

Telangana Govt to Deposit Rs.2,400 Cr Fee Reimbursement in Advance: Revanth



HYDERABAD: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy announced that the state government will deposit ₹2,400 crore towards student fee reimbursement directly into bank accounts in advance starting this academic year. Addressing a public gathering after unveiling the statues of social reformers Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule at Necklace Road in Hyderabad, the Chief Minister confirmed that ₹250 crore has already been made available for immediate payments. Under the overhauled direct benefit transfer system, fee reimbursement amounts will be credited within a month of submitting an online application. The move aims to eliminate past practices where colleges withheld educational certificates from graduating students due to delayed government payouts.

Emphasizing employment readiness, CM Revanth Reddy stated that academic credentials alone are insufficient in today's competitive job market. He announced the rollout of an integrated skill development curriculum spanning from Nursery through Class 12.

"Possessing a certificate is not enough these days. Everyone should acquire technical skills to secure employment," the Chief Minister noted, highlighting overseas opportunities such as 2 lakh nursing vacancies across Germany and Japan. He pointed to the operationalization of Advanced Technical Centers (ATCs) across 119 constituencies in partnership with Tata Group, where enrolled students receive hands-on technical training alongside a monthly stipend of ₹2,000.

Highlighting the administration's affirmative action record, the Chief Minister noted that 60% of candidates selected in recent Group-1 recruitment belonged to Backward Classes (BC). He underscored Telangana's milestone as the first state to conduct a comprehensive BC caste census—the first such exercise since the British era—and pointed to the implementation of SC categorisation.

Launching a sharp attack on the previous BRS regime, Reddy criticized past policies that promoted traditional occupations like sheep and cattle rearing over higher education for backward communities. "Shouldn't this community get educated? Shouldn't they become IAS officers, IPS officers, ministers, and MLAs?" he asked, asserting that education is the sole vehicle for genuine socio-economic mobility.

Paying tribute to Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule, the Chief Minister pledged to work 18 hours a day to build a stronger educational infrastructure, including integrated residential schools designed to break caste barriers through inclusive learning environments.

Godavari Pushkaralu Works to Begin in Sept: Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad: Works for the Godavari Pushkaralu—2027 should commence in the first week of September, IT and Industries Minister and Chairman of the Cabinet Sub-Committee Duddilla Sridhar Babu has instructed officials.

Chairing a meeting of the Godavari Pushkaralu—2027 Cabinet Sub-Committee at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat here on Friday, Sridhar Babu directed officials to complete the tendering process by the end of August to ensure that the works begin as scheduled.

The State government has allocated Rs.1,000 crore for the conduct of the Godavari Pushkaralu, Sridhar Babu said. He directed the officials to appoint special officers for tier-I locations expected to witness heavy pilgrim



footfall and establish dedicated command and control centres at key locations.

Stressing the need to adhere to the prescribed timelines, the Minister said there should be no compromise on the quality of works. Senior officials of the concerned departments should undertake regular field inspections and closely monitor the progress of works, he said.

He also directed the Endowments department to introduce a dedicated dashboard for daily monitoring of the progress of

works, enabling the government to track implementation against the prescribed timelines.

Emphasising the need for effective inter-departmental coordination, Sridhar Babu said all departments should work in close coordination to ensure that devotees do not face inconvenience during the Pushkaralu. Senior officials were asked to take proactive measures to resolve coordination issues.

The Minister directed officials to ensure seamless road connectivity to all major Pushkaralu loca-

tions. Any gaps in connectivity should be identified immediately and necessary works taken up using local funds, he said.

He also stressed the involvement of local public representatives, Collectors, Superintendents of Police, senior district officials and priests in the preparations. Voluntary and private organisations willing to provide services to devotees should also be identified in advance, he said.

The Cabinet Sub-Committee reviewed the preparedness and progress of arrangements depart-

ment-wise and considered suggestions from its members. Sridhar Babu asked officials to take the recommendations of the committee into consideration while implementing the arrangements.

He warned that lapses or negligence in the preparations would invite action.

Ministers Konda Surekha, Tummala Nageswara Rao, Ponnampaluri Prabhakar, Seethakka, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Vivek Venkataswamy and Aduri Laxman Kumar, and State Government Adviser P. Sudarshan Reddy participated in the meeting.

TGSPDCL Sets 10-Day Deadline to Shift Power Lines in Malkajgiri

Hyderabad: TGSPDCL Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) Jitesh V. Patil participated in Multi-Departmental Coordination convergence meeting on Friday at the Malkajgiri Police Commissionerate office here.

The meeting extensively discussed monsoon preparedness, inter-departmental coordination for resolving public issues, joint action during emergencies, and measures to ensure uninterrupted public services during festival seasons.

The meeting was attended by Malkajgiri Police Commissioner B. Sumathi, Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation limits should be taken up in a phased manner to minimize inconvenience and power interruptions to consumers.

He assured that TGSPDCL is prepared to undertake such works on a priority basis in coordination with the concerned departments. The CMD directed officials to identify and shift electric poles and cables obstructing the development of 21 key traffic junctions and the imple-



ment of traffic management measures proposed by the Traffic Department within the next ten days.

He also instructed officials to take necessary action to remove unused electric poles and other structures causing traffic obstructions on roads by August 30.

The CMD further stated that TGSPDCL would work in close coordination with the Police, Municipal, HYDRAA, and other departments to ensure uninterrupted power supply during Vinayaka Chavithi and other upcoming festivals.

Referring to tree-trimming activities, Patil said

that TGSPDCL teams are continuously removing tree branches that pose a threat to power lines. He informed that the removed branches are being cleared within two to three days and that the utility is ready to coordinate with the Municipal Department whenever required.

He also stated that TGSPDCL is exploring the possibility of processing the removed branches through bio-chipping for use in nurseries. The CMD requested the Municipal Department to identify suitable locations for dumping removed tree branches and for storing old electric poles and other dismantled electrical materi-

als.

Sumathi stated that the Police department would extend full cooperation to the Electricity Department in matters related to public safety, traffic management, and field inspections. She emphasized that better coordination among departments would help resolve public issues more effectively.

Vinay Krishna Reddy observed that such coordination meetings are highly useful in addressing public grievances and suggested that similar meetings be conducted every month to further strengthen inter-departmental cooperation.

PM Modi Remembers Partition Victims, Calls for Harmony and Brotherhood

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday paid tribute to those affected by the Partition of India, remembering their courage and resilience on Partition Horrors Remembrance Day.

He said the day was an occasion to recall the courage of those impacted by Partition, which tore apart several lives, uprooted families and caused immense suffering. "Today we mark Partition Horrors Remembrance Day. We recall the courage of all those who were impacted by Partition. It was a moment in history that tore apart several lives...families were uprooted, loved ones were lost, and immense suffering was endured. At the same time, overcoming this, people rebuilt their lives from nothing, turned adversity into achievement and contributed immensely to our nation's progress," PM Modi wrote on X.



He said that despite the hardships, people rebuilt their lives from nothing, turned adversity into achievement and contributed immensely to the nation's progress. "Their life journeys remind us of the strength of the human spirit. May this day deepen our resolve to preserve harmony and brotherhood in our nation and collectively work towards building a Viksit Bharat," the post read. On August 14, India observes 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' to pay tribute to those who lost their lives and were displaced during the country's partition in 1947. India attained its freedom from British rule on 15th August, 1947. Independence Day, which is celebrated on 15th August every year, is a joyous and proud occasion for any nation; however, with the sweetness of freedom came also the trauma of partition.

Naidu Rolls Out Rs.252.86-Crore Plan For Modernising AP Fire Services

VIJAYAWADA: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced on Thursday that the state government is modernising AP Fire Services by procuring the latest fire-fighting vehicles and equipment in a phased manner at an estimated cost of ₹252.86 crore involving both the central and state funds.

The announcement came after he launched 58 advanced fire-fighting vehicles at a function on the Seed Access Road in Amaravati. The latest fleet has been purchased for ₹40 crore with funds from the 15th Finance Commission.

The government had already deployed 65 vehicles in the first phase at an expenditure of ₹33 crore. The new 58 vehicles comprise 25 advanced fire-fighting vehicles, 20 water bowzers and 13 Quick Response Multipurpose Fire-Fighting Vehicles.

The CM made it a point to re-view their features and operational capabilities.



He said a third phase of procurement would be taken up shortly. Strengthening infrastructure at the fire stations is also being prioritised.

The 25 advanced fire-fighting vehicles, costing ₹18.68 crore, would help fire personnel reach accident and fire sites in rural and forest areas quickly. The 20 water bowzers, costing ₹14.79 crore, have a capacity of 14,000 litres each and would provide continuous water supplies during major fires, particularly in urban and industrial areas.

The 13 Quick Response Multipurpose Fire-Fighting Vehicles, costing ₹6.37 crore, are equipped to operate in narrow, congested streets and densely populated areas, where conventional fire tenders

may face difficulties.

Naidu said 17 new fire station buildings are under construction with each costing ₹2.25 crore. Six of these have already been completed. Another 36 fire stations were being modernised to strengthen fire service infrastructure across the state.

Speaking on the occasion, home minister Vangalapudi Anitha said every minute is crucial during a disaster and protecting lives and property remains a priority of the government. She underlined that the objective is to ensure rapid response, limit damage, and begin rescue and fire-fighting operations immediately.

Anitha asked fire personnel to make effective use of the new equipment and provide faster emergency services. "Wherever a disaster occurs, help must arrive quickly. Saving lives and protecting property is the ultimate goal," she emphasised.

