

Telangana Govt Launches Sewing Machines Distribution Scheme for BC Women

Hyderabad: The state government on Thursday launched the “Intinta Indiramma Kuttu Machinlu” (Indiramma sewing machines in every household) scheme aimed at economically empowering women from the Backward Classes (BCs) community by providing them with means to take up tailoring as a source of self-employment. BC welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar launched the scheme and said 1.19 lakh automatic sewing machines would be distributed across all 119 Assembly constituencies in the first phase. Each constituency has been allotted 1,000 machines.

Applications will be accepted from August 15 to September 15. Each machine, valued at Rs 12,000, will be provided under 100 per cent subsidy, imposing no financial burden on the beneficiaries.

The scheme is primarily intended for un-employed BC women interested in tailoring. Priority will be given, as per the guidelines, to the poorest women, widows, single women, homeless and orphaned women, persons with disabilities and those with prior experience in tailoring. The minister said the selection process would be transparent and strictly based on government guidelines. Beneficia-



ries would also be required to undergo training in the operation of the machines.

Prabhakar also appealed to BC community representatives and community organisations to participate in large numbers in the unveiling of the statues of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on August 14 near HMDA grounds, Necklace Road, and the statue of Sardar Sarvai Papanna Goud on Tank Bund on August 18 on the occasion of his birth anniversary.

Telangana Govt, Foundit Ink MoU to Boost Youth Skilling, Jobs

Bengaluru: Telangana government, through Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) on Thursday, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with foundit, the jobs and talent platform, to strengthen employability, skilling, and access to career opportunities for youth across the state.

TASK, a not-for-profit organisation established by the Telangana government, works to bring together government, industry, and academia to build a future-ready workforce. Its initiatives are focused on enhancing the employability quotient of youth by strengthening personal, technical, and organisational skills while supporting industry with quality talent and workforce development services.

The MoU establishes a strategic collaboration aimed at improving employability, expanding access to career services, promoting industry-relevant upskilling, and enabling greater employment opportunities for students and job seekers registered within the TASK ecosystem.

By combining TASK's extensive academic network with foundit's technology-enabled career solutions and labour market intelligence, the partnership seeks to create stronger pathways from education to employment.

K. Nitin Kumar Reddy, Chief Executive Officer, Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge

(TASK), said "Preparing our youth for the future of work requires more than building technical skills- it requires connecting them with the right career guidance, industry insights, and opportunities."

"Our collaboration with foundit brings together TASK's strong academic network with foundit's technology-enabled career solutions and labour market intelligence to create more meaningful pathways from education to employment. Through this partnership, we aim to empower students and job seekers across Telangana with the skills, confidence, and career resources they need to navigate an evolving job market and build successful, sustainable careers," he said.

Tarun Sinha, Chief Executive Officer, foundit, commented, "Talent is one of India's greatest strengths, but unlocking its potential requires the right ecosystem. We are excited to work with the Government of Telangana and TASK to help young people build careers that are aligned with the needs of a rapidly evolving job market, while enabling employers to access skilled, future-ready talent."

Will Revanth Reddy end speculation over Nirmala's renomination as TGIC chairperson?

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's August 15 visit to Sangareddy has raised speculation over the renomination of T Nirmala, wife of TPCC Working President T Jagga Reddy, as TGIC chairperson after her two-year tenure ended on July 11.

Sangareddy: Will Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy put an end to speculations surrounding the renomination of T Nirmala, wife of TPCC Working President T Jagga Reddy, as TGIC chairperson during his visit to Sangareddy on August 15?

It was the single point of discussion among Congress leaders and cadres who were making arrangements for the Chief Minister's programme. Revanth Reddy will launch new laminated, debit-card-sized smart Public Distribution System (PDS) ration cards by distributing them to a few selected beneficiaries during a public meeting on Saturday evening.

After Jagga Reddy lost the Assembly election in



2023 to BRS candidate Chintha Prabhakar, the Congress leadership offered the Telangana Industrial and Infrastructure Corporation (TGIC) chairperson post to Nirmala. However, the two-year tenure of the post ended on July 11. Since the process of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) was underway in the State, the Congress Party asked all the

leaders to focus on the SIR and stay back at their constituency headquarters until the process was completed, to ensure all voters were enrolled.

Even after the SIR deadline ended on August 10, neither the AICC nor CM Revanth made any statement on the renomination of chairperson posts. However, Jagga Reddy was putting in all-

out efforts to get Revanth to announce the renomination of his wife during the Sangareddy public meeting.

The loyalists of Jagga Reddy were also worried whether Nirmala would get the same TGIC chairperson post again. Since Jagga Reddy was seen as a supporter of Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy, political leaders observed that Revanth Reddy may think twice before giving the lucrative post to Nirmala again. The people of Telangana will find an answer to all these speculations on August 15 evening. As Jagga Reddy and his wife hold no protocol posts, they will not find a place on the dais during Revanth's public meeting.

BRS opposes Government decision to auction land near Durgam Cheruvu

Hyderabad: After failing to sell the lands in Hyderabad Central University due to stiff opposition from the student community and public, the Telangana Government has now set its eyes on a land parcel in the prime locality near Durgam Cheruvu.

The Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIC) has now decided to auction 10.63 acres of land at Panmaktha village in Raidurg. The land parcel is next to Durgam Cheruvu.

This decision to auction the land is opposed by the Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS), which demanded that the auctions proposed to be held on August 17 and 21 be cancelled immediately.

The BRS deputy floor leader and former minister T Harish Rao has come down heavily on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's decision to auction 10.63 acres of land at Panmaktha village in Raidurg. He charged the gov-



ernment with attempting to create third-party rights over disputed heritage land.

He demanded that the proposed TGIC auctions on August 17 and 21 be withdrawn immediately. He warned prospective buyers that purchasing the land could lead to legal complications in the future.

In an open letter to the Chief Minister on Thursday, Harish Rao said the land in Survey No. 83/1 had been identified as a heritage site under G.O.Ms.No.4. He questioned the government's decision to auction it despite alleged ownership, heritage, Waqf and legal disputes. He pointed out that then TPCC president Revanth Reddy had approached the court in 2020 seeking protec-

tion for the same land.

"How can you now allow an auction that creates third-party rights?" he asked, accusing Revanth of adopting different positions in opposition and in power. He suspected it was another attempt to hand over valuable land to the Chief Minister's kith and kin. He slammed the Chief Minister over a series of attempts to auction and monetise lands at Kancha Gachibowli, Lagacherla, Maulana Azad National Urdu University and now Raidurg heritage land.

The former Minister alleged that 6.2 acres in the same survey number had earlier been put up for auction at around Rs 237 crore an acre, prompting SBI to approach the court. He said the matter was currently before the High Court and questioned the move to auction another 10.63 acres from the same survey number, without any regard for the judiciary.

CM Revanth Sees Bid To Delete Lakhs of Voters in Telangana

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday said that certain "political forces" were conspiring to delete lakhs of votes in Telangana through the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral roll, alleging that similar attempts had taken place in West Bengal and Bihar in recent times.

Referring to reports of more than 73 lakh voters being deleted at the end of the SIR enumeration phase, Revanth Reddy appealed to people to remain vigilant and ensure that the names of all eligible voters remain on the electoral rolls during the next phase of the exercise.

Participating in the "Minorities Excellence Summit"

at Adivasi Bhavan in Banjara Hills, Revanth Reddy, without naming any political party, alleged that "political forces from Gujarat" had begun their march towards Telangana through the SIR exercise and were attempting to target the state. He called upon the people to remain alert and foil any such attempts. The Chief Minister said some leaders had claimed that they had "conquered" West Bengal and that Telangana was their next target.

Responding to such claims, Revanth Reddy said, "You were successful because Didi (Mamata Banerjee) did not take this issue seriously. But we will not allow this in Telangana."

He said the Congress would not allow eligible voters to lose their voting rights and urged party workers to take up the responsibility of protecting the electoral rolls.

The Chief Minister appealed to the youth to visit every household during the next 10 days, compare the voter lists of 2002 with the latest electoral rolls, identify discrepancies and submit the details to Booth Level Officers (BLOs).

He asked the Congress cadre to ensure that not a single eligible voter was deleted from the rolls and called upon everyone to become a "Revanth Reddy" in safeguarding the right to vote. He also urged people across

Telangana to personally verify their names and those of eligible members of their families in the voter lists.

Revanth Reddy said the Congress government is committed to the welfare and empowerment of minorities, saying Hindus and Muslims were "two eyes" for him. Referring to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's statement that the four per cent reservation for minorities would be removed if the BJP came to power in Telangana, the Chief Minister challenged Shah to first remove the Muslim quota in Gujarat before talking about Telangana.

He said the Congress deserved credit for introducing and implementing the four per

cent reservation for minorities. He claimed that the state government had ensured its effective implementation, enabling minority youth to secure jobs in Group-I and Group-II services. "Our government implemented the four per cent reservation effectively, and the youth have secured jobs in Group-1 and Group-2 services. We ensured minorities were given their due place under our government," he said.

The Chief Minister said some forces had attempted to stall the recruitment process by approaching the Supreme Court, but the State government pursued the matter seriously and succeeded in completing the appoint-



ments.

Listing various measures taken for the minority community, Revanth Reddy said a member of the minority community had been appointed to the Telangana Public Service Commission.

He also pointed to the induction of former Indian cricket captain Mohammed Azharuddin into the State Cabinet, the provision of a Group-I level government job to world boxing champion Nikhat Zareen along with a cash prize of 3 crore, and the appointment of cricketer Mohammed Sirajuddin as a

Deputy Superintendent of Police.

The Chief Minister urged minority youth to focus not only on formal education but also on acquiring job-oriented skills to take advantage of emerging employment opportunities in countries such as Germany and Japan. He said the State government had already established a Skills University to enhance the employability and skills of students. Revanth Reddy thanked the Muslim community for its cooperation and support in helping him reach the position of Chief Minister.

