

Revanth Reddy's 2034 tenure remarks reportedly spark discontent within Telangana Congress

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's repeated remarks about remaining in office until 2034 have reportedly sparked discontent within the Telangana Congress. Party leaders maintain that the Congress high command alone decides the Chief Minister, citing Kerala and Karnataka as recent examples.

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's repeated assertions that he will remain in office till 2034 have not gone down well with the Telangana Congress leaders.

While interacting with teachers at MCRHRD on Thursday, the Chief Minister once again said he would continue in office till 2034. He has been making similar claims repeatedly over the past two and a half years.

His repeated assertions have triggered dissent within the Telangana Congress. Several leaders point out that the party high command decides who becomes Chief Minister, while the State unit can only make recommendations.

They cite the recent appointment of the Chief Minister in Kerala. After the UDF's victory, there was intense lobbying for the post among VD Satheesan, Ramesh Chennithala and KC Venugopal. Supporters of the leaders held demonstrations, put up flexi boards and ran campaigns to back their candidates.

The Congress high command held several rounds of discussions with senior leaders and



sought their views. The process continued for more than 10 days before VD Satheesan was chosen.

A similar situation unfolded in Karnataka. There was an understanding that the current Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah would hold the post for two and a half years each. After Siddaramaiah completed his two-and-a-half-year term, a section of the party demanded that DK Shivakumar be made Chief Minister as promised by the high command.

Even then, there was uncertainty for a few days as the AICC took time to announce its decision.

Against this backdrop, Revanth Reddy's repeated claims are drawing strong reactions within the Telangana

Congress. Party leaders argue that the AICC alone decides who becomes Chief Minister. Geographic Reference

A senior leader from Gandhi Bhavan said the Chief Minister's repeated assertions appear to undermine the aspirations of other senior leaders. He said the Congress functions democratically and no one can demand or insist on any position, including that of Chief Minister.

"More so, such statements affect the morale of other leaders. Ultimately it is teamwork with which the party wins elections," the senior leader said.

When Revanth Reddy made similar assertions in the past, Munugode MLA Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy had reacted strongly. In 2025, he posted on X that loyal Congress leaders could not tolerate such claims. "There is a system in the party to elect a Chief Minister," he had said.

The episode had triggered a row within the party. However, a section of leaders sought to play down the issue, saying the Chief Minister had merely expressed the expectations of the people.

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Hyderabad Cyber Crime registers cases over alleged derogatory social media posts targeting PM Modi

Hyderabad: The Hyderabad Cyber Crime police has registered two cases against some social media users and Head of Meta in India, following a complaint by BJP activists over alleged objectionable content targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The FIR was booked under Sections 66C (identity theft), 67 (publishing obscene material in electronic form) of the IT Act, and 353 (2) (accused person to be competent witness), 336 (4) (forgery) of the BNS following a complaint made on July 29 by a social media core committee member of the Telangana BJP.

"The cases were booked against those who posted and how they (social platforms) allowed it," a cyber crime official told PTI on Friday.

In one case, the FIR was registered against 'users of Instagram and Facebook' mentioned in the complaint and the Head of Meta in India.

The complainant sought an investigation into certain Instagram accounts that allegedly published and circulated content derogatory toward

PM Modi.

The complaint stated the content appears to promote narratives prejudicial to the nation's sovereignty, integrity and public order. The complainant submitted details of the Instagram and Facebook post URLs.

He requested the police to preserve electronic evidence related to the social media accounts and posts, identify the individuals operating the accounts, conduct a thorough probe, and coordinate with Meta to obtain necessary account details and preserve relevant digital evidence if required.

Telangana BJP Chief Spokesperson N V Subhash on Friday demanded immediate and exemplary legal action against those responsible for creating, disseminating

and amplifying morphed, abusive and derogatory content targeting PM Modi during the CJP-led NEET paper leak agitation, asserting that "freedom of speech can never become a licence for organised abuse and character assassination".

At the heart of this issue lies a "fundamental constitutional question"—whether repeated and organised public abuse directed at a constitutional office-holder falls within the ambit of free speech or amounts to actionable misconduct, he said.

The Constitution protects liberty, but it does not legitimise lawlessness. Rights come with responsibilities and accountability necessarily follows when legal limits are allegedly breached, Subhash said in a statement.

KTR appears before ACB court in Formula E case; hearing adjourned to August 25

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Friday appeared before the Nampally ACB Special Court in the Formula-E race case, marking his first court appearance since the Anti-Corruption Bureau filed its chargesheet. The court adjourned further proceedings to August 25.

Rama Rao who is accused No. 1, appeared along with former IAS officer Arvind Kumar and former HMDA Chief Engineer BLN Reddy, who are also accused in the case. The court directed the BRS working president to furnish a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh along with two sureties.

The ACB had filed a 77-page chargesheet on March

23, naming Rama Rao, Arvind Kumar, BLN Reddy and Formula E Operations (FEO) as accused. The chargesheet contained statements of 14 witnesses and alleges procedural violations in conducting the Formula E race in Hyderabad.

According to the ACB,

funds for Formula E Season 10 were released without mandatory approvals from the Finance and Law Departments and the State Cabinet. It alleged that prescribed government procedures were bypassed while executing agreements related to the event. The agency has al-

leged a direct loss of Rs 54.88 crore to HMDA and claimed that the agreements created an additional financial burden of nearly Rs 600 crore on the State government. It also alleged that private firm S Next Gen received undue benefits and raised allegations of a quid pro quo

The accused have denied the allegations.

Former Ministers P Sabitha Indra Reddy and Mohd Mahmood Ali, MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar and party workers accompanied Rama Rao to the court. Later, they left for Narsampet to attend the funeral of former MLA and senior BRS leader Peddi Sudarshan Reddy.

Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha Adjourned Till Monday - Rajya Sabha adjourned for the day

- Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned till Friday noon as Opposition members raised slogans against police crackdown on students agitating against NEET paper leak and other matters. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said the Opposition members disrupted the House proceedings in a "pre-planned manner."

"Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is standing to ask a question, but Opposition members are not allowing Question Hour to proceed," he said.

In an apparent reference to suspended TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee, he said some members were roaming in the Parliament House complex in different getups.

Birla said such actions lower the dignity of the house. He then adjourned the proceedings till noon.

Banerjee has been protesting against his suspension over use of undignified language against women MPs. He has been hanging photographs of 20 rebel TMC MPs who have joined a lesser-known Nationalist

Citizens Party of India.

- Samajwadi Party MPs have been protesting the alleged theft of donations at Ram Temple in Ayodhya. They have been carrying donation boxes and placards at the entrance of the Parliament House.

- Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday hit out at the Centre over police action against protesting students during the July 20 'Sansad Chalo' march, alleging that the government used force against protesting youth and later filed FIRs and detained them despite an assurance that no action would be taken against them.

Kharge urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to ask for Union Home Minister Amit Shah's resignation, saying, "If there's even a shred of shame left, get Amit Shah's resignation." In a post on X, Kharge said, "@narendramodi ji, ten days ago, your government suppressed the youth with batons-Pellet Guns." He alleged that action was initiated against the students after they called off their protest. "When the students withdrew their movement, now you're filing FIRs against them out of a sense of revenge, forcibly detaining them. The youth withdrew the movement on the condition that no action would be taken against them, and now your governments have gone back on their own word," Kharge, who is the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) Rajya Sabha, said.

Maheshwar Reddy Hails New Rail Line for North Telangana Connectivity

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw explained about the new railway line when Reddy along with the BJP MLAs and MPs met him in New Delhi

Hyderabad: Telangana BJP floor leader Alleti Maheshwar Reddy said Adilabad-Nirmal-Armoor new railway line would bring much-needed rail connectivity to North Telangana. Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw explained about the new railway line when Reddy along with the BJP MLAs and MPs met him in New Delhi.

"Delighted to meet Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in Delhi. He explained Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to transform Telangana's railway infrastructure and develop Hyderabad as a major hub of India's high-speed rail revolution," he said.

"The Union Minister also reassured that the proposed Adilabad-Nirmal-Armoor new railway line would bring much-needed rail connectivity to North Telangana. My sincere gratitude to Ashwini Vaishnaw for taking time to meet us and discuss these crucial projects," he added.

PM Modi to inaugurate Rs 5,000 crore Bhogapuram international airport on August 1

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Rs 5,000 crore Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram on August 1 and launch projects worth Rs 18,000 crore, giving a major boost to connectivity, tourism, logistics and industrial growth in North Andhra

Amaravati: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport built at nearly Rs 5,000 crore at Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh on August 1.

The state government views Bhogapuram Airport not merely as an infrastructure project, but as a transformational asset for the entire North Andhra region.

As per the official schedule, PM Modi is expected to arrive at the airport from Delhi on a special aircraft at 10:45 am on August 1.

Governor S Abdul Nazeer and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu will receive him.

At 10:58 am, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the airport terminal building and subsequently inspect the facility along with the Chief Minister, Governor and other dignitaries.

He will then proceed to a public meeting venue in an open-top vehicle, where more than 13,500 tribal women and students will greet him with a grand Dhimsa dance performance.

The Prime Minister will address the public meeting from 11.30 am to 12.55 pm.

The state government officials said that the government has developed the airport to international standards as part of the vision to position Visakhapatnam among globally developed cities.

The airport has been conceived as a catalyst for industrial growth, employment generation, exports, skill development and research, an official release said.

The airport is among the “fastest-completed greenfield international airports in India... nearly five months ahead of schedule,” the release further said. India news headlines

It has already secured the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) aerodrome licence, along with all required safety, fire and environmental clearances.

Designed to handle six million passengers annually in the first phase, the airport also has a master plan to expand the capacity to 40 million passengers annually in the future.

The project is expected to play a pivotal role in



boosting economic growth, tourism, industrial investments, exports, logistics and aerospace and defence sectors across the erstwhile Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts.