NDA Fast-Tracking Development: Ram Mohan Naidu

Visakhapatnam: Union civil aviation minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu on Friday said the early completion and inauguration of the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram reflected the coalition government's commitment to fast-tracking infrastructure development.

He said the airport was more than an infrastructure project and represented the pride and future of North Andhra. He also expressed confidence that other long-pending projects, including Mulapeta Port and the Rs 641-crore Neradi Barrage Project, would soon deliver economic and irrigation benefits to Srikakulam district.

Addressing a public meeting after inaugurating and laying foundation stones for development works worth around Rs 11 crore in Gara



mandal and Srikakulam city, Ram Mohan Naidu said Andhra Pradesh had returned to the path of development under the NDA coalition government after years of neglect.

He inaugurated the Rs 2.55-crore Kalingapatnam Lift Irrigation Scheme and several civic infrastructure projects, including roads, central lighting, an electricity substation, an irrigation department office and drainage works.

The Union minister said the coalition government was fulfilling its commitments through the implemen-

tation of the Super Six welfare schemes and completing projects that had remained pending under the previous regime.

He said investments worth Rs 11 lakh crore attracted to the state would create lakhs of employment opportunities and reaffirmed the government's commitment to farmers' welfare and regional development.

State agriculture minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu said the government had fulfilled the majority of its welfare promises and highlighted measures including enhanced pensions, assistance to farmers and fishermen, free bus travel for women and free LPG cylinders.

Rs. 6.23 Crore to Modernise Guntur's Mondigate Drainage

VIJAYAWADA: The decades-old drainage problem at Mondigate in Guntur city is set to be addressed with ₹6.23 crore in Railway funds being utilised to modernise the system. Union minister of state for rural development and communications Dr Pemmasani Chandrasekhar and Guntur East MLA Mohammed Naseer Ahmed laid the foundation stone for the works on Friday.

Dr Pemmasani said drainage water from Guntur city was discharged through three locations, including Peekala Vagu and Mondigate. The existing outlet could handle around 30,000 litres, but during heavy rains, rain-



water mixed with sewage and overflowed into nearby houses.

He said the capacity would be increased to 50,000 litres. The works would also benefit farmers whose agricultural lands were affected by drainage overflow.

Modernisation works would be taken up at Rajiv Gruhakalpa, Gottala Road, Venkatarama Theatre and Ziauddin Nagar, with works worth around ₹2 crore proposed at each location. Dr Pemmasani said initial estimates were around ₹7-8 crore and funds were subsequently mobilised from the Railways.

MLA Naseer said sewage generated in Guntur city was reaching Mondigate but was not flowing out smoothly, resulting in frequent overflow. He said the project would benefit more than 50,000 fami-

lies in Old Guntur. Several other development works, including a substation and Nandivelugu ROB, were also being taken up, he added.

Railway additional DRM Ramesh said the drainage outlet would be modernised to handle more than 25 cubic metres of additional discharge. The funds were sanctioned this year and the remaining works would be completed after the monsoon.

Measures were also being taken to prevent waste from entering the drainage system. BJP and Jana Sena leaders, municipal officials, former corporators, coalition leaders and local residents attended the programme.

Tight Security, Faster Replies Planned For AP Assembly Session

Elaborate administrative and security arrangements will be made for the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and Council sessions beginning August 17, with Speaker Chintakayala Ayyannapatrudu and Council Chairman Koyye Moshen Raju directing officials to ensure smooth conduct of the proceedings.

The presiding officers held separate review meetings with services special chief secretary S.S. Rawat, GAD (political) principal secretary J. Shyamala Rao and additional DGP Madhusudhan Reddy at the Assembly premises in Amaravati on Friday.

They expressed concern over delays in replies to questions raised by legislators and directed officials to establish an effective coordination mechanism for timely, clear and comprehensive answers. Where a question could not be answered, the reasons should be stated clearly. Long-pending questions should also be reviewed and disposed of as per procedure.

The Speaker and Chairman stressed the need for a monitoring mechanism to ensure that assurances given by ministers and departments on the floor of the House were implemented within the stipulated time.



They directed officials to expedite payment of pending medical bills of legislators and resolve administrative or technical hurdles affecting eligible claims. Proposals for enhancement of legislators' pensions should also be examined and processed expeditiously, taking into account administrative and financial implications.

Security arrangements were also reviewed. The Speaker directed police to ensure foolproof security and maintain high alertness to prevent any untoward incident during the session. With digital passes being introduced, entry into the Assembly and Council premises will be allowed only after mandatory scanning and verification.

Security personnel should be briefed on the digital pass system and ensure that only authorised persons are admitted, he said.

Special arrangements were sought for the 'Mana Sabha-Mana Sabha' programme being held on Friday and Saturday, when visitors may be allowed into the premises from 6 pm. Officials were asked to plan visitor entry, pass verification, vehicle movement, parking and security checks in advance.

Taking past experiences into account, Ayyannapatrudu directed police to identify and plug security gaps, particularly in open areas around the Secretariat. Adequate deployment should cover all four sides of the Secretariat, Assembly and Council premises, backed by CCTV cameras, communication systems and other surveillance technology.

Police were also asked to ensure smooth movement of legislators, officials, staff, media and visitors without compromising security.

Deputy Speaker Kanumuru Raghu Ramakrishna Raju, Assembly secretary-general Suryadevara Prasanna Kumar, Guntur SP Vakul Jindal, CM security SP Bhadraiah and senior officials attended the meetings.

Konaseema Authorities to Develop 105 Pushkar Ghats in the District



Kakinada: Konaseema collector R. Mahesh Kumar on Friday announced that 105 Pushkar ghats will be developed in Konaseema district at a cost of ₹39.50 lakh, while proposals worth ₹13.70 crore have been prepared for uninterrupted power supply, including installation of electric poles and transmission infrastructure.

Reviewing the preparations for the Godavari Maha Pushkaralu – 2027 at Amalapuram, the collector directed officials of all departments to work in close coordination and expedite infrastructure works. He said the number of devotees is likely to increase significantly compared to the previous Pushkaralu. He called for advance planning to avoid any lapses. He said the primary objective should be to ensure a safe environment for devotees at the Pushkar ghats.

Mahesh Kumar directed officials to prepare department-wise action plans covering ghat construction, roads, electricity, drinking water, sanitation, medical services, transport, security, and parking.

The collector directed officials to provide various infrastructure facilities at temples including Adurru, Kotipalli, Yanam, Antarvedi, and Appanapalli. He said proposals worth ₹10 crore have been prepared for fire services in view of the Pushkaralu.

Electricity officials informed Mahesh Kumar that tenders have been invited for three substations at Narsipudi in Alamuru mandal, Gudimallanka in Malikipuram mandal, and Manepalli in P. Gannavaram mandal.

Those who attended the review meeting included joint collector Waikhom Nyida Devi and additional superintendent of police Mahendra Mathe, apart from heads of all stakeholder departments.

HAR GHAR TIRANGA RALLY HELD ON RK BEACH ROAD

Visakhapatnam: The Har Ghar Tiranga rally was held on Visakhapatnam Beach Road on Friday as part of the 80th Independence Day celebrations, following the call of the Central and state governments to promote the campaign.

District revenue officer M. Visweswara Naidu flagged off the rally at Kalimata Temple. It proceeded to the YMCA, with students, officials and citizens participating. Participants carried a 100-metre National Flag, while patriotic songs and slogans of Bharat Mata Ki Jai and Vande Mataram were raised along the route.

Held under the theme Vikasit Bharat, Swarnandhra 2047, the rally



sought to promote national unity and highlight the sacrifices of freedom fighters. Speakers stressed the importance of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign in instilling patriotic values among youth and urged citizens to hoist the national flag at their homes.

District tourism officer J. Madhavi, district education officer Prem Kumar, information department RJD K. Sadarao, hotels association president Pawan Karthik and officials from the transport, police and revenue departments participated along with teachers and students.

Sacrifices of Freedom Fighters Inspire Us... Development of Pinapaka Is Our Commitment

MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu Extends Independence Day Greetings to the People of Pinapaka Constituency

Manuguru, August 14: Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu extended his heartfelt Independence Day greetings to the people of Pinapaka Constituency and called upon everyone to draw inspiration from the sacrifices and struggles of the freedom fighters.

He said the freedom India enjoys today is the result of the sacrifices, struggles and supreme dedication of countless freedom fighters who fought fearlessly against British rule. Their sacrifices should always remain an inspiration for every Indian, he said. Freedom Is Not Just a Right... It Is Also a Responsibility

The MLA said every citizen has a responsibility towards the nation and called upon people to contribute to the country's development, public welfare, social equality and the upliftment of the poor.

He particularly urged the youth to focus on education, knowledge and skills and actively participate in the progress of the nation.

Unity Is the Strength of India

Payam Venkateshwarlu appealed to people to rise above caste, religion and regional differences and move forward with the spirit of "We are Indians." Unity, brotherhood and patriotism are essential for strengthening the



Development of Pinapaka Is the Goal

The MLA assured that he would continue working with greater dedication for the development of Pinapaka Constituency and the welfare of its people.

"Happiness in every family... Development in every village... Opportunities for every youth... Support for every poor family" should be the collective goal, he said.

He called upon the people to work together with unity, service-mindedness and patriotism to build a stronger India and a more developed Pinapaka Constituency.

"The sacrifices of our freedom fighters are our inspiration... Public welfare is our responsibility... The development of Pinapaka is our commitment."