Devadula Supplies Irrigation Water As Crops Face Dry Spell

Warangal: The Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme has been supplying water to reservoirs to support crops amid a dry spell, former deputy chief minister and Station Ghanpur MLA Kadiyam Srihari said on Thursday.

He said advance measures taken over the past month to store water in reservoirs had enabled authorities to provide irrigation water despite the prevailing dry conditions. With no major releases from other irrigation projects, Devadula had become the main source of water for farmers in the region, he said.

Srihari said five reservoirs — Dharmasagar, Ghanpur, Ashwaravupalli, Gandhi Ramaram and Bommakur — were holding more than 50 per cent of their capacity. Water would be released on an 'on-off' basis to ensure supplies reached tail-end ayacut areas.

Water was released from



Ashwaravupalli reservoir on Wednesday, while releases from Gandhi Ramaram and Bommakur reservoirs were scheduled for Thursday and Friday respectively.

Srihari advised farmers against taking up fresh paddy cultivation and urged them to protect standing paddy and dryland crops by using irrigation water judiciously.

He also criticised the BRS and BJP for allegedly spreading misinformation against the Congress government. He said the BRS was in power when the Medigadda barrage suffered damage and was now trying to shift the blame for its failures.

CM's Medaram Visit: Tribal Deity Darshan, Pension Launch As Highlights

MULUGU: The Mulugu district administration has intensified arrangements for Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's visit to the district on August 16, when he would offer special prayers to tribal deities Sammakka and Saralamma at Medaram and launch a pension programme for eligible widows and single women.

The Chief Minister would also inaugurate some development projects at the district headquarters.

Rural development minister Danasari Anasuya Seethakka along with collector Borkade Sahadevrao and SP Sudhir Ramnath Kekan inspected development works near Gattamma, including a project pylon and the new integrated district offices complex.

Seethakka directed officials to speed up the



pylon works without compromising on quality and complete them within the stipulated deadline.

Revanth Reddy will reach Medaram in the afternoon of August 16 and offer special prayers to Sammakka and Saralamma. He will subsequently launch the distribution of pensions to eligible widows and single women across the state.

Seethakka said applications received up to August 31 would be scrutinised and eligible beneficiaries selected according to the rules in force.

From Medaram, the CM would reach Mulugu and unveil a development pylon for HAM road projects being taken up by the Panchayat Raj department in three phases at an estimated cost of around Rs 16,000 crore. The project aims to improve road connectivity to villages and strengthen rural infrastructure.

Later, Revanth Reddy would unveil a statue of Telangana Thalli at the new collectorate and formally inaugurate the integrated district offices complex. He would also address a public meeting at the collectorate premises.

Hanamkonda Hosts Har Ghar Tiranga Rally



HANAMKONDA: A Tiranga rally was held in Hanamkonda on Thursday evening as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign. Organised under the leadership of BJP Hanamkonda district president Kolan Santosh Reddy, the rally began at the Thousand Pillar Temple and concluded at the Ambedkar statue.

Teachers' MLC Malka Komaraiah attended as the chief guest. Students, youth and members of the public participated, carrying the national flag and raising slogans including Vande Mataram and Bharat Mata Ki Jai.

Addressing the gathering, Komaraiah said the Tricolour should remind people of the sacrifices of freedom fighters and soldiers. He said India was progressing in all sectors under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He called upon people to contribute to building a strong, prosperous and self-reliant India and work collectively towards the vision of Viksit Bharat.

BJP state leaders Rao Padma Reddy, Dr Pagadala Kali Prasad Rao, Gunjula Premender Reddy, former mayor Dr T. Rajeshwar Rao and former MLA Marthineni Dharma Rao, among others, participated in the rally.

Revanth Blames In-Charge Ministers for Telangana Losing 21% Votes



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday said Telangana was set to lose 21 per cent of its votes in the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and directed Congress leaders to ensure that eligible voters retained their names in the final rolls.

Addressing a virtual meeting of the state Congress on the SIR, Revanth Reddy placed the responsibility on in-charge ministers and directed them to undertake field visits and hold district-level review meetings over the next two days to assess the situation.

Expressing concern over the deletion of lakhs of names, he asked district Congress presidents to obtain details of voters marked for de-

letion from election authorities and take measures to retain all eligible voters on the rolls. The Chief Minister also directed Assembly constituency in-charges to remain in their constituencies for four days, identify issues and resolve them in coordination with party workers.

"This situation has arisen because those responsible — from in-charge ministers down to the booth level — failed to discharge their duties properly. The in-charge ministers concerned must immediately hold review meetings with the in-charges of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies in their respective districts," he said during the virtual meet.

Revanth Reddy also asked party leaders to highlight what he alleged was a conspiracy by the BJP and BRS to delete votes. "These are clear directives from the AICC. Failure to proceed with a robust action plan will result in significant political damage in the future. Alongside resolving issues related to the SIR process, you must expose the conspiracy by the BJP and BRS to delete votes to the public. Everyone must step forward and shoulder this responsibility," he emphasised.

Amid Protests, Parliament Monsoon Session Ends

NEW DELHI: Amid repeated disruptions and adjournments, the stormy Monsoon Session of Parliament came to an end with both Houses being adjourned sine die on Thursday. The session saw relentless protests by the Opposition over the police action on agitating students during the Neet Paper leak protest and alleged theft of Ram temple donations. The session provided 19 sittings spread over a period of 25 days, during which 11 bills were introduced in the Lok Sabha and 2 bills were introduced in the Rajya Sabha. In all, both the Houses passed 12 bills, several of them without a debate.

Amid the Opposition's protests during the entire session, the Lok Sabha functioned for about 19 per cent of its allotted time. As soon as the House met for the day, all six stanzas of the national song Vande Mataram were played, following which Speaker Om Birla adjourned the House sine die (for an indefinite period).

The Speaker did not read out the usual valedictory address in which he highlights the performance and productivity of Lok Sabha during the session. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union home minister Amit Shah and defence minister Rajnath Singh, among others, were present when the House met for a brief while. The Opposition raised slogans against Mr Modi and Mr Shah.

The Congress, the Trinamul Congress, and the Samajwadi Party boycotted the customary tea party hosted by Mr Birla after the House was adjourned sine die. Only DMK leader Kanimozhi attended the traditional get-together.

While no business could be transacted in the Lok Sabha on the last day of the session, the Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill 2026 was passed in the Rajya Sabha amid the din.

Soon after the bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha by the Union minister G. Kishan Reddy, Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge alleged that people associated with the BJP purified the stage at Ramlila Maidan in Uttarakhand's Haldwani, where he had made a speech. He demanded that cases should be registered under the Untouchability Act against those who purified the stage in Haldwani, and they should be arrested and sent to jail.

Responding to Mr Kharge's charges, the Leader of the House J.P. Nadda condemned the incident and said the BJP does not subscribe to such activities and the incident will be investigated.

After the mines and mineral bill was passed, Rajya Sabha Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan expressed "deep concern" over disruptions that "derailed" the business of the House during the entire session.

As Mr Radhakrishnan adjourned the House sine die, he urged the Members to uphold the dignity of the Rajya Sabha and discharge their parliamentary responsibilities in the highest traditions of Indian democracy. He highlighted that 12 bills were either passed or returned during the session that started on July 20. He said that the House functioned for only 37 hours and 49 minutes, recording a productivity of 39.17 per cent.

"I hope that when we meet again, we shall do so with a renewed resolve to uphold the dignity of this august House and discharge our parliamentary responsibilities in the highest traditions of our democracy, thereby strengthening our democratic institutions and our democracy at all times," Mr Radhakrishnan concluded.

Opposition leaders, including Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and former party chief



Sonia Gandhi, attended the tea party hosted by the Chairman after the House was adjourned sine die.

After both Houses of Parliament were adjourned sine die, Union parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijju blamed the Congress for "unfairly disrupting" House proceedings during the session and said it was for the first time in the country that the opposition was "running away" from debate when the government wanted discussion.

Addressing a press conference, Mr Rijju said the government is not happy as elaborate discussions on key bills could not take place. "For the first time, we have seen the Opposition running away from debate in Parliament when the government wanted discussions. The Congress is solely responsible for unfairly disrupting the proceedings. This is not good for democracy, especially parliamentary democracy," he said, expressing hope that there will be "some changes" in the Opposition's attitude in the next parliamentary session.

Mr Rijju said 12 bills were passed during the session, but sadly only one saw discussions in both Houses. The minister was referring to the Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill 2026, which was passed by both Houses with voice votes.

"You can engage in sloganeering anywhere on the streets. Members come to the House after being elected. They come here for debate and discussion. Yet, an atmosphere has been created where the Congress MPs believe that their primary task is sloganeering," he alleged.

Asked if a special Parliament session will be convened to bring bills seeking to provide a 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and the state Assemblies before 2029, which will require delimitation, Mr Rijju replied, "Don't ask about the future now. We are people who live in the present."

During the consideration of the bill to make the insult to the national song Vanda Mataram a punishable offence, only two members spoke in a symbolic debate amid noisy protests.

The Foreign Contributions (Regulation) Amendment Bill, which had become a sticking point between the government and the Opposition MPs over some of its provisions, was on Wednesday referred to a joint committee of Parliament for further scrutiny. The bill was introduced in the Budget Session but was not moved for consideration and passage, as several religious organisations had opposed it.

Earlier in the day, the Opposition members staged protests in the Parliament house complex. TMC Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien said the session was a "near-washout" as the Opposition's demand for a statement from the Union home minister on the attacks on protesting students at Jantar Mantar and in Bihar was not accepted.