Developed by GMR Visakhapatnam International Airport Limited (GVIAL) under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model using the Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) framework, the integrated project spans 2,703.26 acres.

It includes the airport in 2,203.32 acres, an aviation hub (500 acres), avia-

tion university and EduCity (136.63 acres), including comprehensive airside infrastructure, commercial development, residential zones and approach roads.

A key highlight of the airport is a 3,800-metre Code-E runway, capable of handling wide-body aircraft such as the Boeing 777, Boeing 787 Dreamliner, Airbus A330 and Airbus A340.

It is also equipped with advanced airfield lighting, navigation aids and CNS/ATM infrastructure to support both domestic and international operations.

The terminal incorporates advanced passen-

ger processing technologies, which include contact boarding bridges, Common Use Passenger Processing System (CUPPS), self-baggage drop, self-service passenger processing, smart surveillance, access control systems, security management systems and an Integrated Operational Control and Monitoring Centre.

These facilities are aimed at enhancing passenger convenience and operational efficiency, said the press release.

“Bhogapuram Airport is expected to significantly strengthen North Andhra’s export ecosystem through

a 25,000 metric tonne annual capacity cargo terminal. It includes temperature-controlled cold chain facilities for transporting pharmaceuticals, marine products and other high-value perishable goods,” it said.

Integration with Visakhapatnam Port, industrial corridors and logistics networks is expected to establish Bhogapuram as a major air cargo and logistics hub on India’s east coast.

Around 30 per cent of the airport’s water requirement will be met through recycled water, and it was developed as per LEED Platinum standards.

Architecturally, the terminal reflects the state’s cultural identity, inspired by a flying fish, symbolising the Bay of Bengal and North Andhra’s maritime heritage, while the terminal incorporates traditional Rangoli into its roof and ceiling designs.

The Andhra Pradesh government invested Rs 1,583 crore for infrastructure — land acquisition (Rs 944 crore), water supply (Rs 75 crore), power supply (Rs 97 crore), funded works (Rs 134

crore), connectivity roads (Rs 301 crore), road connectivity (Rs 3.25 crore) and canal works (Rs 27 crore) — said the press release.

The approach roads and supporting infrastructure connecting the airport will significantly improve air connectivity across North Andhra, coastal Andhra and neighbouring states.

The airport is expected to unlock new opportunities in tourism, hospitality, logistics, warehousing, exports, pharmaceuticals, marine products, IT, aerospace, defence and manufacturing, the release said.

Tourist destinations such as Araku, Lambasingi, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam are expected to benefit substantially, the release said.

Modi is also expected to lay foundation stones and dedicate various projects of the Ministries of Petroleum, Surface Transport and other departments, with a cumulative worth of Rs 18,000 crore. PM is scheduled to depart for Delhi at 1:10 pm on August 1.

Godavari Waters to Reach North Andhra Through Pushkara Scheme

Kakinada: Water Resources minister Nimmala Ramanaidu on Friday said the state government would divert Godavari waters to North Andhra through the Purushothapatnam and Pushkara lift irrigation schemes even before the completion of the Polavaram Project.

Ramanaidu spoke to media while touring the Kakinada district to check out water flows and the conditions of reservoirs, apart from the Pithapuram Branch Canal following the heavy rains.

The minister underlined that the government aims to meet the industrial, drinking water, and irrigation requirements of North Andhra, including Visakhapatnam city and the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. He said the ₹1,800 crore first phase of the Polavaram Left Main Canal would be completed in August and water released to North Andhra. He mentioned that nearly 3,000 TMC of Godavari water continued to flow into the sea every year.

Ramanaidu said despite engineering challenges, including excavation through a 100-metre stretch of hard rock, construction of aqueducts across the Pampa and Tandava rivers, apart from land acquisition, are progressing rapidly. He maintained that the government would not tolerate any delays and negligence in the works.

The minister pointed out that the government earmarked ₹3,000 crore for irrigation works and supplying water to Prakasam district in September. He said that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has fixed 2027 as the target for completing the Polavaram project.

In this regard, he mentioned that they have restored the damaged diaphragm on March 2, 2026, while work on the earth-cum-rock-fill dam has reached 41 per cent completion in Gap-1 and 31 per cent in Gap-2.



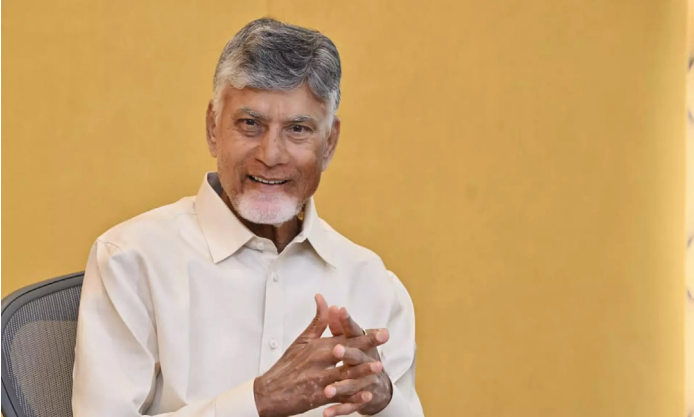
Naidu Welcomes PM as North Andhra Awaits Take-Off

Vijayawada: Responding on social media platform X to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s post on the inauguration of the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Friday declared that “North Andhra is ready for take-off.

The region, Naidu asserted, is eagerly awaiting the Prime Minister’s arrival there this morning.

The CM expressed confidence that the airport would herald a new era of development by attracting investments, boosting tourism and creating employment opportunities across north Andhra.

Naidu announced a one-time free air journey for the farmers who voluntarily parted with their lands for the prestigious airport project, describing it as a gesture of gratitude for their sacrifice. The land donor farmers will also be



given front-row seats at the PM’s public meeting.

Prime Minister Modi, in his X post, said he would inaugurate the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport on Saturday, describing it as another significant milestone in India’s infrastructure development.

Sharing the post, Naidu wrote: “North Andhra is ready for take-off. Modi ji, we are eagerly waiting for your arrival.” The airport, he said, would open a new chapter in the region’s development and significantly improve connectivity, trade

and economic activity.

All arrangements have been completed for the inauguration at Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram district. Besides the PM, the event will be attended by the chief minister as also Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, Union and state ministers, MPs, MLAs and other public representatives.

Commercial flight operations from the airport are scheduled to commence on August 17. In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the coalition government has decided to provide a

one-time complimentary flight to every farmer who contributed land for the airport project.

The announcement has struck an emotional chord among the farming community. Several farmers recalled the pain of giving up their ancestral lands but said they now felt immense pride in seeing an international airport rise on those very fields.

Many said future generations would remember with pride that their families had contributed land for a project that promises to transform North Andhra.

Land for the airport was acquired from farmers in seven villages — Gudepuvalasa, Ravada, Kancheru, Kavulavada, A Ravivalasa, Savaravilli and Munjeru — while residents of Rellipeta, Bollinalapalem, Mudasarlapeta and Maradapalem were rehabilitated as part of the project.

PM To Lay Stone For Semiconductor Packaging Unit In Vizag

VISAKHAPATNAM: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the ground-breaking ceremony for the semiconductor packaging unit being set up by Advanced System In Package Technologies (ASIP) in collaboration with APACT Co, South Korea, in Visakhapatnam.

Chief minister Chandrababu Naidu, Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, and state IT minister Nara Lokesh will be present.

ASIP is establishing south India’s first ISM-approved outsourced semiconductor assembly and test (OSAT) facility in Visakhapatnam. Representing an initial planned investment of ₹2,387.81 crore across two phases, this project marks a historic milestone in India’s domestic semiconductor packaging ecosystem.

Around 1000 and above direct highly skilled and 1600 indirect jobs are expected to be created over the coming years.

The projects include semiconductor packaging, electronics manufacturing and component production, with major investments planned in Visakhapatnam and other industrial regions.

The project is being established in Tarluvada Village, Anandapuram Mandal, Visakhapatnam district. Its production capacity will be 96 million chips per year, and the focus segments will be AI, high performance computing, data centres and high-speed communication.

The facility will serve both domestic demand and export markets, supporting India’s electronics and digital infrastructure growth.



TG Govt Exploring Alternate Funding Options to Complete Metro Phase-1 Takeover From L&T



Hyderabad: The government is seriously exploring alternative funding options to complete the takeover of Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) Phase-I from L&T after the Centre reportedly did not grant the required approval for the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) to release a loan of `13,600 crore for the acquisition process.

With the takeover now becoming critical for securing approvals for HMR Phase-II, the state government is understood to have decided to approach public and private sector banks, including the State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank, for loans at competitive interest rates. It is also exploring the possibility of securing financial assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Official sources said the issue figured prominently during the Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) board of directors meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju at the Secretariat on Friday. The official statement issued after the meeting made no reference to the government's efforts to mobilise loans for the Phase-I takeover. The CS also instructed officials to expedite the procurement of additional Metro Rail coaches to meet the growing passenger demand.

The official release stated that the Chief Secretary directed officials to take measures to ensure Metro Rail passengers reached their destinations safely, conveniently and comfortably. He suggested introducing a common mobility ticketing system across public transport services, including Hyderabad Metro and TGSRTC, enabling commuters to travel using a single ticket. He instructed officials to hold discussions with TGSRTC for developing a common mobile application and also asked them to examine the feasibility of introducing daily, weekly and monthly Metro Rail passes to improve commuter convenience.

The Board meeting reviewed the latest progress on the Phase-I takeover, the status of land acquisition and utility shifting works for Metro Phase-II, and the progress of approvals required for the second phase.

The meeting was attended by board directors, including special chief secretaries Jayesh Ranjan and Vikas Raj, DGP (law and order) Mahesh M. Bhagwat, finance special secretary Sikta Patnaik, managing directors K. Ashok Reddy (HMWS&SB) and Sarfaraz Ahmed (HMRL), additional managing director B. Ajith Reddy and joint managing director Shivendra Pratap.