Jai Hind! — Vande Mataram!

Potholes Repaired on Main Road Thanks to Sarpanch's Initiative

Sarpanch Yellayya and local youth step up to relieve villagers and commuters of travel hardships.

Hathnoora, August 14: The main road in the mandal center of Hathnoora recently became a nightmare for commuters, riddled with large potholes caused by heavy rains and the continuous movement of heavy trucks. These dangerous potholes led to frequent accidents, injuring commuters and causing severe inconvenience to the villagers.

Recognizing the severity of the issue, Sarpanch Yellayya took immediate action to resolve it. He organized a voluntary labor drive (shramadanam) by involving members



of the Ambedkar and Jagjivan Ram Youth associations.

Sarpanch Yellayya himself stepped into the field alongside the youth, successfully filling and repairing the hazardous potholes using gravel, concrete, and dust.

Villagers and commuters praised Sarpanch Yellayya for his leadership and

commended the youth members who participated in the drive. Everyone expressed their sincere gratitude to the Sarpanch and the members of the Ambedkar and Jagjivan Ram Youth associations for their timely response and for making travel safer through voluntary labor.

MLA Kuchukulla Rajesh Reddy Visits Ailing Senior Journalist

Nagar Kurnool MLA Dr Kuchukulla Rajesh Reddy visited the residence of senior journalist Sailu Sagar, who has been suffering from ill health, and enquired about his condition.

The MLA spoke to Sailu Sagar and his family members, wished him a speedy recovery and assured them of his support during the difficult time.

Several ward councillors, senior Congress leaders and others accompanied the MLA during the visit.



Grand Tiranga Rally Showcases Patriotism in Nizamabad :

Nizamabad August 14, 2026 :Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta Urges People to Remember Freedom Fighters' Sacrifices

A grand Tiranga Rally organised by the BJP from R.R. Chowrasta to Gandhi Chowk on Friday witnessed enthusiastic participation, with the city reverberating with patriotic spirit and the Tricolour fluttering proudly across the route.

Addressing the gathering, Urban MLA D h a n p a l Suryanarayana Gupta said the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign has helped bring the national flag closer to every household and



strengthened the feeling of patriotism among citizens. He recalled that the campaign was launched in 2022 as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call.

He said the objective of such programmes is not only to encourage people to hoist the national flag but also to

inspire the younger generation to understand the history and sacrifices of the freedom struggle. He stressed that the Tricolour represents the unity of the nation beyond caste, religion and regional differences.

Armoor MLA Rakesh Reddy urged youngsters to learn about the lives of freedom fighters and na-



tional heroes who sacrificed their lives for the country. He said the freedom and security enjoyed by citizens today are the result of the sacrifices made by countless patriots.

The rally witnessed an energetic atmosphere throughout its route. The sight of a 150-metre-long giant Tricolour carried by participants emerged as one of the major

highlights of the event.

BJP District President Dinesh Kulachari, National Turmeric Board Chairman Palle Ganga Reddy, State Secretary Sravanti Reddy, corporators, senior BJP leaders, district office-bearers, mandal presidents, voluntary organisation representatives and school students took part in the rally.

Grand 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Rally Held in Doulothabad Village Doulothabad buzzes with enthusiasm amidst slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Vande Mataram."

Hathnoora, August 14:In response to the call given by the Prime Minister of India, Shri N a r e n d r a Damodardas Modi, the "Har Ghar Tiranga" program was organized with grand fervor and enthusiasm in Doulothabad village of Hathnoora mandal, under the auspices of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).?On this occasion, Hathnoora mandal BJP leaders, local party workers, and students took out a massive Tiranga rally. Holding the tri-



color national flags in their hands, everyone showcased their patriotism. As the rally passed through the main streets of the village, party workers and youth participated in large numbers, and the entire village of

Doulothabad resonated with patriotic slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Vande Mataram."

?Speaking on the occasion, BJP leaders stated that PM Modi's call for 'Har Ghar Tiranga' is igniting a spirit of patriotism in



every individual and urged everyone to hoist the national flag at every home to celebrate the spirit of independence. They called upon the nation to unite under the tricolor flag, which stands as a symbol of

India's sovereignty and integrity.?Key BJP leaders of Hathnoora mandal, representatives of affiliate organizations, local youth, and a large number of villagers participated in this rally.

Independence Day Celebrations to Be Held Grandly

Nirmal District Correspondent : Make Robust Arrangements for Smart Ration Card Distribution: District Collector Bhavesh Mishra

District Collector Bhavesh Mishra directed officials to make elaborate arrangements for the grand conduct of Independence Day celebrations.

On Friday evening, the Collector inspected the arrangements for the 80th Independence Day celebrations to be held tomorrow at the NTR Mini Stadium. He



reviewed arrangements for the police parade ground, seating arrangements for dignitaries and public representatives, cultural

programmes, drinking water supply, electricity, and security. He also gave several instructions to the officials concerned.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector directed officials to ensure that the programme is conducted smoothly without any shortcomings.

Later, the Collector inspected the arrangements for the Smart Ration Card distribution programme to be held at Sagar Convention Hall near Kadtal. He instructed officials to provide all necessary facilities so that beneficiaries attending the programme do not face any inconvenience.

He directed all concerned officials to work in coordination and ensure the successful conduct of both the Independence Day celebrations and the Smart Ration Card distribution programme.

Additional Collectors B. Venkateshwarlu and Kishore Kumar, DRO Rathod Ramesh, DEO Bhojanna, Fire Officer Shivaji, DSP Srinivas, Civil Supplies Officer Rajender, other officials and staff participated in the inspections.

Rajiv Jyothi Sadbhavana Yatra Reaches Nizamabad

Nizamabad, August 14, 2026 : The 35th Rajiv Jyothi Sadbhavana Yatra, being organised from Sriperumbudur to New Delhi under the leadership of Yatra President Dorai Velu, reached Nizamabad on Thursday.

Nizamabad DCC In-charge Kaudapu Sharath Kumar and DCC Corporation President accorded a warm welcome to the Yatra participants at the Congress Bhavan. Later, they paid floral tributes to the portrait of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and recalled his services to the nation.

Speaking on the occasion, DCC said that the Rajiv Jyothi Sadbhavana Yatra was launched 35 years ago with the objective of promoting peace and communal harmony across the country. He said the present Yatra began on August 9, coinciding with Quit India Movement Day, with the



slogan "Quit Terrorism", and is proceeding towards New Delhi. The Yatra will reach Delhi on August 20, the birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi, where it will conclude.

He said the Yatra is aimed at remembering and highlighting the services and contributions of Rajiv Gandhi to the nation while spreading the message of peace and harmony. District Treasurer Bhaktavatsalam, AICC Coordinator Gan Raj, District Youth Congress President Vipul Goud, former Municipal Floor Leader Rajendra Prasad, Janda Gudi Chairman Lavang Pramod, former Corporator M.A. Quddus, Bantu Balram, Mahila Congress leaders Pola Usha and Apama, Akula Mahender, Jaffer, Raj Gagan, and others participated in the programme.



Saturday 15, August, 2026

**INDIA'S INNOVA-
TMON CHALLENGE RE-
MAINS**

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 innova-

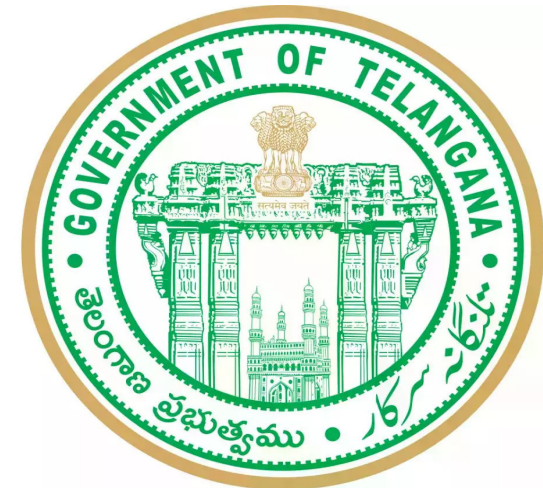
**Telangana Cabinet Approves Rs.200 Cr to Turn 18,766
Hyderabad Autos Electric**

Hyderabad: The Telangana cabinet has taken a key decision to control pollution within the Core Urban Region and transform Hyderabad into a green city.

There are currently 18,766 petrol and diesel autorickshaws in Hyderabad. The State cabinet has approved the implementation of Telangana Auto Rickshaw Electric Conversion Scheme at a cost of Rs.200 crore to convert these into EVs (electric vehicles).

Under this scheme, eligible auto drivers will be provided a maximum subsidy of Rs.1.50 lakh per vehicle. The scheme will provide an opportunity either to install an electric kit in the existing auto or scrap the old vehicle and purchase a new electric auto.

The cabinet has decided to extend the deadline for applications under the HILT policy, which is intended to relocate polluting industries within Hyderabad City limits to the city outskirts, by another three months. Based on requests from ap-



plicants, an opportunity has been provided to apply until October 31.

The cabinet has approved an estimated cost of Rs.2,100 crore for Makthal-Narayanpet-Kodangal Lift Irrigation Phase-II works. With this, irrigation water for nearly one lakh acres, as well as drinking water and wa-

ter for industrial needs in the region, will be supplied through this lift irrigation project.

The cabinet has approved the appointment of a consultant to study increasing the capacity of the Gudem Doddi Pumped Storage Project from 1.19 TMC to 15 TMC, along with studying solar power generation.

