientific farming practices and implement the technical guidance provided by the Agriculture Department to achieve better yields and sustainable income.“Babu Rao highlighted that crop diversification is an effective strategy to minimize the impact of climate change and ensure long-term agricultural sustainability.“The programme was attended by the Mandal Agriculture Officer (MAO), Agriculture Extension Officer (AEO), Agriculture Department staff, and a large number of farmers

Six Sentenced to Three Years in Prison in Woman Suicide Abetment Case

Kothagudem | July 17: In a significant judgment, the Additional Assistant Sessions Court at Kothagudem sentenced six persons to three years of simple imprisonment each and imposed a fine of ₹2,000 on each convict for abetting the suicide of a woman. The verdict was delivered on Friday by Additional Assistant Sessions Judge Smt. Kavitha Karnati. The incident dates back to December 16, 2010, when Satyavathi, wife of Jallarapu Laxman Rao of Annishettipalli village in the then Kothagudem Mandal, was accused of practicing black magic. Her relatives—Jallarapu Nageswara Rao, Padma, Ravi Kumar, Navya, Mallikarjun and Kumari—allegedly convened a village meeting in the presence of elders and pressured her to take an oath at the village shrine. Unable to bear the humiliation and pressure, Satyavathi allegedly consumed pesticide in an attempt to end her life. It was further alleged that she was assaulted by the accused after the incident. She was rushed to a private hospital in Kothagudem, where she succumbed to her injuries on December 18, 2010. Initially, a case was registered at Kothagudem III Town Police Station and later closed after investigation. Subsequently, senior advocate Arikala Ravi Kumar filed a private complaint before the court, leading to a fresh judicial inquiry. After examining 10 prosecution witnesses and the available evidence, the court found the charges proved against all six accused and awarded three years of simple imprisonment along with a ₹2,000 fine to each of them. The prosecution was represented by Additional Public Prosecutor Karam Rajarao. Court Nodal Officer D. Raghavaiah, Court Liaison Officer M. Srinivas (Court Duty Officer) and Police Constable G. Hemlal assisted in the successful conduct of the case.

SIX SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS IN PRISON IN WOMAN SUICIDE ABETMENT CASE

Today Fromom News | Bhadradri Kothagudem District Chief Bureau Kothagudem, July 17

THE INCIDENT

On December 16, 2010, Satyavathi was accused of practicing black magic and humiliated by her relatives during a village panchayat. Pressured to take an oath, she consumed pesticide in distress.

THE VERDICT

Six accused sentenced to 3 YEARS SIMPLE IMPRISONMENT and a fine of ₹2,000 each.

THE CASE JOURNEY

- Satyavathi was admitted to a hospital in Kothagudem and died on December 18, 2010.
- A case was initially registered and later closed by police.
- Senior advocate Arikala Ravi Kumar filed a private complaint.
- Court accepted the case and conducted a detailed trial.

TRIAL & PROOF

- The court examined 10 witnesses and available evidence before delivering the judgment.

PROSECUTION TEAM

- Additional Public Prosecutor Karam Rajarao
- Court Nodal Officer D. Raghavaiah
- Court Liaison Officer M. Srinivas (Court Duty Officer)
- Police Constable G. Hemlal

JUSTICE DELAYED, BUT NOT DENIED.

Let this be a lesson – Superstition and cruelty have no place in society.

MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Hands Over Rs.5 Lakh LOC to Woman for Medical Treatment

Government Committed to Providing Quality Healthcare to the Poor, Says MLA

Manuguru | July 17: In a significant gesture of support towards healthcare for the underprivileged, Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu handed over a ₹5 lakh Letter of Credit (LOC) to Kotte Girija, a resident of Pinapaka Patti Nagar in Burgampadu Mandal, to assist with her medical treatment. The LOC was presented on Friday at the MLA's Camp Office in Manuguru. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu said the Telangana Government is committed to ensuring that poor and needy patients receive quality medical care through various healthcare assistance schemes. He stated that every eligible beneficiary should receive the benefits of government welfare programmes without difficulty. The MLA wished Kotte Girija a speedy recovery and expressed hope that she would regain good health soon. Expressing her gratitude, Kotte Girija thanked MLA Payam Venkateswarlu for extending timely



financial assistance and also conveyed her appreciation to the State Government for its support. The programme was attended by Mandal-level office bearers, district leaders, local leaders, youth representatives, and Congress Party workers.