Meanwhile, official sources revealed that the Centre has reportedly asked the Telangana government to complete the HMR-I takeover within the next two months to facilitate approvals for the proposed Phase-II project. According to the sources, the Centre has indicated that it would not be associated with the Phase-I acquisition process but was willing to support Phase-II as a joint venture project with the state government.

The Telangana is understood to have urged the Centre not to link the Phase-I takeover with approvals for Phase-II. However, the Centre is said to have maintained that completion of the Phase-I acquisition within two months is a prerequisite for granting approvals to the second phase. Faced with this timeline, the state government has reportedly decided to approach public and private sector banks to secure the required loans at the earliest.

The first phase of the Metro acquisition process was originally scheduled to be completed by May-end but was stalled after the proposed IRFC loan failed to materialise. Although the IRFC had signed an agreement to provide a loan of `13,527 crore to Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited, the funds could not be released due to the absence of a mandatory No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Centre.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had personally taken up the matter with Union Ministers and also addressed letters seeking clearance for the loan. During those discussions, it was jointly decided to appoint SBI Caps as a consultant to re-evaluate the Phase-I takeover and facilitate raising the necessary funds for both the acquisition and the proposed Metro Phase-II. However, there has reportedly been no significant progress on the exercise for nearly one and a half months.

With indications that IRFC may no longer be in a position to extend the loan, the Telangana government is also planning to entrust the responsibility of selecting an appropriate lending institution to a specialised agency to expedite loan sanction and disbursement, ensuring that the Metro acquisition process is completed without further delay.

Nation sought apology, he ‘forgave country’: Congress jibe at PM Modi

New Delhi: The Congress on Friday took a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his video message, saying he wanted to forgive children who abused him during the Jantar Mantar students' protest and remarked that while the country was asking the PM to apologise, he had instead “forgiven the country”.

Modi on Friday said he and even his late mother were subjected to abusive language at Jantar Mantar during the protests over alleged NEET irregularities, but asserted that dragging such “misguided children” into



court would not resolve the problem and hence, he wanted to forgive them.

Tagging the PM's video and post, Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera said in a post on X in Hindi, “Listen to this. The country is asking him to apologise, yet he has forgiven the country.”

In another late-

night video message released on Instagram, the prime minister said he could understand the anguish prevailing in society, but stressed that this was the time to embrace the youth and guide them on the right path.

“Not only was I subjected to abusive language at Jantar Mantar, but even my late mother was

abused there. But abuses never solve anything; let's guide the misguided,” he said.

Modi described the students as “misguided children” and said punishing them or making them go through court proceedings will not solve the problem.

“I want to forgive them. People make mistakes, but this is a cultural shock that our daughters are using such abusive language. We must forgive our youth who were misguided; after all, they are our children. It's our duty to show them the right path,” he said.

Heavy rains swell Telangana reservoirs, Godavari surges past danger mark in Mulugu

Hyderabad: The Godavari River surged to 48 feet at Bhadrachalam by Friday evening from 37.60 feet in the morning. Authorities were releasing 11.44 lakh cusecs downstream as the river continued to rise, prompting the officials to raise a second warning signal to alert people in the river's catchment and low-lying areas.

In Mulugu district, the Godavari crossed the danger level at Peruru in Wazeedu mandal, where the water level reached 19.36 metres. Several streams overflowed, cutting off road links to



villages. Floodwater also inundated NH-163, snapping connectivity to about 25 villages, while the Eturunagaram-Rampur road was cut off after floodwater flowed over a culvert.

At Medigadda (Lakshmi) Barrage in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, the Godavari was in free-flow condition,

with inflows and outflows at 9,89,620 cusecs and all 85 gates open.

In Nirmal district, Kadem Project was receiving 10,282 cusecs, while Eellampalli in Peddapalli district was receiving and releasing 1,32,785 cusecs. SRSP in Nizamabad was receiving 70,000 cusecs.

The Jurala Project in Mahabubnagar district also witnessed a major surge, with inflows reaching 1.36 lakh cusecs. Officials opened 24 gates and released about 1.33 lakh cusecs downstream. Hydropower generation continued through 11 units.

The rising flows have also pushed up inflows into Srisaillam, which was receiving 1,05,709 cusecs from Jurala. Its water level stood at 830.70 feet, with storage at 50.26 TMCft. Officials expect the strong inflows to continue for another three days.

Bhatti Explains Family Certificate Benefits for Citizens

Hyderabad: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has clarified that the Indiramma People's Government is providing this 'Family Certificate' so that the citizens in the State can furnish the details of themselves and their family members whenever any institution or any system asks for them.

He was speaking at the SIR Awareness Programme organised on Friday at Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Praja Bhavan here. Transport Minister Ponnampallam Prabhakar, Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society Vice Chairman Faheem Qureshi, and others participated in the programme.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the people of the State are receiving the commodities supplied by the State Government through ration cards, Aarogyasri, fine rice, and other schemes.

While availing these government schemes, the State Government has



made available, at the Tahsildar Office, the information relating to the details of the members of those families in the State.

He said that any family in the State that requires information relating to itself or the details of its family members can visit the Tahsildar Office or a MeeSeva Centre and obtain this Family Certificate.

Bhatti Vikramarka said that, through this, if any system or any institution in the State asks for your family details, this information will be useful for furnishing the same to those systems and government institutions.

Floods Disrupt Telangana-Maharashtra Road Link; Pranahita Inundates Crops

ADILABAD: Road connectivity between Telangana and Maharashtra was disrupted on Friday after floodwaters from the Penganga River overflowed the Anandpur bridge in Jainad mandal. The bridge connects Jainad in Telangana with Digras in Maharashtra.

However, traffic on National Highway 44 remained unaffected, although the Penganga continued to flow above danger levels due to heavy inflows from upstream. All irrigation projects in the erstwhile Adilabad district received substantial inflows. Educational institutions in Adilabad district remained closed after officials declared a holiday on Friday in view of the flood situation.

Meanwhile, the Pranahita River was in high flood, and its backwaters inundated standing crops spread over hundreds of acres in Talai, Papanpet, Somini and Mogavelli villages located along its banks.

Floodwater was being released downstream from the Sripada Yellampalli Project after five of its 62 gates were lifted following heavy inflows from the catchment area. By 7 p.m., the project had received an inflow of 50,570 cusecs, while the outflow stood at 42,848 cusecs.

The Kadam Project received an inflow of 10,128 cusecs, while the outflow was limited to 88 cusecs. Irrigation



officials are storing water in the reservoir by keeping the remaining gates closed.

In Nirmal, State Government Advisor P. Sudarshan Reddy reviewed the flood situation in Nirmal and Adilabad districts and directed officials to immediately repair any roads and bridges damaged by the floods and restore connectivity. Collectors Rajarshi Shah and Bhavesh Mishra participated in the review meeting.

Sudarshan Reddy instructed irrigation officials to regulate water storage in irrigation projects based on inflows. He also stressed the need to promote crop diversification and rainwater harvesting in view of the possible impact of the El Niño effect.

Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan, accompanied by Adilabad DSP Jeevan Reddy, Jainad Circle Inspector G. Shravan and Sub-Inspector P. Goutham, inspected vehicles stranded on NH-353B near Tarnam village in Jainad mandal. He directed gram panchayat staff to remain deployed at bridges and culverts where floodwaters were overflowing to prevent any untoward incidents.

Minister for Irrigation Uttam Kumar Reddy is scheduled to inspect the Kadam Project and interact with irrigation officials in Nirmal on August 1.

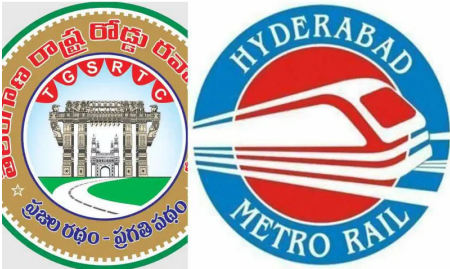
Unified Ticketing System proposed for Hyderabad metro and TGSRTC

Hyderabad: Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Friday suggested a common mobility ticketing system be introduced across all public transport services such as Metro and RTC, enabling passengers to travel on a single ticket.

The Chief Secretary instructed officials concerned that discussions be held with TGSRTC to develop a common mobile application. He also directed officials to explore options for introducing daily, weekly and monthly passes for Metro passengers.

For the first time, Jaju, as Chairman of the HMRL Board of Directors, reviewed the development of Metro Rail here. The meeting discussed the latest progress on Phase I takeover and Land acquisition and utility shifting status for Phase II of the Metro project.

He also reviewed the status of approvals for Metro phase-2. The Chief Secretary instructed officials to take necessary steps to procure additional coaches at the earliest.



Saturday 01, August, 2026

VOICE OF THE YOUTH GETS HEARD

The resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, bowing to mounting pressure from the student protests, is a welcome development as it signals the government's acknowledgement of the growing anger of the country's youth over an issue that is key to their future. It is a victory for the democratic voices that rose in unison against a system that has become indifferent to the concerns of the student community. What began as a satirical social media account grew within weeks into a genuine mass movement, giving vent to the youth's frustration over the botched 2026 NEET medical entrance examination following paper leak. The exit of the Minister, whose resignation was the key demand of the protesters led by the Cockroach Janata Party, and subsequent withdrawal of the five-week-long agitation should now pave the way for sincere effort to tackle the larger issue of education reforms. No lessons have been learned from the past instances of paper leaks. Also, no follow-up action has been taken on the recommendations of the high-powered committee constituted in 2024 under former ISRO chairperson K Radhakrishnan to secure the fairness of the public exam system. While Pradhan's resignation opens a window for wider talks, the real battle lies ahead. The larger issue here is about the institutional flaws and how to fix them. It is not about individual ministers but about reforming the examination system that failed the students. Apart from bringing examination reforms, there is a need for broader structural transformations in the education and skilling system.