As was held last year, the Cabinet has also decided to conduct Telangana Rising Global Summit 2.0 this year. It has tentatively decided to hold the summit on December 7, 8, and 9. It has decided to constitute special committees for conducting the summit, along with a sub-committee under the leadership of Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Mallu Vikramarka and Ministers D Sridhar Babu, B Uttam Kumar Reddy, and G Vivek Venkataswamy.

As the Telangana Rising 2047 vision was unveiled last year, this time the summit has been approved with the Invest Telangana theme. On this occasion, the Future City Plan will be unveiled.

**CM's Public Meeting Arrangements
Complete in Sangareddy**

SANGAREDDY, Correspondent : August 14, 2026.: Arrangements are being made on a large scale for Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's public meeting scheduled to be held in Sangareddy on Saturday, TPCC Working President T. Jayaprakash Reddy (Jagga Reddy) said.

Jagga Reddy, along with DCC President Nirmala Jagga Reddy, inspected the arrangements for the public meeting on Friday. He said preparations were underway to ensure the participation of around one lakh people in the meeting.

He said that preparations for the programme were being reviewed regularly with TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud and Ministers Uttam Kumar Reddy, Damodar Raja narasimha and Vivek Venkataswamy to make the meeting a success.

The Chief Minister will unveil the statues of former Prime Ministers Jawaharlal Nehru and Rajiv Gandhi at IB Chaurasta in



Sangareddy, Jagga Reddy said. He added that around 50,000 people from the Sangareddy Assembly constituency alone are expected to attend the meeting.

Criticising the previous government for providing ration cards inadequately, Jagga Reddy said the Congress government had initiated the distribution of smart ration cards and would provide them to 1.05 crore beneficiaries across Telangana.

He also said German sheds were being erected at the venue to ensure that the public would not face any inconvenience in case of rain.

Constituency Convener Chereyala Anjaneyulu, TPCC General Secretary Topaji Ananth Kishan, Block Congress President George, and leaders Kiran Goud, Kuna Santosh, Hafez Shaik Shafi, Salauddin(Babubu) Faiz, Syed Arif, and others were present.

**Stop misleading people with false
propaganda, protect farmers'
interests and Telangana's water
rights: Harish Rao**

BRSLP deputy leader T Harish Rao accused Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of misleading people over Telangana's irrigation history. He warned of a major agitation if Andhra Pradesh's proposals against Telangana projects were not withdrawn before the August 18 GRMB meeting



Hyderabad: BRSLP deputy leader T Harish Rao accused Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of trying to rewrite Telangana's irrigation history with half-truths, lies and fabricated narratives. He urged the Chief Minister to stop misleading people and demanded immediate action to protect the State's water rights.

He warned of a major agitation if the Congress government failed to convince GRMB to drop Andhra Pradesh's proposals against Telangana projects in its upcoming meeting on August 18.

Reacting to Revanth Reddy's claim that the Kaleshwaram project had no role in Telangana's record paddy production, Harish Rao asked then why the Chief Minister was directing officials to maximise Godavari water lifting from Yellampalli, Devadula and Sitarama Lift Irrigation projects, which directly or indirectly benefited from the Kaleshwaram project. "You cannot change history by covering the truth," he said.

Revanth Reddy recently attributed the record paddy production to good monsoons, 15 lakh new borewells and farmer-centric measures such as Rythu Bharosa, Rythu Bima, crop-loan waiver and 24-hour free power.

Harish Rao countered him, stating that completion of Yellampalli, Mid Manair, Devadula and Sitarama projects during the previous BRS regime, coupled with restoration of tanks, improved groundwater levels and 24-hour quality power, had together contributed to increased cultivation. He reminded that Yellampalli and Mid Manair were integral to the Kaleshwaram project, which also helped stabilise the full ayacut of Sri Ram Sagar Project (SRSP) and Nizam Sagar.

Harish Rao accused the Congress government of neglecting irrigation and risking Telangana's water rights. He demanded immediate measures for removal of Andhra Pradesh's proposals from the GRMB agenda. He warned that if the issues were not withdrawn before the August 18 meeting, BRS would not remain a spectator. "We will lay siege to the GRMB office with thousands of people," he said, asserting that BRS was ready for any struggle to protect Telangana's water rights

CP Honors Karate Trainer Vasanth Kumar

Karimnagar, August 14: : Malkajgiri Commissionerate Police Commissioner B. Sumathi inaugurated the 'Dheera' program on Thursday at the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Gurukul School in Munaganoor, Thorur Division. The program is being run under the Women Safety Wing. As part of this, training for girls on self-defense, discipline, mental courage, and personal safety through martial arts was launched.

On this occasion, CP Sumathi felicitated Karate trainer K. Vasanth Kumar, who is providing martial arts training to the girls. Officials stated that such training programs will help build self-confidence in girls and equip them with the ability to protect themselves during emergencies.

DCP Anuradha of LB Nagar, Usha Rani of Women Safety Wing, several Inspectors, and other Karate instructors Moiz, Rajasekhar, Anil, and Veena participated in the program.



Telangana Governor Extends Independence Day Greetings

Hyderabad: Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Friday extended warm greetings to the people of Telangana and the nation on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day on August 15.

The Governor called upon people to remember with gratitude the sacrifices of the freedom fighters who fought with courage and dedication for the country's independence.

The freedom enjoyed today was the result of the sacrifices and valour of the freedom fighters, Shukla said. He urged every citizen to discharge their responsibility towards safeguarding the country's independence, sovereignty and unity.

The Governor called for collective efforts to build a stronger and self-reliant Atmanirbhar Bharat. He emphasised the need to ensure that the benefits of development reach all sections of society and called for greater focus on peace, fraternity and inclusive development.

Shukla said that every citizen should contribute to the building of a prosperous and progressive India based on the values of unity, integrity and development. He called upon youth, women, farmers, workers, students and people from all sections of society to play an active role in the nation's progress.

The Governor expressed the hope that the tricolour would always fly high with pride and that its three colours would continue to symbolise courage, peace and faith among the people.

He called upon the people to draw inspiration from the ideals of the freedom fighters and rededicate themselves to the task of building a Viksit Bharat.



Collector Ankit Inspects Development Works in Yellandu

**100-Bed Government Hospital to be Completed by December
Speed Up Works Without Compromising on Quality
Give Priority to Drinking Water and Promote Alternative Crops
Special Focus on 100% Pass Percentage in Schools**

YELLANDU, AUGUST 14: District Collector Ankit conducted an extensive field inspection in Yellandu town on Friday and reviewed the progress of the 100-bed government hospital, water availability at Yellandu tank, agricultural activities and the functioning of the Sundimalla Tribal Welfare Residential School and College.

The Collector inspected the construction of the 100-bed government hospital being built at a cost of ₹37.50 crore and reviewed the progress of ongoing works. He examined the proposed facilities including inpatient and out-patient departments, ICU, emergency services, wards, waiting halls and other amenities.

Collector Ankit directed the officials to complete the hospital construction in all respects by December by speeding up the works. He instructed the construction agency and concerned departments to work in coordination and strictly maintain quality standards. He made it clear that there should be no compromise on the quality of construction materials and workmanship.

Priority to Drinking Water

The Collector also inspected Yellandu tank and reviewed the available water storage, water levels and daily drinking water requirements. Officials explained the present water position and usage details.

Collector Ankit directed the officials to ensure planned utilisation of available water resources, giving top priority to drinking water needs. He stressed the need to prevent wastage and manage water resources keeping future requirements in mind.

Promote Alternative Crops

The Collector reviewed the agricultural situation with Agriculture Department officials and enquired about irrigation facilities and crops being cultivated in Rompedu, Challasamudram and other areas.

He directed officials to create awareness among farmers to reduce paddy cultivation and shift towards alternative crops requiring less water. He particularly suggested promoting crops such as green gram based on the availability of water resources.

Focus on 100% Pass Percentage

Collector Ankit conducted a surprise inspection



tion of the Sundimalla Tribal Welfare Residential School and College. He reviewed education, accommodation, food and basic facilities being provided to students.

Interacting with Class X students, he enquired about teaching, textbooks, uniforms, accommodation and food facilities. Officials informed him that the students had achieved a 100% pass percentage in Class X during the previous academic year.

The Collector directed the school authorities to maintain the same performance this year and prepare a special action plan to achieve 100% results. He instructed teachers to identify students who are lagging behind and provide them with special coaching.

Quality Food for Students

The Collector inspected the dining hall and store room and personally checked the quality of rice, pulses, vegetables and other essential commodities. He instructed the authorities to provide students with quality and nutritious food strictly as per the prescribed menu.

Issues related to leakage in the school building and dining hall during the rainy season were brought to his notice. The Collector directed the officials to immediately prepare proposals for repairs and take necessary action on priority.

Collector Ankit stated that providing quality education, better accommodation, a clean environment and nutritious food to students is the responsibility of the authorities.

Tehsildar Khaseem, MPDO Dhansingh, Municipal Commissioner Srikanth, Government Hospital Superintendent, headmasters, engineering and agriculture department officials and representatives of other concerned departments participated in the inspection.

MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu Meets Former Chhattisgarh Minister Kawasi Lakhma

Former Minister and Kunta MLA Receives Warm Courtesy Visit in Bhadrachalam

BHADRACHALAM, AUGUST 14: Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu met former Chhattisgarh Minister and Kunta MLA Kawasi Lakhma during his visit to Bhadrachalam on Friday. MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu warmly welcomed Kawasi Lakhma and felicitated him with a shawl. The two leaders exchanged greetings and held an affectionate interaction for some time.