Turka Kasha Community Gets Livelihood Support:

Generators and Tool Kits Distributed to Medchal-Malkajgiri Beneficiaries



Hyderabad August 13, 2026 : Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Telangana Minorities Finance Corporation (TGMFC) Chairman Mohd. Obedullah Kothwal distributed generators and tool kits to members of the Turka Kasha Muslim Community under the “Rehabilitation of Turka Kasha Minority Community” scheme.

The programme was held at Komaram Bheem Adivasi Bhavan, Banjara Hills, with beneficiaries from Medchal-Malkajgiri district receiving the livelihood assistance.

The initiative is intended to provide economic support to members of the Turka Kasha community and help beneficiaries strengthen their traditional occupations and self-employment activities.

The programme was attended by Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammad Azharuddin, Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and Government Advisor Mohammad Ali Shabbir.

Other dignitaries present included Mir Zulfekar Ali, MLA; Azmathullah Hussaini, Chairman, Waqf Board; Taher-Bin-Hamdan, Chairman, Telangana Urdu Academy; Khushro Pasha, Chairman, Hajj Committee; and Mohammad Faheemuddin Qureshi, President, TGMREIS.

Senior officials, including the General Manager and AGM of TGMFC, along with corporation staff and several public representatives, also participated in the programme.

The beneficiaries thanked the Chief Minister and TGMFC for extending assistance under the rehabilitation scheme and said the generators and tool kits would help them improve their livelihoods and move towards greater economic self-reliance.

Greenwich Academy Students Excel in Karate :

Young Martial Artists Complete Belt Grading Examination



Hyderabad August 13, 2026 : The young karate athletes of Greenwich Academy – The School demonstrated impressive discipline, confidence and technical skills during the Karate Belt Grading Examination 2026.

The examination was conducted in collaboration with Star Karate Club International, giving students an opportunity to demonstrate the skills they developed through regular training and practice.

The young participants performed various karate techniques, including punches, kicks and stances, with determination and focus. Their performances reflected the hard work, discipline and commitment they have shown throughout their training.

The school management congratulated all the students who participated in the grading examination and appreciated their efforts to improve their martial arts skills.

Karate training is helping the students develop not only physical fitness and technical ability but also concentration, confidence, discipline and determination.

Parents and trainers expressed their happiness over the students’ progress and encouraged them to continue their journey towards higher levels of achievement.

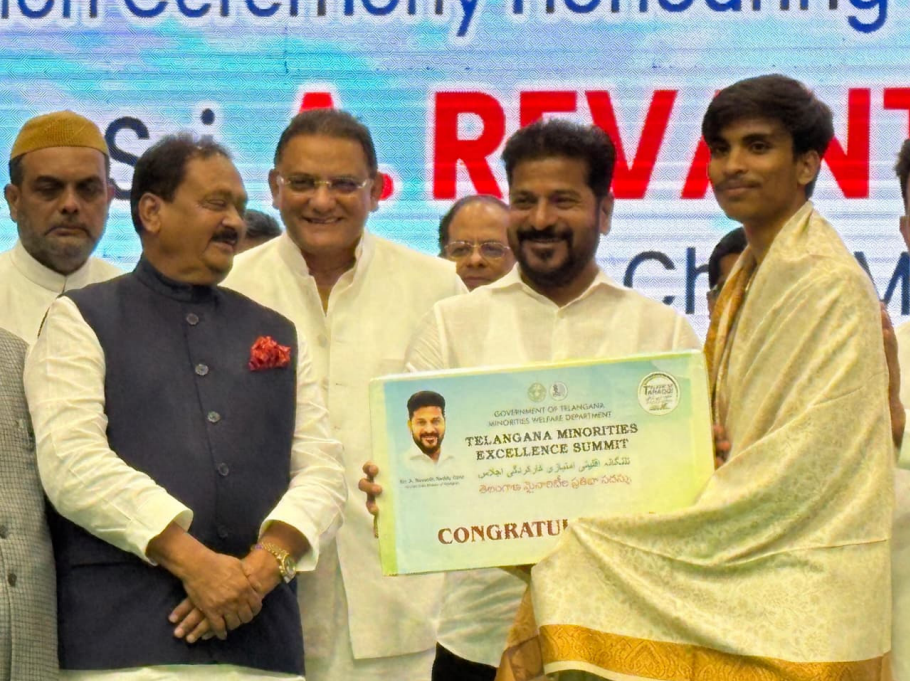
The successful completion of the grading examination marked another important milestone for the young karate athletes, inspiring them to work harder and reach the next level in their martial arts journey.

Kamareddy Students Earn State-Level Recognition : Sandipani College Students Secure Top Ranks in BiPC

Hyderabad August 13, 2026 : Two students from Sandipani College in Kamareddy have brought laurels to the district by securing top positions at the State level in Intermediate BiPC examinations.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Government Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir felicitated the meritorious students at a programme held at Banjara Komaram Bheem Bhavan in Hyderabad and appreciated their outstanding academic performance.

Aiman Maseera, a first-year BiPC student, secured the State first rank with an



impressive 439 marks out of 440. Her exceptional achievement was appreciated by the Chief Minister and Government Advisor.

Meanwhile, Asma Jabeen, a second-year BiPC student of the same college, secured the State second rank, further highlighting the academic excellence of Sandipani College.

As a mark of appreciation, the government honoured both students and presented them with laptops. The Chief Minister and Government Advisor said that students who demon-

strate dedication and excellence in education should be encouraged, as their achievements inspire others to set ambitious goals.

The college management, lecturers, parents and students expressed pride over the State-level achievements. They attributed the success to the students’ hard work, parental encouragement and the dedicated guidance of the teaching faculty.

Public representatives and educationists congratulated Aiman Maseera and Asma Jabeen and wished them continued success in higher education and their future careers.

‘Har Ghar Tiranga’ Rally Held in Nirmal

Nirmal District Correspondent : Youth Enthusiasm Shows India Is Certain to Become a Vishwaguru: MLA Aleti Maheshwar Reddy

Nirmal: A grand Tiranga rally was held in Nirmal district headquarters on Thursday as part of the ‘Har Ghar Tiranga’ programme being organised on the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of Independence Day.

BJP Legislature Party (BJLP) Leader and Nirmal MLA Aleti Maheshwar Reddy said that the future of the country lies in the hands of the youth and urged them to dedicate their time to the nation and Dharma.

The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from school and college students, youth, patriotic citizens



and BJP leaders. Participants carried the national flag and raised slogans such as “Bharat Mata Ki Jai” and “Vande Mataram,” filling the streets of Nirmal with patriotic spirit.

The rally began at the local NTR Mini Stadium and passed through the Bus Stand, Ambedkar Chowk and Old Bus Stand before concluding at Vivek Chowk. MLA Aleti Maheshwar Reddy and BJP leaders paid floral tributes to the statues of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Swami Vivekananda.

Addressing the gathering, the MLA said the enthusiasm displayed by the youth was a clear indication that India was moving towards becoming a Vishwaguru (global leader). He stressed the need to strengthen patriotic among citizens.

He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had taken steps to ensure that “Vande Mataram” would be sung by every person

born in the country. He also highlighted the 33 per cent reservation for women, crediting the Narendra Modi-led Union Government for the initiative.

The MLA urged the youth to stay away from bad habits and drug addiction and administered a pledge to them.

District BJP President Ritesh Rathod, BJP leaders Ravula Ramnath, Bhoomayya, Sravanthi Reddy, Thakkala Ramana Reddy, Karipe Vilas, Medisemma Raju and Rajeshwar Reddy, BJYM District President Niranjan Reddy, town BJP leaders, municipal councillors, students, BJP workers and members of the public participated in the programme.

CI Rudra Veer Felicitated for Bonalu Security Arrangements

- Special prayers offered at Bhavaninagar Pochamma Temple
- Peaceful Bonalu celebrations ensured through effective security
- Temple committee appreciates police coordination
- Local representatives and residents honour CI Rudra Veer
- Gratitude expressed for maintaining law and order

Shankarpally, August 13: Shankarpally Circle Inspector Rudra Veer offered special prayers at the Bhavaninagar Pochamma Temple on Tuesday evening. Following the prayers, the temple committee, local representatives and residents felicitated him in recognition of the security arrangements and cooperation extended during the Bonalu festivities.

The temple committee appreciated the police department’s efforts in maintaining law and order, regulating traffic and ensuring the safe movement of devotees. The celebrations were conducted peacefully without any untoward incidents, reflecting effective coordination between the police, temple committee and local residents.

Shankarpally Municipality Congress Party President and Temple Committee President Madapati Chandramouli, along with 1st Ward



Councillor Anand Rao Erra, 9th Ward Councillor Vakitolla Ganesh, 10th Ward Councillor Srirajanla Vasantha Mahender Reddy, temple committee members and Bhavaninagar residents participated in the felicitation.

The committee and residents conveyed their appreciation to CI Rudra Veer and the police personnel for their dedicated efforts in ensuring a secure and peaceful environment throughout the Bonalu celebrations. They stated that continued coordination between the police and the community would help ensure the smooth conduct of future religious and cultural events.