The widespread spontaneous protests have exposed one of the deepest fault lines in the country's education system—the erosion of trust in public examinations. From the cancellation of the NEET-UG examination controversy to repeated paper leaks in recruitment tests conducted by State governments, millions of students have found themselves trapped in a cycle of uncertainty. In a belated response, the Centre came up with a draft legislation, amending the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, envisaging fairly stringent provisions—a jail term up to 10 years, a penalty up to Rs 10 crore, and statutory backing for fast-track courts. Speedy justice is welcome, but deeper systemic reforms are a must to restore public confidence. India requires a comprehensive overhaul that combines technology, institutional reforms, transparency, accountability and educational transformation. Strengthening the NTA, improving digital security and creating an independent auditing mechanism are essential. Stronger laws and fast-track courts may serve to punish or deter offenders, but only long-term reforms can eradicate the deep-rooted malaise. Gangs that exploit examinees for financial gain must be dealt with under a zero-tolerance policy. Coordinated investigations involving Central and State agencies and a robust legal framework can help dismantle these networks. The real objective should not simply be to prevent the next paper leak, but to build an examination system in which integrity is institutionalised.

Rahul to Modi, Shah: You Are India's Past, Protect Its Future

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah of threatening Gen Z, and said that the duo is "India's past" and should be careful about how they treat the country's future. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha also alleged that Modi and Shah are behind the filing of FIRs against student protesters and taking down their social media accounts. "PM Modi and Amit Shah – you cannot threaten Gen Z into silence. First you broke their bones. Now you are filing FIRs and taking down their accounts," Gandhi said on X. "You are India's past. Be careful about how you treat India's future," the former Congress chief said. The remarks came after Modi on Thursday said it has become necessary to bring comprehensive reforms in the education system, both at the Centre and in the states, to tackle the menace of paper leaks, assert-



ing that there would be no mercy shown to gangs playing with the future of children. In a late evening video message on Instagram, shortly after Parliament passed a Bill to amend the anti-paper leak law, the prime minister said that leaks in various examinations have become a major challenge not only for students but also for the Centre and many states. "The Centre and many states have been facing the paper leak problem for several years. The menace has threatened the future of children appearing in various examinations. "Therefore, it had become necessary to bring comprehensive changes to the education system to deal with the problem," the prime minister said. Referring to the anti-paper leak Bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on

Wednesday and the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, Modi said that as promised, a strong law is now in place to tackle the issue. "We will not spare the paper leak gangs, paper leak mafia and those playing with the future of children," the prime minister said. Modi also said that a task force has been constituted, fast-track courts are being set up, and suggestions are being taken from states to strengthen the examination process and prevent irregularities. Parliament on Thursday passed The Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, to amend the 2024 anti-paper leak law by introducing stricter punishments against paper leaks. The Bill was cleared in the Rajya Sabha with a voice vote amid a walk-out by several opposition parties from the INDIA bloc.

CAUVERY ROW: PRO-KANNADA OUTFITS ANNOUNCE STATEWIDE BANDH ON AUG 13

Bengaluru: Pro-Kannada outfits on Friday announced a bandh across the state on August 13 to protest the CWMA's direction to Karnataka to release 3,500 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for 15 days. The announcement was made by pro-Kannada activist Vatal Nagaraj following a meeting convened by pro-Kannada organisations under his leadership in Bengaluru to discuss the future course of protests against the release of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu. Addressing a press conference here, he said that Karnataka bandh will be observed from 6 am to 6 pm on August 13. He called upon people to cooperate and support this bandh. "Let us all make Karnataka Bandh a grand success from Belagavi to Chamarajanagar," he said. He also slammed all the political parties which are indulging in using the Cauvery order for their political mileage. The organisations opposed the release of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu, arguing that Karnataka itself is facing a water shortage and that releasing water would adversely affect the state's farmers.



The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) upheld the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee's (CWRC) recommendation to release 3,500 cusecs of water daily to Tamil Nadu for 15 days.

Ramchander Rao Accuses Telangana Govt of Betraying Students

Hyderabad: BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao accused the Congress in the state of "ill-treating" students by failing to deliver on election promises, withholding fee reimbursement dues, and unleashing police force against youth protests. In a post on his social media handle, Rao said the state government's response to student agitations had exposed its disregard for their aspirations. Sharing a video on police action on students, Rao alleged that after students took to the streets following the government's failure to fulfill its promise of "two lakh jobs a year", the ruling dispensation responded with "police brutality" instead of accountability. Rao focused heavily on the issue of fee reimbursement, and claimed that about 20



lakh students from SC, ST, BC and EBC communities were being jeopardized. He put the outstanding amount at around ?12,000 crore. "If you genuinely cared about students, you would have addressed their concerns," he said, addressing Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.

The BJP leader also invoked the history of the Telangana movement, alleging that the Congress was responsible for the deaths of nearly 1,200 youth and students during the second phase of the statehood agitation due to "U-turns and betrayals". He demanded an apology from the party, noting that neither the current leadership nor their predecessors have ever apologised for the 1969 Telangana agitation in which students were allegedly fired upon, or for the later phase of the movement. Rao further alleged that the state government had attempted to "grab university land for real estate," and added: "For you, it was never really about the students. You are merely using them as political pawns."

Anitha Reviews Security Arrangements for PM's Visit



Visakhapatnam: Home minister Vangalapudi Anitha reviewed the security and traffic arrangements for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Bhogapuram at a meeting with senior police officials in Visakhapatnam. Director General of Police (DGP) Harish Kumar Gupta, Visakhapatnam City Police Commissioner Shankhabrata Bagchi, and senior police officers from across the State, who joined the meeting via video conference, attended the review. The home minister directed officials to ensure foolproof security, effective traffic management, and widespread publicity on alternative routes to minimise inconvenience to the public. She stressed the need for inter-departmental coordination to ensure that the Prime Minister's visit is conducted smoothly and successfully.

MLA Chinta Prabhakar Meets Sangareddy Collector, Seeks Action on Drinking Water and Civic Issues



SANGAREDDY , Correspondent : July 31, 2026 : Sangareddy MLA Chinta Prabhakar met District Collector Prateek Jain on Friday and submitted representations on several key issues concerning the development of the constituency and public welfare.

The MLA urged the Collector to take immediate steps to resolve the drinking water problem in Sangareddy town by implementing a permanent solution. He requested coordinated efforts by the concerned departments to ensure that residents do not face further inconvenience and that the issue is addressed on priority.

Chinta Prabhakar also appealed for the allocation of government land for the establishment of a cremation ground in Regintal village of Sadasivpet mandal. Pointing out that the village currently lacks a cremation facility, he requested that a portion of the government land in Survey No. 149 be allotted for the purpose.

During the meeting, the MLA also reviewed the status of long-pending revenue applications and land-related issues, seeking updates on the progress of their disposal.

District Collector Prateek Jain responded positively to the representations and assured the MLA that the matters would be reviewed with the concerned departments and appropriate action would be taken.

Narayankhed Sub-Collector Uma Harathi, Madhusudan Reddy, Cheela Mallanna, Laxma Reddy, Majeed, Vitthal, and others were present during the meeting.

Police Commissioner Reviews Ground-Level Arrangements for Grand Nizamabad Oorapanduga Celebrations :

Nizamabad July 31, 2026 : As preparations gather pace for the N i z a m a b a d Oorapanduga to be celebrated on Sunday, P. Sai Chaitanya undertook a detailed field inspection across the city on Friday to evaluate security and logistical arrangements for the annual festival.

The Commissioner began his visit by inspecting workshops where the Goddess idols are being crafted. He interacted with artisans, appreciated their efforts, and reviewed the progress of the idol-making process. He then toured the designated procession route, examining traffic diversions, barricading, security deployment, emergency response measures, and crowd management plans. Officials were instructed to ensure that devotees experience a



safe and hassle-free celebration.

Later, the Commissioner visited Sirnapally Gadi, one of the key venues associated with the festival, where he reviewed the ongoing preparations. During an interaction with members of the Sarva Samaj Committee, discussions focused on festival coordination, civic amenities for devotees, law and order, and emergency preparedness.

The Commissioner emphasized that the success of the festival depends on effective coordination among all departments, organisers, and volunteers. He appealed to the public to cooperate with the police and follow traffic and safety guidelines to ensure that the celebrations are conducted peacefully and in a spirit of harmony.

The inspection was attended by ACP Prakash Yadav, Special Branch Inspectors Sridhar Reddy and Malesh, Town CI Srinivasa Raj, Town-I SHO Raghupathi, Rural SHO Srinivas, Town-IV SHO Satish, Two Town SI Yadagiri Goud, Sarva Samaj Convener Ramarathi Gangadhar, Secretary Bantu Rajeshwar, members of the organising committee, and police personnel.

People should be alert due to heavy rains: DSP, CI

Zaheerabad July: DSP Saida and CI Sivalingam urged people to take precautions in the wake of the incessant rains. They asked them not to try to cross streams, ponds, puddles, canals and bridges when flood water is flowing. They asked them not to come out of their homes unless necessary and to postpone their journeys. People in low-lying areas should go to safe areas if necessary, stay away from electricity poles, broken or hanging electric wires. They should not stay near old buildings in dilapidated condition and should not let children go near watercourses. For emergency assistance, they should call police officers, 100, 112 and District Police Control Room: 8712656739.



Protecting Every Eligible Vote is Congress' Priority : MLA Dr. R. Bhoopathi Reddy

Nizamabad, July 31, 2026 : Nizamabad Rural MLA Dr. R. Bhoopathi Reddy, along with Government Advisor Sudarshan Reddy, attended the Nizamabad District-level Special Intensive Revision (SIR) meeting held at a function hall in Mamidipally village of Armoor Mandal on Friday. The meeting was attended by Congress leaders, Booth Level Agents (BLAs), supervisors, and party workers from across the district.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Bhoopathi Reddy stated that safeguarding every eligible vote is the Congress Party's foremost priority. Alleging that the BJP government is attempting to influence constitutional institutions, he said the Congress is closely monitoring the voter list revision process to ensure that no eligible voter is deprived of their democratic right. He added that the party is committed to preventing irregularities in Telangana similar to those alleged in other states.