The meeting between the two public representatives from neighbouring states attracted attention among local political circles. Their cordial interaction reflected the close relationship and mutual respect between leaders from the border regions.

Former Laxmipuram PACS Chairman Pothireddy Venkateswara Reddy, former Deputy Sarpanch Pothireddy Venkateswara Reddy, Katam Venkatarama Reddy and others were present.



New Executive Committee Elected for Police Officers Association SP Rohith Raju IPS Congratulates Newly Elected Office-Bearers

Kothagudem, August 14, 2026: The elections for the new executive committee of the Bhadradri Kothagudem District Police Officers Association were successfully completed. District SP Rohith Raju IPS congratulated the newly elected office-bearers and executive committee members.

The SP wished that the new committee would work effectively for the welfare of police officers and personnel, address their issues and strengthen coordination within the department. He advised the newly elected members to strengthen mutual cooperation and unity among police personnel and set an inspiring example in the discharge of their duties.

SP Rohith Raju assured that the district police department would extend full cooperation to the association in its efforts towards the welfare of police officers and personnel.

S. Ramakrishna, Head Constable, Edulla Bayyaram, was elected as President. Krishna Rao, Welfare Reserve Inspector, and Pathan Nagulmeera Khan, SI, Komaram, were elected as Vice-Presidents.

SB Inspector Srinivas was elected as Secretary, B. Shankar, PC, Kothagudem One Town Police Station, as Joint Secretary, K. Veeresh Kumar, PC, DAR Bhadradri Kothagudem, as Organising Secretary, and M.D. Rafi, Head Constable, Kothagudem Traffic Police Station, as Treasurer.

The executive committee members include B. Ravinder, PC, Bhadrachalam; Y. Chiranjeevi, PC, Kothagudem Three Town; A. Sri Ramakrishna Reddy, PC, Dummipeta; K. Kasturi, ASI, Laxmidivipalli; B. Krishnaiah, ARPC; and M. Chandrasekhar, ARPC.

District police officers and personnel extended their best wishes to the newly elected committee. AR DSP Satyanarayana, members of the Police Officers Association and police personnel participated in the programme.



Purification is a hoax, a play played by BJP..

**Congress ranks march in solidarity with Kharge
Congress ranks stage half-naked Satyagraha rally in protest against Haldwani incident
Organized by DCC President Ayub, MLCs and MLAs participated**

Warangal, Bureau,: Strongly condemning the humiliating act committed against All India Congress Committee President Mallikarjun Kharge in Haldwani, Uttarakhand, and as per the orders of AICC and TPCC, this Satyagraha rally started from Venkatrama Junction on Friday under the leadership of Warangal District Congress Party President Mohammed Ayub. The Congress party ranks staged a half-naked demonstration and continued till the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in Kasibugga. Vardhannapet MLA KR Nagaraju and MLC Baswaraju Saraiah attended the event as chief guests and expressed solidarity with the Congress ranks.

Later, they anointed the statue of Dr. BR Ambedkar with milk, garlanded it, paid tributes and raised slogans of Jai Bhim.

Speaking on the occasion, District Congress Party President Ayub said,

The shameful act committed against Congress Party National President Mallikarjun Kharge in Haldwani is extremely painful. He said that insulting and discriminating against a person in the name of caste and religion is completely against the spirit of the Indian Constitution.

He lamented that BJP and RSS supporters have staged a sham drama by bringing and purifying holy Ganga water in front of temples and mosques. He said that the Congress Party will continuously fight for a society free from caste and religious discrimination and for the protection of constitutional values.

He reminded that the Constitution of India has provided equality, social justice, brotherhood and freedom to every citizen and it is everyone's responsibility to protect these values.

It is unfortunate that regressive ideas like caste



discrimination and untouchability are being promoted while the country is moving towards development. Mohammed Ayub made it clear that no one has the right to look down on anyone based on their caste, religion or social background.

He said that the Congress Party will always fight for social justice and equality and will strongly oppose any action that violates constitutional values in a democratic manner.

Ayub said that he expresses complete solidarity with Mallikarjuna Kharge on behalf of the Warangal District Congress Party. He said that he will continuously fight under the leadership of the Congress Party to protect social harmony, democratic values and constitutional rights in the country.

He said that through this program, the message that the Congress Party stands united against discrimination, for social justice and for the protection of the Constitution has been conveyed to the people.

Former corporators, public representatives, presidents of state, district, mandal, urban and divisional Congress committees, leaders of affiliated associations, Youth Congress, Women's Congress, leaders, activists and others participated in the program in large numbers.

CM's visit arrangements should be made in a proper manner District Collector Chahat Bajpai, CP Shwetha instruct officials

Hanumakonda; In the backdrop of Telangana State Chief Minister Enumula Revanth Reddy laying the foundation stone and inauguration of several development programmes in Parakala, Hanumakonda district on the 16th of this month and participating in the public meeting to be held afterwards, District Collector Chahat Bajpai and City Police Commissioner Shwetha have instructed officials to make proper arrangements for the visit.

On Friday, District Collector Chahat Bajpai, CP Shwetha along with ISW SP Basha inspected the public meeting premises in Parakala at the field level. On this occasion, a coordination meeting was held with officials of various departments and the arrangements to be made for the successful conduct of the Chief Minister's visit were reviewed.

The Collector and CP inspected the arrangements related to waterproof tents, assembly platform, people, VIPs, traffic control, parking, sanitation, toilets, drinking water supply, etc. set up in the assembly premises.

The officers were instructed to make appropriate arrangements so that the people coming for the tour do not face any inconvenience. Special attention should be paid to sanitation management, drinking water supply, electricity, parking, etc. in the assembly



premises. Police officers were instructed to take action with advance planning so as not to disrupt traffic.

The officers of all departments were advised to work in coordination with each other and effectively discharge the responsibilities assigned to them. It was made clear that all the work should be completed in advance without any shortcomings in the arrangements related to the Chief Minister's visit.

GWMC Commissioner T. Venkanna, DCP Ankit, district officers, officers of Revenue, Engineering, Municipal, Police and other departments participated in this program.

Blood Donors Are the Real Heroes: Dr. Tukaram Rathod

Bhadradri Kothagudem, August 14: District Medical and Health Officer Dr. Tukaram Rathod said that blood donors are the real heroes as their voluntary donation can save precious lives during emergencies.

A blood donation camp was organised at the Government General Hospital under the aegis of the District Legal Services Authority, Bhadradri Kothagudem. Dr. Tukaram Rathod and Senior Civil Judge-cum-Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority Rajender attended the programme as chief guests and inaugurated the camp.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Tukaram Rathod said that one person's blood donation could give another person a new lease of life. Blood is urgently required during road accidents, surgeries, childbirth involving heavy blood loss and other emergency medical situations. Since blood cannot be artificially manufactured, voluntary donation is the only way to ensure its availability, he said.

He appealed to healthy individuals, particularly youth, to voluntarily participate in blood donation camps at regular intervals. He called upon everyone to spread the message: "Donate Blood – Save Lives."

Surprise Inspection of Friday–Dry Day Programme

After the blood donation camp, Dr. Tukaram Rathod conducted a surprise inspection of Safai Basti under the Urban Primary Health Centre. He reviewed the implementation of the Friday–Dry Day programme aimed at preventing seasonal diseases, particularly mosquito-borne diseases during the rainy season.

He inspected stagnant water, sanitation conditions and areas favourable for mosquito breed-



ing. Health staff were instructed to create awareness among residents about keeping their surroundings clean, preventing water stagnation and taking mosquito-control measures.

The DM&HO directed the staff to conduct the Friday–Dry Day programme effectively every week and involve the public in controlling mosquito breeding. Field-level staff were instructed to conduct regular visits and closely monitor seasonal disease prevention measures.

Special Focus on Pregnant Women

Dr. Rathod instructed health staff to increase normal deliveries and encourage pregnant women to undergo deliveries at hospitals as per their expected delivery dates. He directed the staff to monitor pregnant women every day and pay special attention to high-risk pregnancies.

Screening for People Above 30

As part of the Non-Communicable Diseases programme, Dr. Rathod instructed the staff to conduct screening of everyone above 30 years of age. He also directed that patients suffering from blood pressure and diabetes should receive their medicines regularly every month.

Government General Hospital Superintendent Dr. Radhamohan, Dr. Seetharam, Blood Bank Medical Officer Dr. Surender, UPHC Safai Basti staff Srinivas, Jagadish, Sharada, Vijayalakshmi, Sangeetha, Sumanth, Pavani, other health staff and blood donors participated in the programme.

Cabinet Okays Telangana Rising Summit in December

Hyderabad: The State Cabinet on Friday gave the green signal for the three-day Telangana Rising Global Summit 2.0 this year, with a tentative schedule of December 7, 8 and 9. The Cabinet meeting, chaired by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, decided to constitute a sub-committee headed by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, with ministers D. Sridhar Babu, N. Uttam Kumar Reddy and G. Vivek as members to oversee the preparations. Special committees will also be constituted to organise the summit.

While last year's summit unveiled the Telangana Rising 2047 vision document, this year's event will be organised on the theme "Invest Telangana." The government plans to unveil the Future City Master Plan and showcase the state's investment potential, particularly in defence, aerospace and pharmaceuticals.