Friday 14, August, 2026

INDIA’S INNOVATION CHALLENGE REMAINS

Though India has emerged as one of the world’s largest producers of scientific publications and patent filings, it continues to lag behind in research spending relative to the size of its economy. One of the reasons for this poor performance, compared with other major economies, is that R&D spending has traditionally been the exclusive domain of the public sector since independence, and the private industry was largely insulated from innovation. However, a positive shift is happening now. The latest report by the Department of Science and Technology on India’s research profile reveals a major milestone. For the first time in the country’s history, private industry’s share of the Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) stood at 51.8% in 2023-24, overtaking the combined spending of the central and State governments. This significant jump from 45.5% in 2021-22 is a welcome development. According to the Economic Survey 2025-26, India’s GERD stands at roughly 0.64% of GDP — a figure that has been virtually stagnant for more than a decade and is dwarfed by those of Israel (5%), South Korea (4.8–4.9%), the United States (3.5%), Japan (3.3%), and China (2.4%). The R&D spending hovered in the range of 0.6% to 0.85% for nearly 20 years despite India’s economy growing several-fold. The optics of private industry crossing the 50% threshold are encouraging, and they do bring India structurally closer to advanced economies where business enterprise typically funds 70–80% of national R&D. South Asians & Diaspora

While the private sector’s rising R&D share is a positive and necessary correction to India’s historically state-dominated research funding model, it is by itself not sufficient to close the technology gap with the countries it wants to compete with. India crossing the 50% mark in private contribution while spending less than 1% of GDP on R&D is a very different achievement from the US or China doing so while spending 2.5-3.5% of GDP. Understandably, private R&D follows sectors that promise near-term commercial returns: generic and specialty pharmaceuticals, IT services and software products, automotive components and EVs, and consumer-facing digital technologies. These sectors are undoubtedly important for boosting exports and generating employment, but they are not fully aligned with the areas most consequential for India’s strategic autonomy and long-term economic security: semiconductor fabrication, advanced materials, critical minerals processing, defence and aerospace systems, foundational AI models, and clean energy storage. A large share of private R&D is concentrated in a narrow set of sectors. Decades of a protected, import-substituting economy, followed by a services- and IT-outsourcing-led growth model, meant Indian firms could compete and profit without deep in-house research — unlike Korean or Chinese firms, which were pushed by export-oriented industrial policy. Also, public research institutions and private industry have historically operated in separate silos, with limited co-funded research or faculty-industry mobility, unlike the tightly integrated innovation ecosystems of the US or Germany.

Kharge Alleges 'Shuddhikaran' Ritual By BJP After His Haldwani Rally

New Delhi: A row erupted in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday after Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge accused the Bharatiya Janata Party of carrying out a 'Shuddhikaran' (purification) ritual of the stage at Uttarakhand's Haldwani, where the latter addressed a rally.

Kharge addressed a Congress rally at Ramlila Maidan on August 8 as part of the party's preparations for the 2027 Uttarakhand Assembly election.

Speaking in the House, Kharge, pointing out the incident, said that lakhs of people were present when he delivered the speech at Haldwani.

He said, "It pains me to say that I had delivered a speech at the Ramlila Maidan in Haldwani, where lakhs of people were present. I did not mention the name of any community or religion there; I only spoke about the problems faced by the people."

"But after my speech, people associated with the BJP carried out a 'purification' ritual of that stage. You may have read about this in the newspapers. Is this the way things should happen in a democracy? How are you protecting the Constitution?" Kharge alleged.

Replying to this, Leader of the House JP Nadda condemned the alleged incident while as-



serting that the BJP does not subscribe to such activities.

Nadda also said that the BJP will surely investigate the allegations raised by Mallikarjun Kharge.

"What Kharge ji has said is truly a matter of concern—not just for the Congress party, but for all of us. Kharge ji has said that those who did this were BJP people. I want to make it absolutely clear that the BJP does not subscribe to such activities," he said.

"However, since you have raised the issue, we will have it investigated. But let me reiterate that the BJP does not support or endorse such activities. It is a matter of regret for all of

us," the BJP leader emphasised.

Meanwhile, LoP Kharge again stood up and said that he does not want to turn the incident into a political issue.

"I do not want to turn this into a political issue. I have been in this House for many years, but I have never stood before anyone and pleaded for help by saying that I am an SC or a Dalit. I have the strength to fight, and I fight. But when you practise untouchability against me, you insult and humiliate me," he said.

JP Nadda again stood up and reiterated that the BJP does not endorse such activities

Addressing the Rajya Sabha, Chairman CP Radhakrishnan asserted that all of the members condemn untouchability.

"We all condemn this, irrespective of party or ideology. We all condemn untouchability, and we are all already 'purified.' There is no need for anyone to purify us again and again," he said.

The Chairman also requested the government to investigate the allegations, and if true, the accused should be punished.

"I also request the government that those who have done this wrong should be investigated, apprehended, and punished. There is no second opinion on this," he said.

Naidu Inaugurates Seed Access Road, Bridge Connecting Amaravati

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday inaugurated the E3 seed access road and a steel bridge here in Guntur district, boosting connectivity to the greenfield capital city. Built at a cost of Rs 1,520 crore, the 22km road stretches from Dondapadu village in Amaravati through Rayapudi, Venkatapalem, Penumaka, Undavalli and Tadepalli villages before connecting with National Highway Number 16 (NH – 16).

With a width of 60 metres, the road with nine lanes is being developed in three phases, which will also include a special Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) corridor and service roads. Infrastructure such as drainage, drinking water supply, gas and power is being integrated along with the construction of the road. The project features a cycle



track, footpaths and a green belt. To link the road with the Vijayawada-Mangalagiri highway, a four-lane and 478-metre-long steel bridge was built over the Buckingham Canal in Undavalli village.

With the construction of the bridge and the

road and their inauguration, connectivity from Vijayawada to the greenfield capital city will improve and ease traffic congestion on the existing narrow 'karakatta' road near the banks of the Krishna River. In Amaravati, the government is building 34 roads stretching up to 350 km in a grid pattern from N1 Road to N17 Road, all of which will be linked by the E3 road. Obviating unnecessary curves and enabling easy access to the greenfield capital city, the government is building the road network, mindful of the incremental future traffic. Following the inauguration of the road and the bridge, Naidu is expected to travel through the E3 Road to Rayapudi to inspect MLA and MLC residences under construction.

Panel Flags Nearly 73% Students Drop Out Before Finishing Higher Secondary

New Delhi: A parliamentary panel has flagged a "drastic decline" in the number of schools and students as education level rises, noting that nearly 73 per cent students drop out before finishing higher secondary.

The recommendation is part of the Tenth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Estimates (2026-27) on "Budget and Policy aspects for providing Affordable and Quality Education in the Country including Review of Central Board of Secondary Education", presented to Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

The committee noted that the number of schools at Secondary and Higher Secondary levels are very less when compared with the number of schools at Primary and Upper Primary levels.

It said as per the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) 2024-25, out of the total 10,92,671 schools, including all the government and government aided schools, there are 9,11,032 schools at primary level, 4,12,805 schools at upper primary level, 1,61,808 schools at secondary level, and only 90,866 schools at higher secondary level in the country.

With regard to the number of students enrolled, in primary classes there are 6,18,45,033 students and 4,08,93,978 students in upper primary classes from 6 to 8, which reduces to 2,36,68,220 in secondary, and further reduces to 1,64,17,949 in higher secondary classes.

"The committee are concerned to note this drastic decline in number of schools and students as education levels rises," it said. "From the above information, the Committee note that out of over 1 million government schools, the vast majority are only primary schools, and nearly 73% of students drop out before finishing higher secondary," it added.

The committee strongly urged the Ministry to prioritise upgrading existing primary and secondary schools into full higher secondary schools to ensure a high school is physically accessible to students belonging to different communities and to arrest student drop-off rate.



"The Committee are of the view that there is an urgent need to increase the number of schools at secondary and higher secondary levels," it said.

Considering that education is placed in the Concurrent List of the Constitution with most schools under the jurisdiction of the State Governments and UT Administration, the committee desired the Ministry to impress upon all the State/UT Government to take steps for setting up of more secondary and higher secondary schools so as to increase the enrolment of students in the country.

On facilities for Divyang students to achieve inclusive education across the country, the committee flagged a severe gap in the availability of CwSN friendly infrastructure, noting that more than half of schools across the country are devoid of CwSN-friendly infrastructure.

The committee noted that in order to achieve the objective of inclusive education, the Ministry of Education provides financial support to State Governments and Union Territories to strengthen infrastructure and human resources for inclusive education of Divyang students under the Samagra Shiksha scheme.

To improve physical accessibility of schools, the scheme includes specific provisions for the creation of barrier-free and differently-abled-friendly infrastructure, such as ramps, handrails and accessible toilets, so that children with disabilities can move safely and participate fully in school activities.

Though the committee appreciated the vision of the Ministry, it noted that as per UDISE+ 2024-25, out of total 14,71,437 schools at national level, only 5,23,143 schools have CwSN

(Children with special needs) toilets, and only 8,08,466 schools have ramps with handrails.

During 2024-25, a budget of Rs 482 lakh was allocated for construction of 186 CwSN toilets, however only Rs 2.60 lakh was actually utilised with no progress in physical targets.

"The severe gap in the availability of CwSN friendly infrastructure shows that more than half of the schools across the country are devoid of CwSN friendly infrastructure," the committee said.

The committee further noted that under the financial support for new special educators, only Rs 80.50 lakh was utilised against a budgetary grant (elementary section) of Rs 962 lakh.

It also noted that a meagre progress was achieved in the area of recruiting/retaining special educators for CwSN students.

On the Ministry's approach to promoting education for Divyang children, the committee noted that it is rights based, inclusive and holistic.

It said The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPnD) Act, 2016 provides that children with benchmark disabilities are entitled to free education up to the age of 18 years.

The NEP 2020 emphasises a Zero Rejection Policy for children with disabilities, ensuring that no child is denied schooling on account of disability. The policy also underscores the importance of preparing and training teachers to handle inclusive classrooms effectively, it said.

"In view of the above, the Committee strongly recommend the Ministry to adhere to yearly targets of budget utilisation and execution of CwSN related projects in a time bound manner," it said.

The committee recommended the Ministry provide safe and accessible infrastructure to Divyang students in a time-bound manner to achieve the objective of inclusivity in education.

The Ministry should also assess the requirement of special educators across the country and complete their recruitment at the earliest, it said.