The MLA said that the initial phase of the voter list revision has been completed and that the



crucial stage has now begun. He urged BLAs, supervisors, and party workers to carefully verify voter lists, ensure that all eligible voters are included, raise objections against bogus entries wherever necessary, and remain vigilant until the publication of the final electoral roll. He also appreciated the efforts of party workers and BLAs for their dedication in the field.

Criticising the BJP-led Central Government, Dr. Bhoopathi Reddy alleged that its actions against youth and the arrest of senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during a protest reflected an anti-democratic approach. He praised Congress workers for organising demonstrations in support of Rahul Gandhi and called upon party cadres to strengthen the campaign with the slogan "Modi Hatao – Desh Ko Bachao."

The MLA further accused the Central Government of favouring corporate interests through the

privatisation of public sector institutions. He also criticised the previous BRS government over irrigation projects, alleging that corruption in the Kaleshwaram Project had adversely affected the state's irrigation sector. He claimed that had the Tummidihetti Project been completed, the present drought situation could have been avoided.

Calling upon party leaders and workers to actively take the Congress government's welfare and development initiatives to the people, Dr. Bhoopathi Reddy urged them to expose the failures of both the BJP and BRS governments at the grassroots level.

Congress Armoor In-charge Vinay Reddy, SIR in-charges from Balkonda, Bodhan, Nizamabad Urban and Rural constituencies, AMC Chairman Muppa Ganga Reddy, Telangana State Gita Industrial Corporation Chairman Shekhar Goud, party presidents from seven mandals, senior leaders, and a large number of party workers participated in the meeting.

People Living Around Kadem Project Must Remain Alert Officials Directed to Continuously Monitor the Situation

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : District Collector Bhavesh Mishra

In view of the heavy rains lashing the district, District Collector Bhavesh Mishra directed officials to accord top priority to the safety of people living in the vicinity of the Kadem Project. On Friday, he made a surprise visit to the project and reviewed the situation on the ground.

During the inspection, the Collector enquired with Irrigation Department officials about the project's Full Reservoir Level (FRL), present water storage, inflow, and outflow. Considering the heavy rainfall received over the past two days and the possibility of continued rains in the coming days, he instructed officials to remain on high alert and review the situation continuously.

The Collector directed officials to provide advance information to residents of downstream villages before releasing water from the project so that they can take necessary precautions. He also instructed project officials to remain available round the clock and continuously monitor the reservoir's water level and flow conditions.

He further ordered that strict security measures be implemented to prevent unauthorized persons from entering the project gates, water flow areas, and other dangerous locations. Keeping future requirements and weather conditions in mind, officials were advised to manage the reservoir's water in a well-planned and systematic manner.

Later, the Collector inspected the road leading to the Hi-Tech City Minority Residential Hostel in Khanapur, which was damaged due to heavy rains. He directed officials to ensure that hostel students do not face any inconvenience and that essential commodities and necessary supplies are delivered



through alternative routes without interruption.

The Collector emphasized that all departments should remain available at the field level and expedite relief measures to ensure that the public does not face any hardships.

The visit was attended by Khanapur Municipal Chairperson Ankam Mounika, Irrigation Department officials Jagadish, Rajendra Prasad, Praveen Kumar, and Veeranna, Municipal Commissioner Sundar Singh, Tahsildars Khaja Moinuddin and Sujatha, MPDO Radha Rathod, and other officials.

Collector Ashish Sangwan Reviews Rain-Affected Areas, Orders Immediate Safety Measures :

Kamareddy, July 31, 2026 : With heavy rains continuing across the district, Kamareddy District Collector Ashish Sangwan conducted an extensive inspection of rain-affected areas on Friday and directed officials to accord the highest priority to public safety and swift restoration of civic services.

Inspecting the waterlogged stretch near the Kamareddy Railway Station, the Collector instructed officials to drain the stagnant rainwater immediately and formulate a long-term solution to prevent recurring flooding. He emphasized that prompt action should be taken to minimize inconvenience to commuters and local residents.

The Collector also paid a surprise visit to the Government Hospital, where he reviewed the condition of the premises and directed officials to prepare estimates and commence repair works on damaged internal roads without delay to ensure uninterrupted access for patients and emergency services.

Later, Mr. Sangwan visited the overflowing Pedda Cheruvu, where he participated in the customary prayers offered following the tank reaching full capacity. He cautioned fishermen against venturing into the water during the cur-



rent weather conditions and instructed municipal and police authorities to erect barricades, restrict public access to dangerous areas, and maintain round-the-clock surveillance around the tank.

During his interaction with residents of GR Colony, the Collector urged people to remain vigilant, cooperate with the administration, and strictly follow official advisories issued during the ongoing monsoon season.

"The protection of human life is our foremost responsibility. Every department must work in close coordination to address rain-related issues without delay. Vulnerable locations such as tanks,

canals, and low-lying areas should be continuously monitored, and citizens must avoid entering such places during heavy rains," the Collector said.

The inspection was attended by Additional Collector (Local Bodies) N.Y. Giri, Municipal Chairperson Ippa Uma Rani Srinivas, Municipal Commissioner T. Parvathalu, Tahsildar Himabindu, Deputy Executive Engineer N. Hanumantha Rao Naik, Town Planning Officer A. Vineeth, Municipal Assistant Engineer C.H. Venu Prasad, local councilors, and other officials.

Advance Measures Must Be Taken to Prevent Public Hardships Due to Heavy Rains

Nirmal District Staff Reporter : Farmers Should Maintain Balance in Crop Cultivation: State Government Advisor Sudarshan Reddy

State Government Advisor Sudarshan Reddy chaired a review meeting with officials of Nirmal and Adilabad districts at the Collectorate Conference Hall on Friday evening to assess the impact of recent heavy rains, the status of irrigation projects, crop cultivation, and the possible effects of El Niño.

During the meeting, he reviewed the water storage levels, inflow and outflow at major irrigation projects, and sought details about roads and bridges damaged due to heavy rainfall.

Addressing the officials, Sudarshan Reddy instructed them to immediately undertake repair works on damaged roads and bridges to ensure that the public does not face inconvenience. He also directed officials to make advance arrangements to prevent drinking water shortages. Considering the increasing inflow into irrigation projects, he advised that reservoir gates be opened as required to regulate water levels safely.

Referring to the possible decline in rainfall due to the impact of El Niño in the coming months, the Advisor instructed Agriculture Department officials to create widespread awareness among farmers about crop diversification. He suggested promoting alternative crops such as oil palm, red gram (pigeon pea), sesame, and cotton instead of water-intensive paddy cultivation. He assured that the government would provide full support for the supply of quality seeds required for new crops and urged farmers to maintain a balanced cropping pattern.

He also directed the concerned officials to expedite the Custom Milling Rice (CMR) delivery process.

District Collector Bhavesh Mishra informed the meeting that continuous heavy rains over the past two days had filled the district's reservoirs, tanks, and ponds. He said repair works on damaged roads were being carried out on a priority basis to avoid inconvenience to the public. He added that even if rainfall declines due to El Niño in the coming days, the recent rains have ensured that there will be no shortage of drinking water. The Collector also stated that extensive awareness programmes are being conducted to encourage crop diversification and that oil palm cultivation is expanding steadily in the district.



Adilabad District Collector Rajarshi Shah said that the district's rainfall deficit had reduced from 38 percent to 6 percent, with 17 out of 21 mandals now recording normal rainfall. He noted that mandals previously affected by water scarcity, including Indervelly, Bhoraj, Sirikonda, Boath, Gudihatnoor, and Ichoda, have now returned to normal conditions. He further stated that 5,93,670 acres have been brought under cultivation this year, of which 4,37,698 acres are under cotton. Compared to last year, red gram cultivation has increased from 44,000 acres to 56,751 acres. He added that the current water storage in the Satnala and Mattadi Vagu projects would significantly support both irrigation and drinking water needs. The meeting was attended by District SP Dr. Janaki Sharmila, Additional Collectors B. Venkateshwarlu, S. Rajeshwar, Additional Collector (Revenue) Kishore Kumar, DRO Rathod Ramesh, DSP Srinivas Reddy, and officials from various departments.

Sanitation Negligence in 42nd Division Raises Public Health Concerns

Garbage Dumped Along Roadside, Stagnant Drain Water Sparks Residents' Anger

Palvoncha, July 31: Serious sanitation issues have been reported in the 42nd Division near Telangana Nagar in Palvoncha, where heaps of garbage have accumulated along the roadside. Mud and overgrown vegetation have clogged drainage canals, causing sewage water to stagnate and emit a foul smell, creating an unhealthy environment for nearby residents. Locals allege that despite the worsening conditions, the Municipal Corporation authorities and sanitation staff have failed to take necessary action. Residents fear that the unhygienic surroundings could lead to the spread of mosquitoes, flies, and seasonal diseases, posing a serious threat to public health. Speaking on the issue, BJP leader Ponishetty Venkateswarlu urged the Municipal Corporation to immediately remove the accumulated garbage and clean the clogged drainage canals. He demanded prompt



action to safeguard public health and warned that continued negligence would force residents to launch protests.