Exhibitions and stalls highlighting the achievements of Telangana startups and industries, besides innovations across sectors, will also be organised. The Cabinet said the summit would serve as a platform to attract investments to Telangana and boost the state's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).

The Cabinet also discussed measures to attract investments, accelerate industrial development, expand skill development opportunities for youth, generate employment and improve delivery of digital services.

In a skill-development reform, the Cabinet approved bringing all Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), Advanced Training Centres (ATCs) and polytechnic colleges under the Young India Skills University (YISU). It approved removing these institutions from the Telangana Education Act



framework and bringing them under YISU. The Cabinet also decided to shift the institutions, presently under the Industries Department, to the Shakti Department.

The Cabinet further approved construction of Young India Integrated Residential Schools (YIIRS) in Adilabad, Nirmal, Mudhole, Boath, Sirpur, Gajwel and Dubbaka Assembly constituencies. The government has planned to set up the schools in 113 constituencies. With the approval of seven more schools on Friday, permissions have been granted for 86 YIIRS complexes.

The Cabinet directed officials to acquire land and begin construction in the remaining constituencies at the earliest. Revanth Reddy instructed officials to complete the complexes already under construction as quickly as possible. The Cabinet decided to make arrangements to commence classes from the 2027-28 academic year at complexes where construction has been completed.

For the Makthal-Narayanpet-Kodangal lift irrigation Phase-II project, the Cabinet approved an estimated cost of Rs 2,100 crore. The project is expected to provide irrigation to nearly one lakh acres, besides meeting drinking water and industrial water requirements in the region. The Cabinet also approved increasing the capacity of the Gudem Doddi pumped storage project from 1.19 tmc ft to 15 tmc ft. It also approved the appointment of a consultant to conduct a study on the feasibility of solar power generation as part of the project.

KCR pays last respects to brother-in-law Srinivas Rao

BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao on Friday attended the funeral of his brother-in-law Joginipalli Srinivas Rao, who passed away after a prolonged illness. Rao paid floral tributes, consoled family members and assured them of support, while senior BRS leaders including K T Rama Rao and T Harish Rao were also present.

Hyderabad: BRS chief K Chandrashekhara Rao paid his last respects to his brother-in-law Joginipalli Srinivas Rao, who died after prolonged illness. He sat through the funeral on Friday to support the bereaved family.

Chandrashekhara Rao reached Srinivas Rao's residence at Suchitra Junction directly from his Erravelli residence and paid floral tributes to the mortal remains. He consoled the bereaved family members and assured them of his support.

Srinivas Rao, brother of Chandrashekhara Rao's wife Shobhamma, had been undergo-



ing treatment at Yashoda Hospital in Secunderabad for some time and passed away in the early hours of Thursday.

BRS working president KT Rama Rao, former Minister T Harish Rao, former MP J Santosh Kumar and other party leaders and family members were present.

Revanth Will Launch Distribution of Smart Ration Cards on I-Day

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will launch the distribution of new smart ration cards at a public meeting in Sangareddy on Independence Day on Saturday, following the Cabinet approving the scheme at its meeting on Friday. District incharge ministers will distribute cards in respective districts. The cards were printed with photographs of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy.

To promote the cultivation of seven identified varieties of fine-quality paddy during the current Vanakalam (khari) season, the Cabinet decided to undertake an awareness campaign among farmers. The campaign will be conducted through at gram panchayat buildings and Rythu Vedikas. The government will pay a Rs 500 bonus per quintal from this year for only these seven varieties of fine paddy.

The Cabinet also approved the sale of 17.54 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of surplus paddy through e-auction. The government had purchased 81.16 LMT of paddy from farmers at the minimum support price in recent Yasangi season. Of this, the Centre would take only 63.62 LMT

for public distribution scheme (PDS). The surplus of 17.54 LMT will now be sold by the state.

Following the revenue generated through the recent maize auction, the government fixed a basic price of Rs 2,389 per quintal for the surplus paddy, which was the MSP at which state government purchased from framers.

The card format being released for the first time in Telangana will be waterproof and tear-resistant. The cardholder's name and address will be displayed along with the photograph, while a QR code will provide access to details of family members covered under the ration card and the history of commodities such as rice, sugar and wheat received by the household.

Beneficiaries will be able to obtain their entitled ration by visiting a fair price shop and either scanning the QR code or providing the card number, followed by biometric authentication by any eligible family member. Cardholders will also have to download the T-Ration app, link the ration card using an OTP and create an M-PIN. The Civil Supplies Department bore the entire cost of printing the new cards and beneficiaries will not have to pay any charges.

CM Revanth: No More Fee Delays and Dues

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday announced that the state government would deposit Rs 2,400 crore towards fee reimbursement directly into students' bank accounts in advance for the 2026-27 academic year, in a major overhaul aimed at ensuring transparency and ending delays in the payment process. He said Rs 250 crore had been deposited in banks towards fee reimbursement payments and assured that the amount would be credited to students' accounts within a month of their applying online.

The new system, he said, was intended to prevent colleges from withholding certificates of students on the grounds that the government had not released the fee reimbursement amount.

Addressing a public meeting after unveiling the statues of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule at HMDA Grounds near Necklace Road here, the Chief Minister also announced a new initiative to impart technical and vocational skills alongside academic education to students from nursery to Class 12. "We are already providing comprehensive facilities for students, including breakfast, lunch and evening snacks, starting from the nursery level to Class 12," he said, stressing that a degree alone was no longer sufficient to secure employment in an in-



creasingly competitive world.

Students, he said, needed technical skills to meet changing employment requirements. Referring to global job opportunities, Revanth Reddy said even IT professionals were losing jobs in the United States and returning home, while nearly two lakh nursing jobs were available in Germany and Japan.

Revanth Reddy said 60 per cent of candidates selected in the Group-I recruitment belonged to the Backward Classes (BCs) communities, while pointing out that competition in education had increased sharply as nearly 90 per cent of students were now securing full marks in examinations. He said the government had established the Young India Sports University (YISU) and was also providing government jobs to sportspersons who excelled in their respective disciplines.

In a broadside at the previous BRS government, the Chief Minister alleged that it had failed to provide opportunities for BC communities to pursue higher education and instead encouraged them to depend on traditional occupations such as sheep, goat and cattle rearing. "Are we still expected to stitch footwear? Are we still expected to just herd sheep and buffaloes? Shouldn't this community get educated? Shouldn't they become IAS officers? Shouldn't there be IPS officers, ministers and MLAs among you," he asked. Education alone could change the destinies of individuals and transform Telangana, he asserted, alleging that the BRS leadership wanted its own children to rule the state.

Describing the unveiling of the statue of Jyotiba Phule as a "delightful moment", the Chief Minister said the Necklace Road junction had now been transformed into a magnificent landmark, with statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr B.R. Ambedkar, Indira Gandhi and former prime minister P.V. Narasimha Rao adorning the area.

BJP's Tiranga March Turns Into Attack on CM Revanth

Hyderabad: The Telangana BJP on Friday held a large-scale Tiranga rally at Tank Bund as part of the nationwide Har Ghar Tiranga campaign ahead of Independence Day. The march, flagged off by state party president N. Ramchander Rao, proceeded from the Dr B.R. Ambedkar statue to the Swami Vivekananda statue, drawing thousands of party workers, students and citizens.

Union minister for coal and mines G. Kishan Reddy used the platform to launch a sharp attack on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over the reported opposition of MIM president Asaduddin Owaisi and his brother Akbaruddin Owaisi opposition to singing Vande Mataram. He reminded that Parliament enacted a law making Vande Mataram mandatory as the National Song, and dared the CM to act against the MIM leaders. "If you have the courage and faith in Parliament's law,



don't let them stay in Darussalam, send them to Cherlapally jail," he challenged.

Reddy also invoked the sacrifice of Sama Jagannatha Reddy, an ABVF activist from Kakatiya University who was killed for protesting the burning of the National Flag by Naxalites, calling it an insult to all Indians. He accused opposition parties of conspiring against India's progress and urged people to reject "anti-national politics".

Union minister of state for home Bandi Sanjay Kumar targeted Congress on youth representation, saying if the party was sincere it should induct Gen-Z leaders into the state Cabinet and give them key portfolios instead of merely talking about lowering the election age. "Don't just talk. Show it in action by walking the talk," he said.

Sanjay praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's record, citing poverty reduction, improved internal security and rapid infrastructure growth. He described the Tricolour as a symbol of courage, peace and prosperity, and said being born an Indian was a "past-life merit".

Ramchander Rao, who led the rally, focused on instilling patriotism and hit out at Congress' past rule, contrasting it with Modi's tenure. Rajya Sabha MP Dr K. Laxman stressed unity across caste, religion and language, while Malkajgiri MP Etala Rajender recalled the sacrifices of freedom fighters and said India's democracy had enabled a tea-seller's son to become Prime Minister and an Adivasi woman to become President.

Besides noted badminton player Saina Nehwal, film actor Sai Kumar and religious leaders, former Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, MPs G. Nagesh, Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, D. Arvind, party MLAs, rally convenor Dr Mekala Shilpa Reddy and others took part.



SPORTS

Manpreet Singh says 2026 Hockey World Cup could be his last

*Indian hockey midfielder Manpreet Singh says the 2026 FIH World Cup could be his last, as India target their first World Cup medal after back-to-back Olympic successes. He backs the squad's balance, preparation and confidence ahead of the tournament.*Connecting South Asians

Hyderabad: Indian men's hockey midfielder Manpreet Singh says that the FIH World Cup starting from August 15 in Belgium and Holland could well be his last appearance. "This World Cup means a lot to me because it's my fourth edition. We have won back-to-back Olympic medals, but a World Cup medal is still missing. Every player dreams of having both. For me, this could be my last World Cup, so I am approaching it with that mindset," Manpreet said in a chat with JioStar.