SIR PROCESS BEING CARRIED OUT SYSTEMATICALLY ACROSS THE DISTRICT

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : 42% of Digitalization Completed So Far: District Collector Bhavesh Mishra Nirmal District Collector Bhavesh Mishra stated that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process is being carried out systematically across the district. On Sunday, the Collector chaired a meeting with representatives of various political parties at the MPDO Office in Bhainsa to review the progress of the SIR process. Addressing the meeting, the Collector said that SIR forms have already been distributed to every voter in the district and the collection of filled forms is progressing smoothly. He informed that the digitalization of the received forms is underway and that 42% of the process has been completed so far. He further stated that the SIR exercise is being conducted for 7.55 lakh voters across 23 mandals in the district. Compared to rural areas, the process is progressing at a slower pace in urban areas. In Bhainsa town, about 20% of the enumeration forms had been digitized as of Saturday evening. To expedite the work in urban areas, the town has been divided into special zones, and the process is being closely monitored by Mandal Special Officers, Municipal officials, Booth Level Officers (BLOs), and BLO Supervisors. During the meeting, officials provided a detailed explanation of the SIR process. The Collector addressed questions raised by political party representatives and clarified their doubts. He instructed all BLOs to visit every household and complete the process without fail. He also appealed to local public representatives to ex-



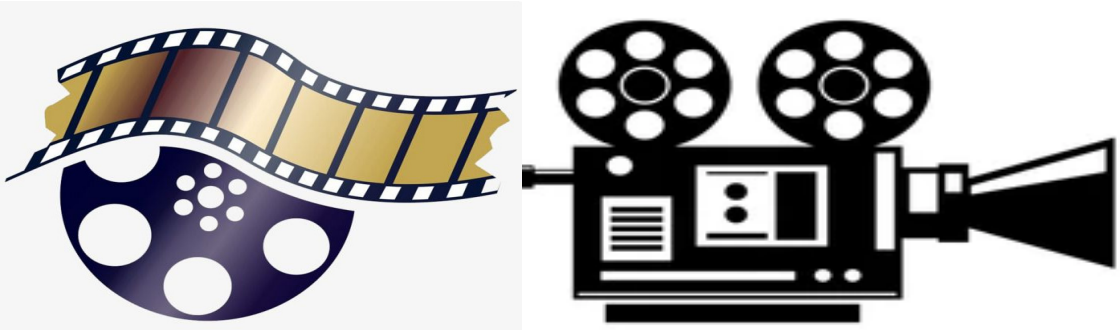
tend full cooperation for the successful implementation of the SIR exercise. The meeting was attended by Bhainsa Sub-Collector Ajmeera Sanket Kumar, Municipal Chairman Dattatri, Agriculture Officer Anji Prasad, Horticulture Officer Ramana, Tahsildar Shashibhushan, MPDO Neeraj, representatives of various political parties, BLO Supervisors, BLOs, and other officials and staff

69 Staff Nurses Allocated to Bhadradri Kothagudem TVVP Hospitals; Major Boost to Public Healthcare

Kothagudem | July 17: In a significant boost to public healthcare services, the Telangana Government has allocated 69 regular Staff Nurses to the Telangana Vaidya Vidhana Parishad (TVVP) hospitals in Bhadradri Kothagudem district. The move is expected to address the long-standing shortage of nursing staff and strengthen patient care across government hospitals. The district's TVVP hospitals had been facing an acute shortage of nursing personnel for several years. Recognizing the growing challenges, District Collector Anudeep Ankith, IAS, was apprised of the situation by DCHS Dr. G. Ravi Babu and the Nursing Superintendents. With the support of the ITDA Project Officer, proposals were submitted to the State Government seeking additional nursing staff. Responding positively to the request, the State Government allotted 69 Staff Nurses to the district during the recent regular recruitment process. The decision is being hailed as a landmark step in improving healthcare infrastructure, particularly in remote and tribal areas. The additional nursing workforce will significantly enhance emergency care, inpatient services, maternity care, surgical assistance, intensive care, and other critical hospital services. It is also expected to help hospitals effectively manage the increased patient load during the monsoon season. On the occasion, the Nursing Superinten-