Leo Club District 315 to Induct New Leadership at Grand Installation Ceremony :

Nizamabad, July 31, 2026 : The Governor Leo Club District 315 is preparing to host a grand District Installation Ceremony in Nizamabad, where the newly elected district leadership and office bearers will officially assume charge. The programme, led by District Governor Anupam Sudhir, is expected to attract Leo members and dignitaries from across Telangana. Organised by Leo Club 35, the event will bring together nearly 190 delegates from 22 districts, making it one of the largest Leo gatherings in the region. The ceremony is aimed at strengthening leadership, encouraging youth participation, and promoting the organisation's commitment to social service. District Chairman R.R. Karthikeyan is supervising the overall arrangements with the support of senior Leo leaders and organising committees. Past Association Treasurer (PAT), Co-Convenors Ramesh and Kumar, along with club presidents and volunteers, are coordinating venue management, hospitality, accommodation, transportation, registration, and other logistical arrangements to ensure the smooth conduct of the event. District Governor Anupam Sudhir said the installation ceremony would provide an opportunity for Leo



members to exchange ideas, build stronger coordination among clubs, and reaffirm their dedication to community service. He called upon all Club Presidents, Secretaries, District Office Bearers, Past District Chairpersons (PDCs), Past Presidents (PPs), and Leo members to participate wholeheartedly and contribute to the success of the programme. The organisers expressed optimism that the installation ceremony would mark the beginning of a dynamic and service-oriented year for Leo Club District 315, inspiring young volunteers to take up impactful initiatives for the welfare of society while strengthening the organisation's presence across Telangana.

Officials on High Alert as Godavari Flood Threat Looms in Manuguru

CI Nagababu and Revenue Officials Inspect Riverbank Villages, Urge Residents to Stay Alert

Manuguru, July 31: In view of the rising water level in the Godavari River, officials conducted inspections in Chinnarayigudem, Kamalapuram, and other riverbank areas of Manuguru on Friday to assess the flood situation and ensure public safety. The inspection was led by CI Nagababu, along with Municipal Commissioner Prasad, Tahsildar Naresh, MPDO Sreekanth, MPO Venkateswarlu, and Surveyor Naresh. The officials reviewed the conditions in vulnerable areas and interacted with local residents. They advised people living in Chinnarayigudem and Kamalapuram to remain alert as the river level may rise further. Residents were urged not to take any risks and to strictly follow the instructions issued by the authorities. Officials also warned the public not to enter the Godavari River under any circumstances and requested people to avoid visiting the riverbanks for selfies, videos, or sightseeing. Fishermen were advised not to venture into the river until the flood situation returns to normal. The officials assured that the administration is continuously monitoring the flood situation and appealed to the public to immediately report any emergency and cooperate with the authorities to ensure everyone's safety.



From a small village to the Supreme Court

Justice is the goal, service is life, Supreme Court Advocate Yerramsetty Jayabharath's success story

Some in society achieve success... Some achieve respect along with success. But only a few rarely dedicate their success to the society. Such a rare personality is Supreme Court Advocate Yerramsetty Jayabharath. An ordinary boy born in a small village, today standing as an advocate in the Supreme Court, the highest court of the country, is a result of many tears, hardships, sacrifices, unwavering self-confidence, and endless hard work. Yerramsetty Jayabharath is a ray of hope in the lives of thousands of people, considering justice not as a profession but as a responsibility, service, and a way of life.

A family that inherited values
Born in a small village called Devarampadu in Palnadu district, Jayabharath was raised with values from childhood. His father, Yerramsetty Rama Rao, was a politician who worked closely with the people. Responding to public issues and helping those in need

Standing up is his nature. Mother Tulsi was a government teacher. A great teacher who taught humanity along with education. "Not caste. Not religion. Not region. The person is important. Whoever is in trouble should be helped. Justice should be equal for all" were ingrained in Jayabharath's mind since childhood. Like these, they have become the foundation of his personality today.

Interested in the legal profession since childhood

Jayabharath was known for his discipline right from his student days. He proved his talent by securing first class with 520 marks in class 10. Later, after completing his higher education, he secured a statewide rank in AP Law. Later, he excelled in legal studies and successfully passed the All India Bar Examination. It didn't stop there. Enrollment as the 516th advocate in the Supreme Court, the highest court of the country, became a proud milestone in his life.

Opportunities in the field of art. But in the field of law

He showcased his talent as an actor in television serials and films in the years 2017, 2018, and 2019. Despite getting good opportunities as an actor, he was not well-liked in society. He was deeply disturbed by the injustices taking place, the plight of the victims, and the people who



were suffering due to ignorance of the law. At that time, he made a great decision in his life. He decided to live as a lawyer for the people, not as an actor for fame. That decision completely changed his life.

This is **Father's death gives new strength to ambition**

The death of his father, Yerramsetty Rama Rao, three years ago left a deep sadness in Jayabharath's life. However, he turned that pain into strength. He adopted the path shown by his father, "Serve the people," and the values taught by his mother, "Justice should be given to every human being," as his life's goals.

Service that crosses state borders for justice
Jayabharath's services are not limited to one state.

He has argued many cases and provided justice to victims in states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu (Chennai), Maharashtra (Nagpur), Goa, New Delhi, Karnataka, Assam and others. His specialty is to argue each case not just as a file, but as the future of a family.

A lawyer who stood by the poor

He is from Chaitanyapuri, Hyderabad. He has set up an office and is providing free legal advice to the poor. In a situation where many people are afraid to even go to court for justice, he is giving them courage and legal guidance. Providing services to those in financial difficulties at the lowest fee is a testament to his humanity. His only belief is that justice is not just the right of the rich, but the constitutional right of every Indian citizen.

Recognized as an advocate by the Supreme Court

Serving as an advocate in the highest court of the country is the dream of every lawyer. Jayabharath, who has made that dream come true, is today winning the trust of the people as a Supreme Court advocate. Deep understanding of the law, comprehensive study of cases, strong arguments, honesty and commitment are the main reasons for his success.

Place in World Excellence Records

Another great achievement of his is his inclusion in the World Excellence Records in recognition of his distinguished services in the field of community service and law. This is not just a personal honor, but also international recognition for his continuous fight for justice.

The noble goal of serving as a judge000

Jayabharath's ambition is not just to be a successful advocate. His dream is to take on the role of a judge in the future and bring justice to more people's lives.

Values that define personality

Honesty is his strength. Discipline is his habit. Humanity is his ornament. Justice is his religion. Service is his way of life. The Constitution is his holy book.

An inspiration to the youth

A young man from a small village... believed in his talent. He worked hard. He did not give up. He did not change his goal. He decided to live for the people. And so today he stood as a Supreme Court Advocate in the highest court of the country. This is not just the success story of Yerramsetty Jayabharath. It is a message for every rural youth, every student, every dreamer. It is not where it is born, it is how high the peak you want to reach.

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Godavari in Spate: Second Warning Level Issued at Bhadrachalam

District Collector Ankit and SP Rohit Raju Inspect Flood Situation; Residents of Low-Lying Areas Urged to Shift to Relief Camps

Bhadrachalam, July 31: With the Godavari River reaching 48 feet at Bhadrachalam, authorities have issued the Second Flood Warning. In view of the rising flood situation, District Collector Ankit, Superintendent of Police Rohit Raju, and Bhadrachalam Sub-Collector Mrunal Shrestha conducted a field inspection of the flood-affected areas on Friday.

The officials first inspected the sluice gates and pumping systems at the Vista Complex. The Collector directed irrigation officials to ensure uninterrupted drainage of floodwaters and to continuously monitor the pumps to prevent any technical failures.

Later, the team inspected the embankment, bathing ghats, and the Koonavaram-Bhadrachalam main road. The Collector instructed officials to strictly prohibit public entry into the Godavari River and maintain continuous surveillance at vulnerable locations to prevent accidents.

Third Warning Likely if Water Level Reaches 53 Feet

Addressing the media, Collector Ankit said that heavy rainfall in the upstream regions has significantly increased the inflow into the Godavari. He stated that the river is currently carrying 1,144,645 cusecs of floodwater downstream and that a Third Flood Warning will be issued if the water level reaches 53 feet.

He urged residents of low-lying areas not to delay moving to relief camps. The administration has made all necessary arrangements, including safe drinking water, food, electricity, sanitation, medical services, and other essential facilities at rehabilitation centres.



Flood Control Room Functional Round the Clock

The Collector said that all departments, including Revenue, Police, Irrigation, Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration, Medical and Electricity, are working in close coordination to tackle the flood situation. He added that NDRF, SDRF, and District Disaster Response teams have been kept on high alert.

People have been advised to contact the Flood Control Room (08744-241950) or send information via WhatsApp (9392919743) during emergencies.

Don't Risk Your Life for Selfies: SP Rohit Raju

SP Rohit Raju appealed to the public to remain extremely cautious as the river continues to flow at dangerous levels. He warned people not to enter the river or visit flood-prone areas for selfies or videos. In case of emergencies, the public should immediately contact the Flood Control Room or dial 100 for police assistance.

The inspection was attended by officials from the Irrigation, Revenue, Endowments, Mission Bhagiratha, NDRF, SDRF, and other concerned departments.

Parliament passes Bill making insult to Vande Mataram a punishable offence

New Delhi: Parliament on Thursday passed a bill that makes any insult to the national song Vande Mataram a punishable offence with Lok Sabha clearing the legislation amid din. The government asserted that The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026 will grant status to Vande Mataram on par with national anthem Jana Gana Mana. It seeks to make any insult to Vande Mataram a criminal offence.

Responding to a brief debate in the lower house in which only two members participated, Minister of State for Home Nityananda Rai said the Congress

should have given Vande Mataram its due respect during its 76 years of rule, but instead it resorted to appeasement politics.

The Narendra Modi government is now giving the national song its due respect which it deserves. "For Ek Bharat, Shreshtra Bharat, we need complete (all six stanzas) Vande Mataram song," Rai said, as he concluded his brief reply to the bill with a chant of Vande Mataram. The Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act currently prohibits intentionally preventing the singing of the national anthem (Jana Gana Mana), or causing disturbance to any assembly en-

gaged in such singing.