Rotary International President Yinka Babalola Visits Hyderabad- Rotary International President



Caption*
KP Nagesh - Director Rotary International, RTN.OLAYINKA H.YINKA- Rotary International President, M. Murganandam -Vice President and Rotary International Director, Rtn A S Venkatesh Trustee-The Rotary Foundation, RTN.Uday Sudhir Pilani Dist Governor RI Dist 3150, Rtn K Seshasai Kumar District Public Image Chair & Others during the Press Meet organized on the Occasion of Rotary International President Yinka Babalola Visits to Hyderabad at Hotel Westin, Mindspace, Hitech City, Hyderabad on Thursday.
Rotary International President Yinka Babalola Visits Hyderabad-Rotary International President for 2026–27, Rtn. Olayinka H. “Yinka” Babalola, visited Hyderabad as part of his presidential engagement with Rotary leaders and members in India. He was hosted by Rotary District 3150 under the leadership of District Governor Rtn. Uday Sudhir Pilani, with a series of programmes centred on the theme “Create Lasting Impact.” The visit brought Rotary’s global vision closer to the ground through a strong focus on membership growth, sustainable social impact, CSR Partnerships, peace, philanthropy and transformational community service.

CM Revanth Reddy to Unveil Nehru, Rajiv Gandhi Statues in Sangareddy



SANGAREDDY, Correspondent : August 13, 2026: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will unveil the newly installed statues of former Prime Ministers Jawaharlal Nehru and Rajiv Gandhi at IB Chourasta in Sangareddy town on August 15.
Ahead of the Chief Minister’s visit, TPCC Working President Jaggareddy and DCC President Nirmala Jaggareddy, accompanied by officials and Congress leaders, inspected the statue installation site on Thursday. They reviewed the arrangements and instructed officials to take all necessary precautions for the smooth conduct of the unveiling ceremony.
Jaggareddy and Nirmala also briefed the officials about the dignitaries and leaders who are expected to participate in the programme along with the Chief Minister.
Congress constituency convenor Julakanti Anjaneyulu, CDC Chairman Ram Reddy,Kuna santosh, Municipal Vice Chairman Hafez Shaik Shafi, and leaders Raghu Goud, George, Salauddin (Babbu) Kiran Goud, Mahesh, Srikanth, Praveen, Sandeep Reddy, Mogulaiah and Khaleel were among those present.

EC Won’t Ask Money, Beware of Fraudsters, CEO Tells Voters

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C. Sudarshan Reddy on Thursday warned voters against fraudulent messages circulating in the name of the Election Commission of India (ECI) seeking bank account details and other personal information.
The CEO said fraudsters were targeting voters apprehensive about losing their votes and attempting to obtain their banking credentials.
He said messages circulating on social media were creating panic among voters by claiming that Election Cards and Enumeration Forms had been rejected due to a mismatch. The messages then sought personal and banking details from voters.
“They are asking voters to call a number and are sending messages with a link on WhatsApp, to fill up the form and pay *5 either by net banking or credit or debit card and seeking bank details viz., login password, CVV number, ATM PIN etc,” the CEO stated in a press note.
The official clarified that neither the ECI nor the Telangana CEO sends messages asking voters to pay *5 online. “The electors are advised to be wary of such fraudulent messages and calls received in the name of ECI or CEO and not to respond to such fraudulent messages and calls. If such messages or calls are received, they can also report to the nearest police station,” the CEO added.



Mahindra University Sets Up India’s Second HackerFab to Build Semiconductor Talent

- Following the student-led HackerFab at IIT Bombay, Mahindra University will set up India’s second HackerFab and the first fully university-sponsored, student-led open-source semiconductor fabrication facility.
 - Gives students hands-on exposure to semiconductor fabrication, including building critical fabrication equipment.
- Hyderabad, August 13, 2026: Mahindra University today announced the launch of India’s second HackerFab, following the student-led HackerFab at IIT Bombay, and the first university-sponsored, student-led open-source semiconductor fabrication facility. The initiative strengthens the University’s contribution to India’s semiconductor ambitions and the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.



The initiative will help build indigenous skills and technical capabilities for semiconductor manufacturing by enabling students to design and develop low-cost fabrication tools for education and research. Based on the open-source HackerFab model, it will give students practical exposure to semiconductor fabrication while helping build India’s talent base in this strategically important sector.
Led by students from the University’s B.Tech. in VLSI Design & Technology programme, the HackerFab will focus on building core semiconductor fabrication equipment, including a maskless photolithography system, RF sputtering chamber, spin coater and tube furnace. This hands-on approach complements Mahindra University’s plans to establish a cleanroom facility for teaching and research, giving students exposure to both chip design and fabrication.
Mr. Anand Mahindra, Chairman, Mahindra Group and Chancellor, Mahindra University, said, “Every great Indian innovation started with someone taking something apart to see how it worked. HackerFab gives students a license to do exactly that. To fail loudly, fix it, try again, no permission needed. That’s how you build a generation unafraid to build. That’s the India I want Mahindra University to help create.”
Dr. Yajulu Medury, Vice Chancellor, Mahindra

University, said, “India’s semiconductor ambitions will need engineers with a practical understanding of both design and fabrication. HackerFab takes learning into the lab, where students will build equipment, test ideas and understand the fabrication process first-hand. Together with our VLSI programmes and planned cleanroom, it strengthens our focus on developing industry-ready semiconductor talent for India.”
HackerFab was started at Carnegie Mellon University’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in 2023 as an open-source initiative to make semiconductor microfabrication more accessible through low-cost, student-built equipment. The model has since been adopted by institutions internationally and in India.
Students at IIT Bombay started India’s first student-built HackerFab in August 2025. They have built prototypes of tools used for semiconductor manufacturing in-house, including maskless lithography, spin coating, sputtering and furnace systems, giving undergraduate engineers practical exposure to the flow and systems used in semiconductor fabs.
The initiative expands on Mahindra University’s investments in semiconductor education. The University launched its M.Tech. in VLSI & Embedded Systems in 2023, followed by a B.Tech. in VLSI Design & Technology in 2024, in alignment with the Government of India’s semiconductor priorities. Students have access to industry-leading tools and platforms, including Synopsys and Cadence EDA suites, along with hardware support from AMD and Silicon Labs.
With HackerFab, Mahindra University is bringing semiconductor design, fabrication and research closer together. As India builds its domestic semiconductor capabilities, the University will continue to focus on developing engineers with the technical knowledge and practical experience required to contribute to the country’s technological self-reliance.

Patriotic Spirit Soars in Nagar Kurnool During Har Ghar Tiranga Yatra

Nagarkurnool : A grand Har Ghar Tiranga Yatra was organised under the leadership of BJP Nagar Kurnool district president Vemula Narender Rao on the occasion of Independence Day. BJP Telangana State Secretary Pothuganti Bharat Prasad attended the programme as the chief guest.
Hundreds of school and college students, youth, party leaders and activists participated in the rally carrying the national flag. The streets of Nagar Kurnool were adorned with the tricolour as the participants marched enthusiastically. The town reverberated with patriotic slogans such as “Bharat Mata Ki Jai” and “Vande Mataram.”
Speaking on the occasion, Pothuganti Bharat Prasad said that it was the responsibility of every Indian to remember the great personalities who sacrificed their lives for the country’s freedom. He called upon the youth to learn about the history of the freedom movement and play an active role in nation-building.
He said the Tiranga is not



merely a national flag but a symbol of India’s history, sacrifices, unity and national pride.
Responding to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s call, he urged every family to proudly hoist the national flag at their homes during the Independence Day celebrations and make the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign a success.
“The Tiranga should fly over every home and India should live in every heart. That is the true spirit of Independence Day celebrations,” he said.
District General Secretary Nagendra Goud, OBC Morcha president Jetty Venkatesh, Mahila Morcha president Padma Yadav, among others, participated in the programme.

Commissioner Inspection of Residential College in Hoti



Zaheerabad August: In Zahirabad Muncipal limits Hothi-K TGRJC visited the Municipal Commissioner on Thursday. Zaheerabad Commissioner G.Prabhakar inspected TG Residential School & College and to review the cleanliness and maintenance of sanitation in the school and college premises. During the inspection, the Commissioner instructed the concerned staff to ensure proper sanitation, maintain cleanliness in and around the campus, and provide a hygienic environment for students and staff.



New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday referred to the BJP-RSS as a “bunch of jokers” who have no understanding of India and scoffed at Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s handling

Rahul Gandhi calls BJP-RSS a ‘bunch of jokers’

of foreign policy which he claimed was all about hugging leaders.

Addressing the Rachnatmak Congress National Convention here, the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha also claimed that the RSS as an original force is dead and has now become an “instrument of large capital — Mr Adani and Mr Ambani”. Talking about the media toeing government’s line on various issues, he said he understands their limitations but asserted that national spirit was about not allowing a “bunch of clowns to create an order over us”.

He also said it has somehow been ingrained in Modi’s mind that foreign policy is about hugging leaders. Gandhi then hugged Rachnatmak Congress chief Sandeep Dikshit to show what foreign policy was about for the current government.

“Imagine the ignorance....where did he get the idea that foreign policy was about hugging leaders,” he said.

Asserting that the Congress will keep up the pressure on the government, Gandhi said, “Till the day Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah

don’t give their resignations, they will not be able to sleep, we will keep them awake...we will do it without hate, violence. We are fighting for our culture, our county is not about hate but about love, brotherhood and ‘ahimsa’.”

He said it is important to understand that the fight is between some people who want to give order to others and those who want to express themselves.

“If you look at what was happening at Jantar Mantar, the students wanted to express themselves but the government stated that ‘we want order and you cannot express yourselves’,” he said..

Shortcut Will Cut You Short, Modi Tells Gen Z



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday urged the younger generation to read long-form content such as autobiographies in the “age of reels”, cautioning that social media influencers could pull them in different directions and that chasing shortcuts could prove counterproductive.

“Shortcut will cut you short,” Modi said while releasing former President Ram Nath Kovind’s autobiography, Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles, at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.

“This is the age of reels. Social media influencers pull you here and there. In this age of shortcuts, remember one thing,” Modi said, drawing an analogy with warnings at railway stations against crossing tracks instead of using foot overbridges.