dents from the district's seven TVVP hospitals, along with DCHS Dr. G. Ravi Babu, met District Collector Ankith, IAS, and felicitated him with a shawl and bouquet in appreciation of his proactive efforts in resolving the staffing shortage. They also expressed their gratitude to State Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha and Health Secretary Dr. Christina Z. Chongthu for approving the proposal and allocating the 69 Staff Nurses to the district. Officials expressed confidence that the strengthened nursing workforce will improve the quality of public healthcare services and ensure timely, efficient, and better medical care, especially for people living in the agency and tribal areas. The programme was attended by DCHS Dr. G. Ravi Babu, District Medical & Health Department Representative Dr. Veerababu, and Nursing Superintendents Florence Padma, Bharathi, Revathi, Jaya, Jhansi, Asha Vardhini, Sharada, Sita, and Radhakumari



CINEMA

Highly impressive crime drama KJQ confirms release date

Dheekshith Shetty, Shashi Odela and Yukti Thareja, are set to captivate audiences in the upcoming thriller KJQ - King Jackie Queen.



Dheekshith Shetty, Shashi Odela and Yukti Thareja, are set to captivate audiences in the upcoming thriller KJQ - King Jackie Queen. The movie has already generated a strong positive impression across the board thanks to its striking teaser and well-received promotional material.

The project carries a deep emotional weight as the film's director, Kiran Kumar - KK, tragically passed away. Honoring his original vision, the makers, led by popular producer Sudhakar Cherukuri, have meticulously completed the movie as a heartfelt tribute to the late filmmaker. It is shaping up to be a new-age tale of friendship, packed with high-octane action and thrilling sequences.

The makers have officially locked August 7th for the film's grand theatrical release. This strategically chosen date offers a clear advantage, as there are no major box office clashes to divide attention. The solo release window provides a perfect opportunity for the film to build strong word-of-mouth and steadily draw in family audiences ready to embrace this compelling story.

The script takes viewers on an intense journey alongside well-developed characters, weaving a dark theme and intertwined violence into the core narrative. The release date poster showcases the same with gun in Deekshith's hand and cigarette in Yukthi's hand. With gritty undertones, the captivating story and screenplay are designed to deliver an unconventional yet thoroughly satisfying cinematic experience.

Varun Tej's Korean Kanakaraju to drop a massy banger

Blockbuster music director S Thaman has delivered a brilliant, massy, and peppy composition for this track.

Varun Tej is gearing up to enthrall audiences with his upcoming horror-comedy Korean Kanakaraju, and the excitement is building up rapidly. To delight the masses and music lovers, the film's team is releasing a brand new track called Raasa Gummadi. This highly energetic song has been officially scheduled to be out on July 19th.

Blockbuster music director S Thaman has delivered a brilliant, massy, and peppy composition for this track.

Daksha Nagarkar is set to appear in the special song and it is set to be a massy banger. Varun Tej's look and his dance moves will be talk of the town state makers. Slated for 7th August release, the movie is gaining huge momentum with each promotional material hitting out of the park.

Merlapaka Gandhi is directing the film with prestigious UV Creations producing it on a huge scale. Varun Tej in two distinctive roles and get-ups, is set to create a massive intrigue and excitement with this mass number.



Rajamouli Family Says 'Don't Trouble The Trouble'

The trailer showcases that Fahadh plays the role of a small-time magician, and in the process of making a girl disappear, the girl turns into a ghost and haunts him.

For a long time, Malayalam star Fahadh Fasil's first Telugu film as a hero has been in production. Not many know that this movie is being produced by Baahubali makers, Shobhu and Prasad, along with Rajamouli's son Karthikeya. Now that the trailer of the movie is out, many are wondering how the family that's busy with "Varanasi" has carved out something brilliant in the meantime.