These offences are punishable with imprisonment up to three years, a fine or both. A second and every subsequent conviction is punishable with imprisonment of a minimum of one year.

The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, extends these provisions to the national song (Vande Mataram). The bill was passed by voice vote after the two members spoke. The amendments moved by the Opposition were rejected by the House. A Raja of DMK later tore some document and threw it towards the Well.

Earlier, DMK member K Kanimozhi opposed the bill, saying it is a "Hindutva agenda" masquerading as nationalism. "It is against federalism. You cannot impose nationalism by bringing a law, the song goes against the secularism of the country. The founding fathers had the wisdom to stop only with 2 stanzas, but today you are trying to polarise the country by making it compulsory and making it a criminal offence if we do not sing all the 6 stanzas," she said.

Sambit Patra of the BJP said the Congress in its 76 years of rule did not give Vande Mataram the respect it deserved as a national song.

PENSIONS FOR THALASSEMIA AND SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA PATIENTS IN TG
FROM AUG. 15: REVANTH REDDY

Hyderabad:Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday directed officials to sanction pensions to all eligible thalassemia and sickle cell anaemia patients and ensure that the process began immediately after identifying beneficiaries.

The Chief Minister said the pensions would provide much-needed financial relief to affected families and instructed officials to commence distribution from August 15.

He was chairing a review meeting with panchayat raj and rural development minister Danasari 'Seethakka' Anasuya here on Thursday.

The Chief Minister also ordered officials to ensure that all eligible widows, single women, handloom

weavers and toddy tappers received their pensions without delay. He directed that widows of deceased persons with disabilities should be provided pensions immediately, stressing that there should be no procedural delays in extending the benefit.

Reviewing rural development and panchayat raj programmes, Revanth Reddy instructed officials to empower mandal parishad development officers (MPDOs) to monitor development works undertaken by various departments in their jurisdiction. He directed that mandal parishad meetings be conducted once every 45 days with members of Parliament, MLAs and MLCs invited to participate. Such meetings,



he said, would enable sarpanches to directly raise local issues with officials and improve coordination in resolving village-level problems.

The Chief Minister asserted that no village should remain without a blacktop road and in-

structed officials to ensure that every village is connected by an all-weather tar road. He also directed that every gram panchayat should have its own office building, with structures categorised as A, B or C based on population. Panchayat secre-

taries, he said, should be made fully accountable for sanitation and other civic responsibilities.

Revanth Reddy ordered the immediate release of funds for sanitation and other essential works in gram panchayats where elections are yet to

be conducted, ensuring that civic services are not disrupted due to the absence of elected bodies.

The Chief Minister also reviewed the Indiramma sari programme and instructed officials to ensure that the one crore saris to be distributed to women are of superior quality and featured attractive designs. He suggested involving students of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in designing the saris.

Expressing concern over the possible impact of El Niño conditions on water availability, Revanth Reddy directed officials to make comprehensive preparations to safeguard drinking water supplies. He asked officials of the Rural Water Supply department, Hyderabad Met-

ropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, and the irrigation department to hold regular coordination meetings and accord the highest priority to drinking water needs. He also instructed that employees working under rural drinking water supply schemes should receive their salaries before the fifth of every month and directed officials to prepare water supply plans based on locally available water resources.

The review meeting was attended by CM's principal secretary N. Sridhar, special chief secretary, panchayat raj and rural development, Dana Kishore, finance secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania and SERP CEO Divya Devarajan.

Former BRS MLA Peddi Sudarshan Reddy no more



Hyderabad: Former Narsampet MLA Peddi Sudarshan Reddy is no more. He was 52.

Sudarshan Reddy, a popular mass-based leader and a staunch follower of the BRS president K Chandrasekhar Rao, was admitted to the Yashoda Hospital in Secunderabad after he suffered a major cardiac arrest in Hanamkonda on July 26.

Yashoda authorities declared that the former MLA breathed his last at 12.51 a.m on Friday. He also suffered from a serious lung infection. Following preliminary treatment, his condition was stabilised and the end came on Sunday.

The mass-based leader had represented the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) from Narsampaet assembly constituency after winning the elections in 2019. He was one of the staunch followers of the BRS founder K Chandrasekhar Rao and was also the Chairman of the Telangana Civil Supplies Corporation.

An exemplary leader who stood by the cause of Telangana, Sudarshan Reddy was born on August 6, 1974 in Nallabelli village of erstwhile Warangal district was elected as a member of the Zilla Parishad Terrotorial Constituency (ZPTC) in 2001 on behalf of the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (Now BRS) in 2001.

He was elected as the TRS district party convener in 2004 and was later nominated as the state party governor in 20025. He led the separate Telangana agitation as the TRS Warangal district president for over eight years and later was nominated as the TRS politburo member

Funds Spent On Govt Engg Colleges Are A Criminal Waste: Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy questioned the job-readiness of engineering graduates, saying about 1.1 lakh students receive engineering certificates each year but some could not even fill out a job application.

He described the outcome as a "criminal waste" during his interaction with participants of the Finland and Germany teacher exposure programmes on Thursday. "Give them a plain sheet and ask them to fill out an application for a job. This is criminal waste," said Revanth Reddy. He asked teachers to test graduates from their villages in this manner.



The comment came during his discussion on the gap between academic qualifications and employable skills. Revanth Reddy claimed that some engineering graduates refuse smaller jobs, fail to acquire skills and expect others to find employment for them. "I am not blaming those children. We are unable to

prepare them," he added.

The Chief Minister then called for changes in government engineering colleges, where he said 24,000 students were studying. He proposed basic education during the first two years and skill training during the final two years. Students should also receive foreign-language instruction and

opportunities for overseas exposure, he said.

Revanth Reddy argued that engineering colleges must give students confidence that they can secure employment or become self-employed.

However, his remark on the job-readiness of newly-minted engineers drew the ire of Opposition members. BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao accused the Chief Minister of insulting engineering graduates and questioned his qualifications to assess their abilities. BRS Assembly floor leader T. Harish Rao said the remark insulted students and their teachers, demanding its withdrawal and an apology to both groups.

Lok Sabha Clears Bill Criminalising Insult to Vande Mataram



New Delhi: Lok Sabha on Thursday passed The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026 by voice vote in just 15 minutes. The legislation, which was cleared by Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, will grant status to Vande Mataram at par with national anthem Jana Gana Mana.

The Bill was passed with hardly any discussion in the lower house and only three members, including Minister of State for Home Mr Nityananda Rai, who had introduced the Bill, spoke during the discussions. Mrs K.Kanimozhi of DMK and Mr Sambit Patra of the BJP were the other two speakers. Mr A. Raja, who had moved amendments, was not allowed to complete his statement; as a result, he tore papers in anger

and threw it towards the Well of the House.

The government rushed through the Bill without giving much space to the Opposition, which was on its feet throughout the day to protest against various issues.

Presenting the Bill, Minister of State for Home Mr Nityananda Rai said the Congress should have given Vande Mataram its due respect during its 76 years of rule, but instead it resorted to appeasement politics.

"This Bill is for national honour and makes it mandatory to sing both national anthem and national song together at any event. The Narendra Modi government is now giving the national song its due respect which it deserves. For Ek Bharat, Shreshtra Bharat, we need to complete (all six stanzas) Vande Mataram song," Mr Rai said.

Opposing the Bill, Mrs K. Kanimozhi said the Bill has a "Hindutva agenda" brought masquerading as nationalism. "It is against federalism. You cannot impose nationalism by bringing a law, the song goes against the secularism of the country. The founding fathers had the wisdom to stop only with two stanzas, but today you are trying to polarise the country by making it compulsory and making it a criminal offence if we do not sing all the six stanzas," she said.

Mr Sambit Patra of the BJP said the Congress in its 76 years of rule did not give Vande Mataram the respect it deserved as a national song.

Seethakka Stresses 100% Basic Facilities in Anganwadi Centres

Telangana Women and Child Welfare Minister Dansari Anasuya Seethakka has directed officials to ensure 100 per cent basic infrastructure in all Anganwadi centres across the state without delay.

During a review meeting at the Secretariat, the Minister said that in the past year alone, toilets were provided to 5,938 centres, drinking water to 3,815 centres, and electricity to 14,271 centres. She appreciated officials for the progress and instructed them to complete the remaining works on priority.

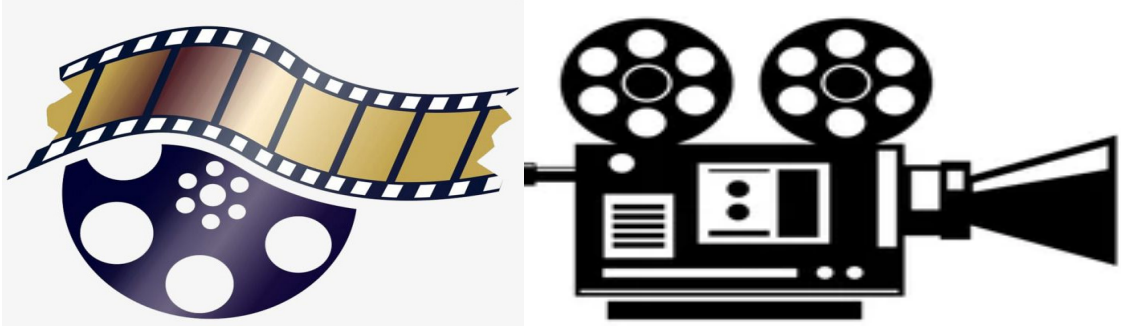
Seethakka also asked officials to implement the milk and breakfast scheme for Anganwadi children in all districts without delay and to strengthen nutrition



programmes based on sample surveys.

She directed speedy filling of vacancies of Anganwadi teachers and helpers, conduct of district-level meetings with staff, and improvement of pre-school education, adoption centres, and child marriage prevention measures.

The Minister stressed that Anganwadi centres should be child-friendly, well-maintained, and equipped to support children's health, learning, and overall development, while ensuring effective utilisation of funds without lapses.