Urging young people to read about the lives of those they admire, Modi said autobiographies offered a different perspective on historical events and helped readers understand the struggles behind individual achievements.

“Even if you want to go by shortcuts, I urge the youth — read autobiographies of whoever you admire. Autobiographies give you the chance to understand the events of history in a different way. They are close to history,” he said.

The Prime Minister said Kovind’s life demonstrated how determination could help a person overcome adversity and rise to the country’s highest constitutional office.

Describing the autobiography as a “heritage for Indian democracy”, Modi said the younger generation had much to learn from the former President’s life.

“We need many more young people who would be like Kovind in future — people who are not defeated by circumstances but possess the determination to overcome every challenge,” he said. Modi said that while Kovind’s life and struggles were personal, “the victories of those struggles belong to Indian democracy”.

He also highlighted Kovind’s public engagement after demitting office, particularly his work on the “One Nation, One Election” initiative, which the Prime Minister said could “open a new chapter in Indian democracy”.

Recalling Kovind’s childhood, Modi said the former President had lost his mother in a fire but overcame the tragedy with the values and strength instilled in him by his father.

Modi also recalled his interactions with Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan, saying the former President would engage him in conversations beyond normal protocol and personally see him off to his car.

Speaking at the event, Kovind recalled the hardships of his childhood in a village in Kanpur Dehat, Uttar Pradesh, including living in a house where rainwater leaked through the roof.

Revanth For Optimum Utilisation Of Godavari

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday directed irrigation officials to ensure optimum utilisation of Godavari river water by carrying out lift operations from the Yellampalli, Devadula and Sitarama projects.

At a review of the irrigation department at MCRHRDI, the Chief Minister said water was not being stored in the Sundilla, Annaram and Medigadda barrages of the Kaleshwaram project in accordance with the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) recommendations. He directed officials to strictly follow the NDSA recommendations.

Irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy informed the Chief Minister that defects had been identified in the Medigadda and Sundilla barrages. Revanth Reddy directed officials to consult the NDSA immediately on the issue.

Uttam Kumar Reddy also informed the meeting that water-lifting operations were being carried out using nine pumps at the Devadula project, which is an unprecedented move. The Chief Minister asked officials to focus on resolving minor issues related to lift irrigation operations at the Devadula and Sitarama projects.

The meeting also reviewed pending compensation to farmers whose land had



been acquired for various projects. Revanth Reddy directed officials to prepare an action plan for immediate disbursement of compensation.

He also instructed irrigation and revenue officials to conduct field visits and prepare a factual report on villages prone to submergence and pending compensation and rehabilitation issues.

The Chief Minister said compensation should be paid immediately in villages facing an immediate impact. Completion of the process would pave the way for filling the Baswapur and Gouravelli projects with water.

Revanth Reddy also directed officials to conduct a comprehensive study on increasing the capacity of the Gattu and Gudemdoddi lift irrigation schemes and appoint a consultant for the Gudemdoddi pumped-storage project.

CMO Principal Secretary V. Seshadri, CMO secretary Manicka Raj, irrigation secretary E. Sridhar and R&R commissioner Shiva Kumar Naidu attended the meeting.

Smart Ration Cards Distribution By CM In Sangareddy On Independence Day

Arrangements are made for Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to distribute new smart ration cards at an event in Sangareddy on August 15.

A helipad is being set up at the Tara Government Degree College premises and the public meeting venue at Ambedkar stadium. The plan is to mobilise around a lakh of people for the public meeting.

Civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy and TPCC working president Jayaprakash Jagga Reddy on Wednesday reviewed the arrangements for the meeting.

Extensive discussions were held on the mobilization of a large crowd and the arrangements for the stage. Revanth Reddy would arrive in Sangareddy at 2pm and remain there until 4 pm. Congress activists would accord a grand welcome to the CM there.

The district will treat the CM’s public meeting as a prestigious event and ensure that there are no shortcomings in crowd management, security, or other arrangements. The CM would personally distribute new smart ration cards to ten beneficiaries—one beneficiary each from the ten assembly constituencies of the erstwhile Medak district—on the stage.

Speaking to the media, the TPCC working president criticised the previous BRS government, alleging that ration cards were distributed only partially and inadequately during its tenure of 10 years. He said that after the Congress government came to power, it resolved to ensure justice for every eligible beneficiary. “We would distribute new smart ration cards to 10.5 million (1.05 crore) people across the state,” he said.



Shah Offers NEET Debate



New Delhi: Union home minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said the government was ready to discuss all issues in Parliament, including the students’ protests over the alleged NEET paper leak, and urged the Opposition to allow the House to function. The Opposition rejected the offer, saying it wanted answers and accountability rather than a “lecture” from the home minister.

Shah challenged the Opposition to submit a formal request to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla for a debate, saying he was prepared to remain present throughout the discussion and answer every question raised.

“Even today, I say that they should submit a letter to the Speaker by 2 pm. We are ready for all kinds of discussions from 3 pm today until 3 pm tomorrow,” Shah told reporters in the Parliament House complex.

He said the NDA government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi was prepared to discuss every issue and maintained that the government had “nothing to hide”.

Shah said he would remain in the House, listen to the Opposition, take note of the points raised and respond to them at the conclusion of the debate.

The home minister also wrote to the Lok Sabha Speaker requesting him to consult the Opposition and allocate as much time as required for a debate on the students’ protests.

“Dialogue and discussions are the only ways to find solutions in a democracy,” Shah said in the letter, adding that both the Opposition and treasury benches should be given an opportunity to put forward their views.

Rejecting demands that he make only a statement in Parliament, Shah said a serious issue concerning student protests could not be dealt with through a statement alone and required a detailed discussion under parliamentary rules and conventions.

He also rejected Opposition allegations that he had been “missing” during the controversy, saying he had regularly attended Parliament since the Monsoon Session began on July 20 but that repeated disruptions had prevented the Houses from functioning.

The Opposition, however, rejected Shah’s offer. Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said the Opposition was not interested in a “lecture or discussion” from the home minister and instead wanted answers about the police action against protesting students.

“We are interested in one simple thing. When I say we, I mean the younger generation of this country — who shot those students, who gave the order to shoot those students?” Gandhi said.

Investment: SIPB Approves 25 Projects Worth Rs 2.08 Lakh Crore in AP

Vijayawada: The 20th meeting of the state investment promotion board chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu here on Wednesday approved proposals for 25 projects worth Rs 2,08,406 crore in sectors like industries, energy, IT, electronics and food processing.

These projects have a potential to generate 21,627 jobs, it is officially stated.

The Chief Minister directed officials to assess the extent of incentives that could be provided to promote industrial units, and to initiate steps to remit industrial incentives into escrow accounts from December. He also called for steps to promote setting up of industrial units in rural areas.

In the 20 SIPB meetings held so far, approvals have been given for 363 proposals to set up industrial units at an estimated investment of Rs 13.78 lakh crore, with a potential to create 10.86 lakh jobs in the state.

Naidu called for a study on the sectors wherein industrial units could be promoted and directed officials to focus on sectors such as green ammonia, lithium batteries and robotics. Officials, he said, must create awareness among people about industrial projects and counter misinformation on social media regarding possible environmental pollution from some projects.

Referring to the proposed data centres in north Andhra, he said 3.5tmc-ft of water could suffice for them.

Naidu said Godavari water could be taken by gravity through the Polavaram left main canal to meet the industrial requirements in Visakhapatnam. He asked officials to assess how upcoming industrial units would contribute to



developing an industrial ecosystem in the state.

He called for special efforts to construct hotels to attract tourists and promote the hospitality sector in Andhra Pradesh.

The Chief Minister directed officials to develop 175 MSME parks and make them accessible by September, with one park in each Assembly constituency, and ensure the setting up of industrial estates.

He said several defence sector projects coming up in the state were a matter of pride for the nation and called for the start of defence projects near Puttaparthi and aerospace projects near Hindupur. He also stressed the need to complete construction of the Mulapeta port so that it could be inaugurated in December.

Naidu directed officials to link logistics, modern warehousing and cold chain projects and improve road, rail and port connectivity to facilitate the transport of horticultural produce from Rayalaseema to international markets. He also pleaded for promoting the ‘One Family-One Entrepreneur’ programme in the state. The 25 projects approved at the meeting are:

O’Care Green Fuels — `616 crore, Kurnool district

Jackson Green Renewable — `1,533 crore, Kurnool district

FPEL Power — `480 crore, Vizianagaram district

Waree Clean Energy Solutions — `15,000 crore, Kakinada district

Aaradhya Biogas — `143.47 crore, Kurnool district

Ushodaya Biogas — `143.47 crore, Nellore district

Data Center Holdings India — `58,743 crore, Visakhapatnam district

Munoth Lithium Battery Ltd — `500 crore, Tirupati district

AIL Dixon India Ltd — `450 crore, Kadapa district.

ReNew AP Green Data Center — `85,200 crore, Anakapalli district

AM Intelligence Labs Ltd — `31,387 crore, Visakhapatnam district

CRR Hospitality LLP — `192.02 crore, Tirupati district

RK2 Infrastructure — `150 crore, Tirupati district

Sunrise Hotels India Ltd — `54 crore, Kakinada district

JSP Hotels and Resorts LLP — Rs 63.79 crore, Krishna district

Pavuluri Hotels — `58.74 crore, Tirupati district

Agastya Green Energy Ltd — `7,799 crore, Kurnool district

Akshay Green Tech Ltd — `1,600 crore, Visakhapatnam district

Coromandel International — `2,125 crore, Srikakulam district

Hindalco Industries Ltd — `880 crore, Chittoor district

Estrella Logistics — `90 crore, Visakhapatnam district

Gane Sai Mounisha Steel Wires — `66 crore, Vizianagaram district

VPR Mining Infrastructure — `500 crore, Nellore district

Jayaditya Agro Ltd — `300 crore, Kurnool district.