The trailer showcases that Fahadh plays the role of a small-time magician, and in the process of making a girl disappear, the girl turns into a ghost and haunts him. It's quite impressive in terms of content as director Sashank Yeleti makes sure that kids and families get glued to it big time. But what caught the attention of Telugu movie lovers is the presence of the whole Rajamouli family in the credits list.

The film is presented by SS Rajamouli, produced by his son SS Karthikeya, styled by his wife Rama and written by his cousin SS Kanchi. Well, that's Rajamouli's whole family saying Balayya's dialogue, "Don't Trouble The Trouble". So definitely many are hoping that the film will



give a stunning result at the box office, as the whole SS Rajamouli family is involved.

Though Rajamouli is also busy with Varanasi as the 2027 release deadline is approaching fast, it looks like he will take some time to promote "Don't Trouble The Trouble" also.

Yukti Thareja's Timeless Traditional Look

Yukti Thareja is rapidly cementing her position as one of Indian cinema's most enchanting and talented newcomers.

Yukti Thareja is rapidly cementing her position as one of Indian cinema's most enchanting and talented newcomers. Making her grand entry into the limelight on MTV Supermodel of the Year, her captivating screen presence and natural grace quickly paved her path to acting.

She made a highly noticed acting debut in the 2023 Telugu action-comedy Rangabali opposite Naga Shaurya, earning widespread praise for her expressive performance. Expanding her horizons across regional cinema, Yukti recently made a strong Malayalam debut alongside Unni Mukundan in the action thriller Marco (2024), which became her highest-grossing film to date. Proving her versatility, she re-



cently starred as Mercy Joy in the 2025 romantic comedy K-Ramp opposite Kiran Abbavaram, showcasing her ability to handle emotional depth and lighthearted romance alike.

This stunning gallery portrait highlights her effortless elegance. Draped in a classically patterned grey and navy blue sari complemented by traditional gold jewelry, Yukti strikes a pose of quiet sophistication. With upcoming projects on the horizon, she is undoubtedly a stellar talent to watch out for.

Sravanthi Chokarapu Shares a Beautiful Life Message

Popular anchor and actress Sravanthi Chokarapu has mesmerized her followers with her latest Instagram post. She shared beautiful pictures wearing a graceful white saree decorated with golden floral designs.

Along with the photos, Sravanthi shared an emotional message in Telugu. She wrote that a smile should not stop because of two people, and love should not disappear because of four people.

In the caption, Sravanthi also thanked the people and brands that helped create her look. She mentioned that the saree was from Akirra Label, the choker from Anantaya By Mani, the earrings from Bawri Banjari Jewels, the bangles from Westside Stores, and the hairstyle was done by Hairstylist Indhumulaparathi. She also shared that she styled herself, while the photographs were captured by They Call Me Keshu.

Sravanthi Chokarapu is one of the well-known faces on Telugu television today. Although she entered the entertainment industry with the dream of becoming an actress, her journey was not easy. She first acted in small roles in films before taking a break from acting after her marriage. Later, due to financial challenges, she returned to the entertainment field. This time, she chose anchoring instead of acting, and that decision changed her career. Today, she regularly hosts television shows, movie events, and promotional programs.

Her popularity increased further after participating in Bigg Boss OTT Telugu. Even though she did not stay in the house for a long time, the show introduced her personal life to a wider audience. During the reality show, she spoke about her love story and some of the struggles she faced before marriage.

Sravanthi's husband is Prashanth. The couple fell in love before she entered the industry. According to information shared by Sravanthi and her family earlier, they got married against the wishes of their elders. At one stage, Prashanth faced financial losses in business after being cheated by people he trusted. He later worked in a private job. During the difficult period, Sravanthi also worked at a jewellery store before leaving the job because of health reasons.

There was also confusion in the past about reports claiming that Sravanthi had married twice. However, Prashanth later clarified that the couple first had a marriage on their own because their families did not agree. After their elders accepted their relationship, they held another wedding ceremony with family blessings. He explained that this does not mean Sravanthi married two different people.

The couple are also known to be devoted fans of Pawan Kalyan. They named their son Akira Nandan, inspired by the actor's son. Sravanthi also runs a boutique that carries the same name. While she continues to stay busy as an anchor, she also manages her business successfully.