"I am determined to achieve what we haven't yet. The team has the experience and the talent to go all the way. We have prepared well, and the belief is high. Indian sports are rising across the board, and hockey is no different. We have won Olympic medals, and now it's time to go all the way in the World Cup," he said. On the team's preparation and the importance of respecting every opponent in the World Cup, Manpreet said: "I have full faith in this team. Everyone is excited and ready for the World Cup. We have learned from past editions that you cannot take any team lightly in a tournament like this. Our squad has a good balance of youth and experience. Senior players like our captain Harmanpreet Singh, Mandeep Singh, and myself have shared our learnings with the younger players about what worked, what didn't, and how to approach each match with full focus," Manpreet said.

"Every match in this tournament is important. We need to go in with the right mindset, respect every opponent, and play to win. Our



coach has emphasised fitness because we know that being fit helps us compete against the best. We have also worked hard on our defence. A solid defence gives us the confidence to attack and take control of the game," he said. On how the team prepares for any opponent in the World Cup, the star midfielder said: "Regardless of who we play, whether it's Pakistan or any other team, we stick to our game plan. We don't get caught up in the opposition's name or reputation. Hockey is a team sport." "And, and if one player tries to do everything alone, it can hurt the team. We must trust each other and play as a unit. By working together and executing our plans, we can beat any side. It all comes down to how we perform on the day. We need to stay emotionally balanced, stick to our roles, and play with discipline. That is what will give us the best chance to win," he said. On captain Harmanpreet Singh, the seasoned campaigner said: "Harmanpreet is an exceptional captain. He leads from the front and guides everyone on the field. He motivates the players during tough moments and keeps the team calm under pressure. His ability to read the game is top class," he said.

"His passing range, whether long overheads or ground passes, is fantastic. He communicates well from the back and organizes the defense effectively. He is easily one of the best drag-flickers in the world. He has great power and variation in his hits, and he always steps up when the team needs him most. Having a captain like him gives the whole team confidence," Manpreet explained. On being confident about making it to the final, the key member of the Indian team said: "I am confident that we will reach the final of the World Cup. The team is playing with great belief and giving 100 per cent in every single training session. The energy in the camp is high, and every member of the squad is determined to achieve something special. I fully believe we will make it to the final."

Ben Shelton Wins Back-to-back Canadian Opens With Victory Over Nakashima



Ben Shelton won the Canadian Open for a second straight year with a 6-3 7-6(4) victory over fellow American Brandon Nakashima on Thursday, claiming his second Masters 1000 crown and picking up a seventh career title. The all-American final was the first at Masters 1000 level since Andy Roddick beat Mardy Fish in Cincinnati in 2003 and offered an encouraging sign for U.S. men's tennis ahead of the U.S. Open, where the country has not had a men's singles champion since Roddick's triumph that same year. Shelton arrived in Canada after a frustrating stretch of results, having suffered a first-round exit at Wimbledon, a second-round defeat at Roland Garros and managed just one win across his first four Masters 1000 events of the season. However, he has rediscovered his best form on the Canadian hard courts. "To play the way that I've played this week, to go through this draw without dropping a set, I think it speaks a lot to the work that I've been putting in, but it speaks a lot to my mental toughness," Shelton said.

"It hasn't been the best for me, easiest or most straightforward year for me, to put together a performance like this and playing at the top of my game, I have no words." The fifth seed took control of the opening

set as he repeatedly attacked Nakashima's second serve after the pair traded holds through 3-3. Shelton broke for 4-3 with a forehand return winner off a second serve and struck again in the final game as Nakashima's forehand began to falter.

Nakashima, playing in his first Masters 1000 final, weathered the pressure in the second set and forced a tiebreak, but Shelton again seized the initiative with a mini-break before closing out the match with a superb forehand winner. Shelton became the first Canadian Open champion since Novak Djokovic in 2016 to win the tournament without dropping a set, while also becoming the first player since Rafa Nadal in 2019 to successfully defend the title.

Jharkhand's Shilpa Kumari aims to follow Neeraj Chopra's path to Olympic glory

Jharkhand teenager Shilpa Kumari, India's U-17 women's javelin record holder, draws inspiration from Neeraj Chopra and dreams of Olympic glory. After emerging from a remote village, she now targets a podium finish at the 2026 Youth Olympics.



Hyderabad: When Neeraj Chopra hurled the javelin beyond the 87-metre line at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, he not just won the gold medal, he also sparked off a revolution in Indian athletics with a plethora of javelin talent breaking out onto the global stage.

While the likes of Commonwealth Games 2026 bronze medallist Yashvir Singh and Rohit Yadav have come up among the men, the women's section has lacked a big star – until now, that is.

Hailing from a remote village in the tribal district of Gumla in Jharkhand, Shilpa Kumari – the current national record holder in the women's U-17 category – has emerged as the next big hope of women's javelin in India.

For Shilpa, watching Neeraj Chopra's Olympic exploits live on television along with her neighbours at her village 'chaupal' was a life changing experience.

"I watched Neeraj Chopra win gold at the Olympics. That inspired me to take up javelin. I want to emulate Neeraj sir and win an Olympic medal," Shilpa said during an interaction with SAI Media.

"As I watched the people in my village celebrate Neeraj Chopra's triumph, I decided that winning an Olympic medal in javelin will be the target of my life from then on."

It was an athletics trial at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) centre in Ranchi which eventually fuelled that Olympic dream.

Shilpa's coach Binod Singh vividly remembers the day he discovered what he termed as the "brightest emerging women's javelin star in India.

"When I first spotted her three years ago during a trial at our SAI centre, I was impressed by her sheer natural talent. At that time, she was a total novice. But I selected her due to the fact that she displayed an extremely strong throwing ability. I could see the potential and realised that she was a very good prospect for the future," the veteran coach recalled.

"Once I inducted her into training at the SAI centre in Ranchi, Shilpa showed excellent progress. She quickly improved and is now the brightest upcoming prospect for India in women's javelin," he added.

"Her parents are farmers and do not have the means to

provide the required support for Shilpa's sports career. It is the facilities, training, equipment, diet etc provided by SAI which has helped me to transform an uncut gem into a shining diamond."

The training at SAI bore fruit when Shilpa burst onto the limelight at the national level in 2025 when she set a new women's U-17 record with an effort of 55.62m at the 69th National School Games.

Shilpa's throw of 55.62m effort is even better than India's U18 national record of 55.19m, which was achieved by Deepika of Haryana in 2023.

However, this mark was not officially recognised by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI), as the competition is not officially sanctioned by World Athletics, the sport's global governing body.

The teenager's official personal best was registered at the 2025 Junior Nationals, where she finished fifth with a best throw of 45.90m — an improvement of nearly 10 metres.

"As an athlete, my only focus is to do my best. If the federation as not officially registered my throw, I will try to produce an even better attempt at my next official competition," Shilpa said.

Meanwhile, Binod Singh is confident that his ward will continue to create waves when she reaches the senior level.

"Shilpa is not concerned whether her best throw is officially recognised or not. We know what she can do. She will achieve that mark again," he said.

For now, Shilpa is focussed on the Summer Youth Olympics which is scheduled to take place in Dakar, Senegal from October 31 to November 13, 2026.

"My first goal right now is to finish on the podium at the Youth Olympics. But my ultimate goal is an Olympic medal," the bubbly teenager said.

"I will dedicate my Olympic medal to Neeraj sir."

Iga Swiatek beats Elena Rybakina to win National Bank Open

Iga Swiatek defeated Elena Rybakina 6-2, 6-3 to win the National Bank Open in Toronto, claiming her first WTA Tour title of the year and 26th overall. Swiatek controlled the match with consistent attacking tennis and few errors

Toronto: Seventh-seeded Iga Swiatek beat second-seeded Elena Rybakina 6-2, 6-3 on Thursday in the National Bank Open for her first WTA Tour title of the year and 26th overall.

Swiatek, from Poland, broke Rybakina's serve early in the match and went on to take the opening set in 29 minutes. Swiatek had another break at 2-2 in the second set before closing out the win in a tidy 75 minutes.

"I was really in the zone," Swiatek said. "I wanted to make the match physical." The hard-serving Rybakina, who leads the tour in aces, struggled to find her rhythm. Swiatek kept her on her heels with a consistent attack, few errors and excellent range on court.

"I wasn't playing aggressive enough and wasn't playing with (enough) energy," Rybakina said. "We all know she's a fighter and she can run left and right much longer than me." A six-



time Grand Slam champion, Swiatek is projected to move up two spots to sixth in the new world ranking.

"I'm speechless a little bit because the journey has been bumpy this season," Swiatek said. "To be here and to hold the trophy and to win against the best players means a lot." Rybakina will remain No. 2.

Earlier, Katerina Siniakova and Shuai Zhang beat Sara Errani and Nicole Melichar-Martinez 6-3, 6-4 in the doubles final.