Prisoul Agro Industries — `330 crore, Nellore district



Third World Cup a huge achievement, says Savita Punia ahead of 2026 Hockey World Cup

Goalkeeper Savita Punia believes India’s women’s hockey team has the confidence and ability to challenge the world’s best at the 2026 FIH Women’s Hockey World Cup. She said the Nations Cup triumph has boosted morale and strengthened the team’s belief ahead of the tournament



Hyderabad: The Indian women’s hockey team heads into the FIH Hockey Women’s World Cup 2026 on a high after winning the FIH Nations Cup and will look to carry that momentum into the tournament.

Indian women’s team goalkeeper Savita Punia said that playing in a World Cup would mean a lot to her since it would be her third World Cup and that she felt by itself a huge achievement.

Speaking to JioStar, Savita said: “For any hockey player, the World Cup and the Olympics are the two biggest stages. Every athlete dreams of representing their country on those platforms. To be part of a third consecutive World Cup is a huge achievement. I have worked extremely hard to get here, and in every edition, I have tried to give my best for the team. This time, I have more experience, and that gives me confidence. As a senior player, I want to lead by example, stay calm under pressure, and help the team perform at its best.”

On the team’s confidence after winning the FIH Nations Cup, Savita said: “Winning the FIH Nations Cup was a big achievement because all the top teams were there. It was a competitive tournament, and coming out on top gave us a huge boost and winning a gold medal after a long time has lifted the team’s morale and belief.”

“In recent years, during the FIH Pro League, we have played close matches against top sides like Argentina, Netherlands, and Germany. Those games showed us that we can match the best teams in the world. I can confidently say about this Indian women’s hockey team that while all the teams are world-class, there is no team we cannot compete with. We have the skill, the fitness, and the mindset to challenge anyone on our day,” she said.

On the team’s belief that they can secure a podium finish if they play to their strengths, Savita said: “We are going into the Women’s Hockey World Cup with a lot of confidence, but our main focus is on our own game. Every team in the World Cup is strong, and there are no easy matches. But if we play to our strengths and stick to our

plans, we have a real chance of finishing on the podium.”

“We are putting in the hard work every single day, both individually and as a unit. The approach has changed over time. Earlier, players used to do only what the coach told them. Now, everyone takes ownership of their fitness and recovery. We pay attention to diet, injury prevention, and extra sessions. As goalkeepers, we often have three or four additional sessions in a week, but we stay motivated because we know it will help us perform when it matters most,” she said.

On captain Salima Tete, Savita said: “Salima is not only a great captain but also a phenomenal player and an aggressive midfielder. Her speed is a big strength for us, especially when she charges out as the first runner during penalty corner defence.”

“Salima reads the game well and puts pressure on the opposition early. As senior players, we support her in keeping the team united and focused. She respects the senior players, seeks advice when needed, and maintains a strong connection with the team. Along with vice-captain Navneet Kaur, she helps lead the group forward and ensures everyone stays on the same page,” Savita said.

FIH Women’s World Cup will be ours, says Hockey captain Salima Tete

Hyderabad: Indian women’s hockey team captain Salima Tete says this time the FIH Women’s World Cup will be India’s, stressing that the team will play smart, attacking hockey to bring back the medal.

Speaking to JioStar, Tete, who feels that the momentum is with the Indian team having won the FIH Nations Cup, says that they will look to carry that confidence into the World Cup campaign.

“As a captain, my role is to support every player on the pitch. Whether we are losing or winning, I stand with the team. This time, the FIH Hockey World Cup will be ours. We will play smart, attacking hockey and bring back a medal. I have full belief in my team. We have the ability to do it. I am very excited, especially since this is my second World Cup,” Tete said.

“Every player dreams of playing in a World Cup and winning a medal. Our last tournament in New Zealand, the FIH Nations Cup, was a great success. We won it and brought home a medal. So this time, in the World Cup, our goal is the same. Every match counts, and we will treat each one with equal importance. We are determined to play our best hockey and bring back the gold medal,” the star player said.

On the energy and positivity the young players bring to the team, Tete said: “When the junior players come into the team, they bring a lot of energy. They always tell us, ‘Didi, we have to push hard, we have to play good hockey, and we need that medal.’ Hearing that from them gives us all a lot of positivity. We have many



young players like Sakshi Rana, Ishika, and Rutuja Dadaso Pisal.”

“They are eager and hungry to perform on the big stage. From my side, I always tell them to play freely and enjoy the game. It’s not their job to carry the pressure. The seniors are there to handle that. I want them to focus on their game and express themselves on the pitch. When they play with freedom, they perform better. That helps the team as a whole,” she said.

On the team’s mindset and her role as captain, Tete said that: “Playing in the World Cup is every player’s dream. It’s a huge opportunity for us. Just like the FIH Nations Cup and the FIH Pro League, top teams will be competing. With the Asian Games also approaching, we know we will face strong teams. Our pool in the World Cup is challenging, and we are preparing for tough matches. Our goal is to go into every match with a clear plan and a winning mindset. I feel nervous too, and that’s normal.

Patience paid off for Auqib Nabi with maiden India Test call-up

Galle: Amid a prolonged wait for his maiden India Test call-up, Jammu and Kashmir pacer Auqib Nabi never lost faith, continuing to perform with the belief that his chance to represent the country would eventually arrive.

That opportunity finally came when Nabi was drafted into the Indian squad as a replacement for injured pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah for the two-Test series against Sri Lanka, beginning here on Saturday.

Nabi, who played a key role in Jammu and Kashmir’s historic maiden Ranji Trophy title triumph last season, said he always believed that consistently putting in strong performances would eventually earn him a national call-up.

“Yes, I had expectations. But the mindset of a cricket player should be of performing and that the other people are watching,” Nabi told fellow uncapped player Saransh Jain in a video shared by the BCCI.

“I knew that I would get the call-up today or tomorrow because when you are doing well for so many years, you are meant to get the returns from the hard work.”

“So I would bowl with the mindset that my job is to take wickets and perform and the rest is up to the one above. I felt great when my name came up. My family is very happy and I don’t think there can be anything greater than this,” Nabi added.

Saransh, who was a member of the Ranji Trophy-winning Madhya Pradesh team in 2021-



2022 which beat the mighty Mumbai in the final, said he too kept the belief that his chance would come.

“You have to have patience in Test cricket and if you want to play Test cricket for India, you have to have patience in that too,” the 33-year-old Saransh said.

“I made my debut at Ranji Trophy in 2014-15. It’s been a long journey. There was a lot of hard work and sacrifices. But I had the belief that one day, I will definitely play for India and for this achievement my family has a big role to play in it.”

“My dad, who is a Ranji Trophy player, told me the same thing. You just have to have patience, things will automatically come to you,” he added.

Both Nabi and Saransh also recalled the moments they learnt about their India call-ups.

“When I got the call, I was driving to the temple. I saw the call and messages in between. That’s when I got to know that I was selected,” Saransh said.

Nabi added, “I was at the airport. We had to go to a camp in CoE and I was about to board a flight to Bangalore.”

“I got a call asking where I was. I told them that I was going to Bangalore and I was at the airport. They told me that I didn’t have to go there; I had to come to Sri Lanka and that I was selected.”

“At first, I couldn’t believe it. It was unexpected because the squad was already out. I was ready to work hard. I was going to the camp,” Nabi added.

Saransh said the experience of playing with the Indian players in domestic cricket helped him to mix-up with the others well.

“When I joined the team, I didn’t feel any big difference as 70-80 per cent of the players I have played cricket with, and I got mixed up quickly with them,” he said.

Paris Saint-Germain Down Aston Villa To Retain UEFA Super Cup

Salzburg: Champions League winners Paris Saint-Germain rubber-stamped their status as Europe’s top team as they beat Aston Villa 2-1 in the UEFA Super Cup on Wednesday. Khvicha Kvaratskhelia and Desire Doue netted either side of a debut goal for Villa teenager Brian Madjo in Salzburg as PSG defended the title they first won 12 months ago against another Premier League side, Tottenham Hotspur. The Super Cup, which pits the winners of Europe’s top club competition against the victorious side from the second-tier Europa League, was officiated by Somali referee Omar Artan.

The 34-year-old referee unwittingly found himself in the media spotlight in June after being turned away on arrival at Miami International Airport, despite being part of the panel of referees selected by FIFA for the World Cup. Ahead of the start of their respective domestic seasons, both sides named relatively strong sides. PSG’s starting XI featured nine players that lifted the Champions League trophy against Arsenal in May, including Vitinha, Joao Neves and captain Marquinhos. French left-back Lucas Digne, who on Sunday signed for the Parisians, was on the bench against his old side. Villa rested World Cup campaigners Ezri Konsa, Emi Martinez and Ollie Watkins, but Unai Emery handed debuts to midfielder Joao Gomes and striker Madjo. Midfielder Boubacar Kamara also started for the first time since suffering a serious knee injury in January.