CINEMA

Ramayana Trailer: A Magnum Opus Raises The Bar

Ranbir Kapoor's portrayal is measured, composed, and effortlessly convincing. His expressions, physical transformation, and action sequences portray Rama as both a compassionate prince and an invincible warrior.

Few trailers manage to leave audiences speechless within minutes, and Ranbir Kapoor's Ramayana is one of them. Rather than merely introducing its characters, the trailer transports viewers into a magnificent world where mythology, emotion, and cutting-edge filmmaking blend seamlessly.

The narrative revolves around Lord Vishnu descending to Earth as Rama to restore cosmic order when evil begins to dominate creation. Standing beside him is Sita, whose purity, resilience, and unwavering devotion define the soul of the epic. Her abduction by the mighty Ravana transforms a personal tragedy into a universal conflict, culminating in the legendary war that determines the destiny of the worlds.

Ranbir Kapoor's portrayal is measured, composed, and effortlessly convincing. His expressions, physical transformation, and action sequences portray Rama as both a compassionate prince and an invincible warrior.

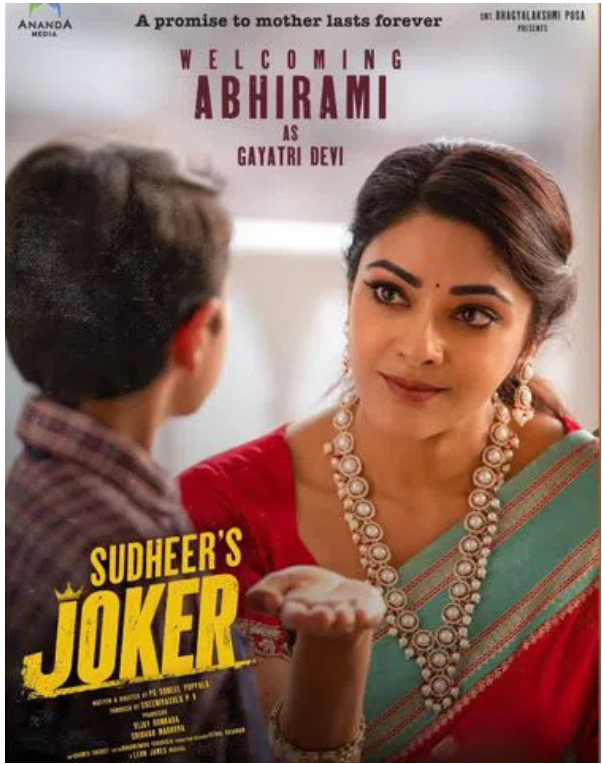
Sai Pallavi brings remarkable serenity to Sita, adding emotional gravitas through subtle yet impactful expressions. Yash commands attention from the moment he appears. His Ravana is fierce, proud, and intimidating, carrying the aura of a ruler determined to challenge the very heavens.



Technically, the trailer is nothing short of spectacular. Every frame reflects premium production quality, while the large-scale battle sequences hint at a visual extravaganza. The collaboration between Prime Focus Studios, DNEG, and Monster Mind Creations has resulted in visuals of international calibre. Hans Zimmer and AR Rahman's thunderous background score elevates every sequence, making the experience even more immersive.

The trailer promises a true magnum opus and has dramatically raised the bar.

Abhirami joins Sudigali Sudheer's 'Joker'; to play Gayatri Devi



Hyderabad:The makers of director Suneel Puppala's eagerly awaited Telugu comedy entertainer 'Joker', featuring actor Sudigali Sudheer in the lead, on Friday welcomed actress Abhirami on board the

unit of the film and disclosed that she would be playing a character called Gayatri Devi in the film.

Taking to its social media timelines, production house Ananda Media wrote, "Team #SudheersJOKER proudly welcomes the versatile actor @abhiramiact garu on board. Get ready to witness her brilliant portrayal of the beautiful character Gayatri Devi."

Actress Aysha plays the female lead in this film. It may be recalled that the makers of the film had disclosed that Aysha plays a character called Shalini in the film on the occasion of the actress's birthday in June this year.

Taking to Instagram to wish Aysha a happy birthday, Ananda Media had said, "Team #SudheerJOKER wishes their queen and the most beautiful @aysha7__official a very Happy Birthday. She is ready to mesmerize the world of #SudheerJOKER as Shalini."

Apart from Aysha, the film will also feature actor Murali Sharma in a pivotal role.

A teaser that the makers released on the occasion of Sudigali Sudheer's birthday in May this year revealed that actor Sudigali Sudheer plays a character called Rummy in the film. Murali Sharma's character in the film explains Rummy's nature in the teaser. He says, "While wealth, women and drugs give several people a high, for Rummy, the belief that he is a king gives him a high."

The teaser also shows that Rummy is a go-getter, who will take up a task only after ascertaining that he will succeed in it.

The film, which has been written and directed by Suneel Puppala, has been produced by Vijay Donkada and Sridhar Makkuvu. It boasts of an impressive technical team. Cinematography for the film is by Ahamed Sharief while music for the entertainer is by one of Tamil cinema's finest music directors, Leon James.

'Joker', which is being edited by Dharmendra Kakarla, has Vithal Kosanam serving as its production designer.

Actor Suriya's Vishwanath and Sons Audio Launch Date and Venue Announced

Actor Suriya's upcoming movie Vishwanath and Sons is one of the most awaited movies of the year. The film is all set to open in theatres on August 14. With only two weeks left before the film's release, Suriya's fans have begun the count-down and have been asking for details about the audio launch date.

Bankrolled by Sithara Entertainments, the makers have announced the date and venue details for the audio launch. The event is set to take place on August 2 at Hindusthan College of Arts and Science in Coimbatore.

Here is the tweet posted by Sithara Entertainments: The film boasts a stellar cast that includes Radikaa Sarathkumar, Nasser, Sudha, Raghu Babu, Sunil Reddy, Bhavani Sri, Viva Harsha, Kaali Venkat, George Maryan, Hyper Aadhi, Srija Ravi, Sarvadaman Banerjee, Mathew Varghese, Kalyani Natarajan, Karate Karthik, and Master Charvik. The film is produced by Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under the banners of Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas, respectively.



Actresses Paying the Price for Poor Script Choices?



A string of recent releases has once again sparked debate over whether leading actresses are making the right script choices. From Pooja Hegde's reportedly trimmed role in Jana Nayagan to Anushka Shetty's Ghaati, Kajal Aggarwal's Satyabhama and Tamannaah's Odela 3, several top stars have failed to leave a lasting impression despite being part of high-profile projects. Nayanthara, however, appears to have fared better in Mana Sankara Varaprasad Garu, largely because the film revolved around a husband-wife relationship.

Industry observers say many actresses sign films based on the star cast or commercial potential rather than the strength of their characters, only to find their roles reduced to a few scenes or songs.

"Actresses often end up making poor choices because they don't always have a complete picture of how their characters will eventually shape up on screen," says a noted producer. "Many roles are diluted during production or trimmed during editing. By the time the film releases, there is very little they can do."

The trend is particularly visible in big-budget entertainers featuring multiple heroines. While The Raja Saab brought together Nidhhi Agerwal, Riddhi Kumar and Malavika Mohanan, Yash's Toxic features Nayanthara, Kiara Advani, Rukmini Vasanth and Tara Sutaria. Although such ensembles generate excitement, the real question remains whether each actress gets a meaningful part. While the actresses in The Raja Saab may have been disappointed by the limited scope of their roles, it remains to be seen how Toxic utilises its star-studded female cast.

Producer Vishnu Vardhan Induri believes it is unfair to judge films like Toxic before their release. "I don't think it's only about glamour," he says. "Every producer and director casts actors with a purpose. The filmmaker designs each character according to the story. Having leading actresses also expands a film's reach and strengthens its promotional appeal."

He adds that actresses today play a crucial role in marketing films. "Their presence at promotional events attracts audiences and media attention, adding significant value to a project," he says.

This Sankranthi too, several films are relying on multiple heroines to widen their appeal. Bharatha Mahasayulaku Vinjapthi stars Ashika Ranganath and Dimple Hayathi, while Nari Nari Naduma Murari features Samyuktha Menon and Sakshi Vaidya. Though these actresses are expected to add glamour and youthful appeal, director Teja believes such roles often fail to utilise their full potential.

"Most actresses in commercial entertainers are confined to a few songs and limited scenes, eventually ending up with a raw deal," he says. "Many of them are capable of delivering powerful performances, but the writing rarely allows them to do so. We have also seen instances where roles are reportedly trimmed during editing, as in the cases of Pooja Hegde in Jana Nayagan and Janhvi Kapoor in Peddi. Such developments will make actresses think twice before signing commercial films unless they are assured of meaningful characters that contribute to the story."

As more filmmakers opt for single or multiple heroines in mainstream entertainers, the focus is gradually shifting from glamour to script selection. For today's actresses, choosing films with well-written, substantial roles may ultimately prove far more rewarding than simply being part of a star-studded cast.

Rashmika, Pooja Hegde Were Considered for Lenin Item Song, Reveals Thaman

In his latest interview, music composer SS Thaman shared a surprising detail about a missing sequence in the movie. He revealed that the makers had initially planned a special item song featuring Rayalaseema slang. He composed the track, and the team considered casting popular actresses like Rashmika Mandanna, Pooja Hegde, or Preity Mukhundhan (Kannappa fame). Just before shooting began, the filmmakers decided to scrap the song entirely. They felt it would interrupt the flow of the narrative and draw negative feedback in reviews.

Thaman admitted that he was upset initially by the decision. He event exited the film's official WhatsApp groups in frustration. Things got sorted later. Meanwhile, Thaman has shifted his focus to Megastar Chiranjeevi's 158th film. He mentioned watching an impressive footage clip of Chiranjeevi recently.