Tata Steel To Sell Jamshedpur Football And Sporting To Churchill Club For ₹100

New Delhi: Tata Steel on Friday said the company will sell its entire stake in Jamshedpur Football and Sporting Private Limited to Churchill Brothers Sports Club for a nominal amount of Rs 100. Jamshedpur Football and Sporting Private Limited (JFSPL) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the steel major. In a filing, Tata Steel said its Committee of Directors -- set up by the company's board -- has approved the transfer of the entire 100 per cent equity stake comprising 4.08 crore equity shares of face value Rs 10/- each held by Tata Steel Limited in JFSPL to Churchill Brothers Sports Club Private Limited (Churchill) at a nominal consideration of Rs 100. Following the approval of the Committee of Directors, Tata Steel Limited and Churchill have entered into a share purchase agreement setting out the terms and conditions governing the proposed transfer of Tata Steel's entire shareholding (100) in JFSPL to Churchill. Turnover of Jamshedpur Football and Sporting Private Limited in FY26 was Rs 32.23 crore.





CINEMA

Romanchakam title track impresses with Energetic Love Vibe

“Romanchakam,” presented by blockbuster director Sandeep Reddy Vanga and produced under the Bhadrakali Pictures banner, stars Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika Sanilkumar in the lead roles. The film is produced by Pranay Reddy Vanga and directed by debutant film-maker Venugopal Reddy.

The movie is gearing up for a worldwide grand theatrical release on September 3. Meanwhile, the film’s musical promotions are progressing successfully. The previously released song “Radha Ramana” received a huge response from music lovers. Now, the makers have released the title song from the film.

The second single from Romanchakam arrives with a completely different vibe and instantly grabs attention with its peppy energy. The song showcases Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika Sanilkumar as a couple hopelessly immersed in love, with absolutely no concern for what is happening around them.

This track has been composed by music director Vasuki Vaibhav, who blends a catchy beat with a beautiful melody and also delivers an energetic vocal performance. Renowned lyricist Chandrabose has penned mature and effortless



lyrics that capture the emotions of young love. The song beautifully portrays the excitement of first love and the cute, intimate moments that only lovers can truly experience. Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika are the real visual highlights, as their expressions, dance moves and chemistry make the love story feel spontaneous rather than forced. Romanchakam is directed by Venu Gopal Reddy and features Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika Sanilkumar in the lead, with Upendra Limaye, Venkatesh Kakumanu, Narendra Ravi, Mani Aegurla and Sai Sohan in important roles. Pavan Kumar Pappula is the cinematographer, Meeraqh handles dialogues.

Irumudi will be a huge blockbuster - Ravi Teja

Irumudi starring Ravi Teja has become one of his most anticipated films. Shiva Nirvana is directing it in the production of prestigious production house Mythri Movie Makers. Priya Bhavani Shankar is playing leading lady with Baby Nakshatra as daughter of Ravi Teja. The movie trailer is released today to an unanimous positive reception.

The makers have held a grand trailer launch event at Bhimavaram in front of huge number of crowd. Mythri Ravi thanked Ravi Teja for accepting the role and he called him an all-rounder actor star who can pull off such a character. He promised to audiences that movie will be phenomenal.

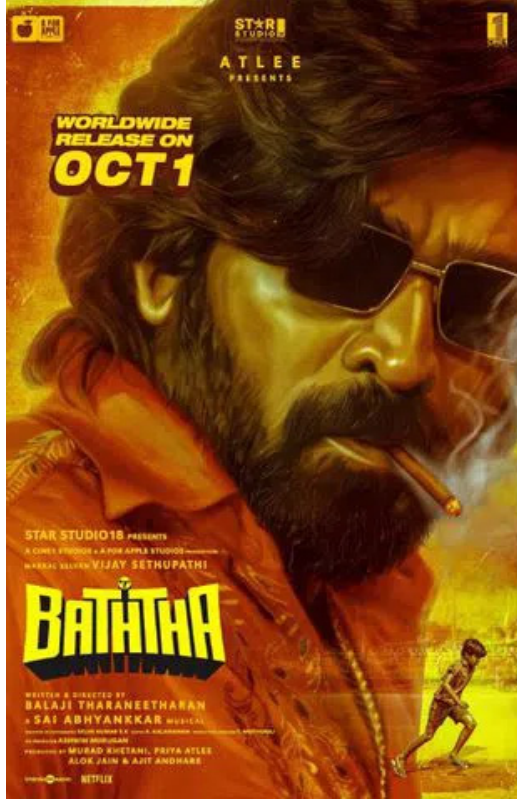
Ravi Teja preferred to talk more about the film at another major pre-release event. But he shared his connection with Bhimavaram calling it his grandparents Village. He called Irumudi as a special film and stated that he is sure that it will be a big blockbuster and he will talk about it more about in the success events.

Shiva Nirvana stated that he never spoke



about the film until today as he wanted to showcase the trailer and then speak. He stated that Irumudi is about the emotional strings attached between a father and a daughter; a devotee and Lord Ayyappa. He stated that the film will be raw, intense and layered with all elements. He promised to deliver a completely immersive experience with the film to audiences in theatres. Irumudi with huge hype and anticipation is releasing on 21st August, worldwide.

Vijay Sethupathi’s ‘Baththa’ to release worldwide on October 1



Chennai: The makers of director Balaji Tharaneetharan’s upcoming film, featuring popular Tamil star Vijay Sethupathi in the lead, on Wednesday announced the title of the film as ‘Baththa’ and said that it would hit screens worldwide on October 1 this year. Geographic Reference The film, presented by Star Studio18 and well known director Atlee, and jointly produced by A for Apple Studios and Cine1 Studios Production, marks the third collaboration between Vijay Sethupathi and director Balaji Tharaneetharan. Their previous films together — ‘Naduvula Konjam Pakkatha Kaanom’ and ‘Seethakathi’ — were both critically acclaimed with ‘Naduvula Konjam Pakkatha Kaanom’ going on to emerge a superhit. Needless to say, the fact that the two have once again come together for ‘Baththa’ has raised the expectations of fans and film buffs from the film. ‘Baththa’ will also mark the reunion of Vijay Sethupathi with director Atlee. It may be recalled that director Atlee and Vijay Sethupathi had earlier worked together in the immensely popular pan Indian blockbuster ‘Jawan’. While Atlee had directed Vijay Sethupathi in Jawan, he has produced ‘Baththa’. Also, while Vijay Sethupathi had played a pivotal role in ‘Jawan’, he has now played the lead in ‘Baththa’, which is being presented by Atlee. Lijomol Jose, who played a pivotal role in ‘Jai Bhim’, is playing the female lead in this film, which has music being scored by Sai Abhyankkar, one of the most promising young composers. Cinematography for the film is by Selvakumar SK while R. Kalavanan has served as the film’s editor. T. Muthuraj is the Production Designer, and Ashwin Murugan has worked as the film’s co-producer. ‘Baththa’ has been produced by Murad Khetani, Priya Atlee, Alok Jain, and Ajit Andhare. Bringing together leading actor Vijay Sethupathi, director Balaji Tharaneetharan, and some of Indian cinema’s prominent production houses, Baththa is set to release in theatres worldwide on October 1.



Rashi Singh’s Playful Orange Saree Look Wins Hearts

Turning playfully over her shoulder, she wears a bright orange embroidered blouse and matching saree, adorned with orange bangles, a bindi, and a flower in her long curly hair. Rashi Singh radiates charm in this vibrant traditional look. Turning playfully over her shoulder, she wears a bright orange embroidered blouse and matching saree, adorned with orange bangles, a bindi, and a flower in her long curly hair. Her expressive eyes and soft smile create an engaging, lively portrait. Born in Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, Rashi Singh worked briefly as an air hostess after participating in beauty pageants before entering films. She made her acting debut in the Telugu romantic drama Sashi (2021) as Sunitha opposite Aadi Saikumar. She followed it with roles in Prem Kumar (2023), the horror-comedy Bhoothaddam Bhaskar Narayana (2024) as Lakshmi, and the crime thriller Prasanna Vadanam (2024) as ACP Vaidehi, earning praise for her performance. Later credits include Blind Spot (2025), Paanch Minar (2025) as Khyathi, and Santhana Prapthirasthu (2025). She has also appeared in the web series Papam Pasivadu (2023) and 3 Roses Season 2 (2025). Recent and ongoing projects feature Transfer Trimurthulu (2026) as Lakshmi opposite Vadde Naveen and the female-centric entertainer Gossip (2026), directed by Vaibhav Koundinya. This colorful, spirited image reflects the fresh energy she brings to Telugu cinema.

Krithi Shetty goes Fanaa over a beautiful melody

Krithi Shetty has a strong presence on social media but she doesn't post too many reels. But whenever she decides to drop one, she makes sure that viewers' skip a beat. Recently, she posted a reel for highly melodious and addictive song, Fanaa from High movie and it is spell-bounding. S. Krishna has written and directed the film while he is also playing the leading role. With leading lady Ananya Sharma, he presented a wonderful chemistry on screen in the song. Famous lyricist Ramjogayya Sastry has written the lyrics for this song composed by Vivek Badisa and sung beautifully by Shahzad Ali. The qawwali style composition gives an instant high of romantic emotions upon first hearing. Even Krithi Shetty fell in love with the song due to this quality. We see her waiting for her significant other to fulfil her desires to have such a great romantic ballad and make memories in the video. Her dressing sense, beautiful frames, visual aesthetics would compel audiences watch it on repeats. Recently, High makers unveiled this song in front of 300 social media influencers as the story revolves around the new-age influencers. S Krishna is producing the film with Harish Peddi and Sekhar Divvela. The first single leaves a very positive impression on the film. With Krithi’s reel, definitely the song’s reach is going to increase enormously increasing buzz for the film to next level.