Kamara came closest to breaking the deadlock with a low effort from distance in the 13th minute, which Matvey Safonov watched by his post. That served to wake PSG up as Marco Bizot parried away an effort at goal, only for the French side to recycle the ball to Kvaratskhelia on the left, who cut in on 20 minutes and scored with a piledriver at the near post. The Georgian began to overwhelm the Villa defence as minutes



later he released left-back Nuno Mendes, whose cut-back somehow evaded his on-rushing teammates. But Villa withstood the flurry and should have been level just prior to the half-hour when Madjo glanced wide a John McGinn cross. The 17-year-old saw another couple of good chances go by as it seemed like Emery’s charges would go into the break behind. However, Madjo got his just reward as Scottish veteran McGinn picked him out again in the box in the 45th minute and this time he lashed the ball with his left boot into the roof of the PSG net. Emery responded to the swing in fortunes by sending on Ballon d’Or winner Ousmane Dembele for new PSG recruit Maghnes Aklouche at half-time. Villa kept up their head of steam after the interval, though, as Madjo and McGinn again combined to good effect, with the 31-year-old forcing Safonov to beat away his curling effort. France international Desire Doue raced in down the right and bent into the Villa net on 61 minutes but was initially denied by the assistant’s flag. VAR intervened, however, and found that Villa right-back Matty Cash on the far side of the pitch was playing the PSG winger onside and awarded the goal to Doue’s surprise and delight. The Premier League side had a chance to strike back instantly through 19-year-old George Hemmings but Safonov stood strong to keep the score at 2-1. Warren Zaire-Emery then had to fling himself in front of a Gomes effort. Luis Enrique sent on World Cup winner Fabian Ruiz with a quarter of an hour remaining to help PSG shore up the centre of the park as Villa hunted a leveller. Their best chance came inside the final 10 minutes as Tammy Abraham was just unable to reach Alysson’s cut-back inside the six-yard box. The Qatar-backed Ligue 1 champions managed to hold on to make a winning start to their new season, which they hope will end with a third consecutive Champions League crown.



CINEMA

Allari Naresh’s Film is Low-Budget Vishwambhara

THAT SAID, ALLARI NARESH HAS REINVENTED HIMSELF WITH HIS SERIOUS SUBJECTS THESE DAYS, AND COMEDY MOVIES HAVEN’T HELPED HIM IN RECENT TIMES.

Ever since the trailer of Allari Naresh’s latest film “RUM”, which is abbreviated to “Rambha Urvashi Menaka”, was released, the content started to look familiar. From the likes of Chiranjeevi’s Jagadeeka Veerudu Athiloka Sundari, to Rajendra Prasad’s Rambha-Rambabu, the idea of ‘apsaras’ from heaven coming to Earth and running after a human is an idea seen many times. But here’s the interesting part being discussed.

In recent times, Megastar Chiranjeevi’s Vishwambhara has a similar concept of ‘apsaras’ coming from Vishwambhara lokam, coming to the earth, and the hero going there, though the movie is getting delayed. After watching the trailer of Allari Naresh’s movie, many are getting a feeling that



this RUM is nothing but low-budget Vishwambhara. However, there are not many graphics in Allari Naresh’s film but only comedy and comedy everywhere.

That said, Allari Naresh has reinvented himself with his serious subjects these days, and comedy movies haven’t helped him in recent times. Now that he’s coming up with a full-on comedy movie through RUM, many are wondering if he could come back to the former hit-machine status with this movie.

Modha Rathiri trailer promises a hilarious and meaningful wedding-night drama

Modha Rathiri trailer: A comedy drama that revolves around the hilarious happenings on a wedding night!

Chennai, Aug 13 (IANS) The makers of director Raja Karuppasamy’s upcoming Tamil rural comedy entertainer, ‘Modha Rathiri’, featuring actors Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar in the lead, on Thursday released a hilarious trailer of the film, much to the delight of fans and film buffs.

Mythri Movie Makers, the production house that is producing the film, took to its social media timelines to share the link of the trailer. It wrote, “Vanakkam...Kalyanam ku polama? (Good day, can we go to the wedding?) The most entertaining and chaotic wedding is here. #ModhaRathiri Trailer out now. In Cinemas worldwide on 21st August.”

The trailer begins with relatives who have come for the wedding, wondering why the newly wed couple haven’t switched off the light in their room yet. From that point on, the film showcases a series of hilarious developments. Soon after the wedding, both the bridegroom and the bride are given advice by all sorts of people. While the bride is advised against speaking first, the bridegroom is asked to drink coffee. But just when one starts getting the impression that this film will have nothing but funny sequences, a couple of scenes in the trailer show that the film will have some meaningful points to make.

For instance, there is a voiceover that asks, “Did you think that marriage is a kind of a game where you could hit restart and start all over again whenever you wish?” Then, we also see Chethan, who comes as a priest in the film, define love. He says, “Even when you get sick of each other, you both must be able to bear one another.” He also says, “Half the people in this village don’t know why they are getting married?”

The trailer also gives the impression that there is a secret pertaining to one side which family members of the other side are not aware of. On the whole, the trailer promises a film that is both entertaining and meaningful.

For the unaware, the makers have already disclosed that Anishma plays a character called Muthuselvi while actor Rishikanth plays a character called Maruthanayagam in the film.

Sources close to the unit of the film had told



IANS earlier that Modha Rathiri will revolve around an ordinary village wedding that turns into an extraordinary rollercoaster of hilarious misunderstandings, unexpected twists and heartwarming emotions.

Set entirely over the course of a single night, the film, sources had said, would keep the laughs coming as one surprise would lead to another. Rishikanth is debuting as hero through this film while actress Anishma Anilkumar, who won appreciation for her outstanding performance in ‘Sirai’ and ‘Youth’, is playing the film’s female lead.

Producer Naveen Yerneni of Mythri Movie Makers, speaking on an earlier occasion, had said, “The very first narration made us laugh, smile and imagine how audiences would react inside a theatre. That’s when we knew this story deserved to be made. ‘Modha Rathiri’ has everything we enjoy as movie lovers: humour, emotions, relatable characters and endless entertainment. Raja Karuppasamy has brought that energy beautifully onto the screen & our entire cast and crew have worked with incredible passion to complete the film on schedule. We are excited to bring this entertainer to audiences worldwide on August 21, and we hope theatres are filled with laughter from beginning to end.”

Director Raja Karuppasamy had said, “I couldn’t have asked for a better beginning to my journey as a filmmaker. My heartfelt thanks to producers Naveen Yerneni sir and Y. Ravi Shankar sir for believing in me and trusting this story. Every actor, every technician and every member of our crew became part of this journey with complete dedication. More than anything else, I hope audiences walk out of theatres smiling, laughing and talking about these characters long after the film ends.”

Apart from Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar, the film also features actors Chetan, A. Venkatesh, Bucks, Abdool Lee, Shelly Kishore, Sangeetha Balan, Banupriya, Sumithra Devi L., Varshini Karmegham, Karthikeyan, Velan, and Kowshik Kabilan among others.

The technical crew comprises Surendran Paranjothi as cinematographer, Ashok Arjunan as editor, and Bharath Sankar composing the music. Poornima Ramaswamy has designed the costumes while Art direction has been taken care of by A. Balumahendra.



Raashii Khanna returns as Megha Vyas, begins shooting for Farzi 2

Raashii Khanna has begun shooting for Farzi 2, returning as RBI officer Megha Vyas. The actress shared pictures from the sets on Instagram, offering fans a glimpse of her preparations.

Shahid Kapoor had started filming the second season in March

Mumbai: Actress Raashii Khanna is all set to return to the screen as RBI Officer Megha Vyas, as she has kick-started the shoot for one of the most anticipated series, ‘Farzi 2’.

On Thursday, Raashii took to her official Instagram handle and treated the netizens to a couple of adorable clicks from the set of her next.

In the first pic, Raashii was seen relishing a crunchy hot mocha grande. We could also see her peeking out from her Vanity.

In another photo, Raashii smiled for the camera as she got her makeup done. The album further had a still of her holding a 500 rupee note, keeping in tune with the theme of the show.

“Crunchy red hat mocha grande with almond milk for..? #backatit #farzi2 (sic),” she captioned the post.

The lead of ‘Farzi’, Shahid Kapoor, commenced the shoot for the second season back in March this year.

Sharing the professional update on his Instagram handle, Shahid had posted a black-and-white photo with the makers of the show, Raj Nidimoru and Krishna Dasarakothapalli, on his official Insta handle, accompanied by the text, “Farzi 2 day 1... back at it!!!”

Before this, in February, Shahid had confirmed that ‘Farzi 2’ is happening with another social media post, which also included a picture of him with Raj Nidimoru and Krishna Dasarakothapalli. His post on Instagram Stories also had the text, “The fakers are back at it.”

Created by the popular filmmaker duo Raj & DK, the primary installment of the show saw Shahid, Raashii, Vijay Sethupathi, Kay Kay Menon, Bhuvan Arora, Regina Cassandra, and Amol Palekar as the core cast, along with others.

‘Farzi’ premiered on Amazon Prime Video on 10 February 2023 and was well received by the audience.

The eight-episode series revolved around a small-time con artist, Sunny (Played by Shahid Kapoor), who accidentally stumbles upon the dark world of crime.

Is Ritika Nayak Korean? Her BTS Connection Revealed

Ritika Nayak is currently enjoying a successful phase in her acting career. The young actress has made a name for herself in Telugu cinema with a series of popular films. Now, she is in the news for a different reason. Ritika recently spoke about her love for Korean pop culture and revealed her admiration for BTS member SUGA.

In a recent interview, Ritika was asked about the picture on her mobile phone wallpaper. She immediately showed her phone to the interviewer. Her wallpaper had a picture of the world-famous South Korean music group BTS. When asked about her favourite BTS member, Ritika quickly named SUGA.

Ritika also spoke about what she would do if she got a chance to meet SUGA in person. She said that she might not be able to speak much because she would be too excited. She joked that she would simply look at him and say, “Hi, I am a big fan of you.”

The actress also shared her disappointment about BTS not including India in its current world tour plans. She said she hopes the group will visit India and perform live for fans in the future. BTS has a huge fan following in India, and Ritika is also a proud fan of the group.

Interestingly, Ritika’s love for Korean culture has a connection with her latest movie. She is part of the film Korean Kanakaraju, which has a Korean connection in its title and story. Her interest in Korean music and BTS has now made the connection even more interesting for fans.

Ritika entered Telugu cinema with Ashoka Vanamlo Arjuna Kalyanam in 2022. She impressed audiences with her performance and later gained more attention with Mirai. Her recent film Korean Kanakaraju has added another success to her growing career.

