

Naidu Asks TD Cadre to Boost Grassroots Connect via Outreach Drive

Vijayawada:Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has asked his party leaders, legislators and workers to intensify their engagement with the people and make the “Intintiki Telugu Desam – Two years of trust – development and welfare” campaign an effective link between the government and the public.

The campaign completed its 25th day, with Telugu Desam leaders and workers visiting 2,53,832 households across Andhra Pradesh.

With the latest round of visits, the party has reached upto 71.80 lakh houses so far, crossing the 70-lakh milestone and expanding its door-to-door outreach across all constituencies.

Naidu has stressed that TD legislators, leaders and cadre should personally visit every household in their constituencies and establish a direct link with the people rather than



depending on indirect communication. Public respect, he averred, is the real strength of the TD.

“Keep your personal ego aside, remain humble and interact with citizens with sensitivity,” the party chief advised the functionaries.

The campaign is aimed at taking the development and welfare initiatives of the alliance government directly to families.

Naidu has made it clear that the exercise should not turn into a publicity campaign. “Party representatives must listen to the people, understand their concerns and assess public sentiments.” They are collecting feedback on local requirements, infrastructure facilities and problems faced by residents and coordinating with party leaders and elected representatives for necessary follow-up.

By maintaining direct contact with families, party workers are expected to ensure that the government schemes and policies are implemented smoothly and that genuine grievances are brought to the notice of the authorities without delay.

Modi Urges Space Startups To Expand Into Agriculture, Environment



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday interacted with the CEOs and founders of 20 space start-ups at Seva Teerth, the Prime Minister’s Office, as India seeks to strengthen its private space industry and expand its presence in the global space sector.

Modi urged space companies to explore new applications of their technologies and focus on how these can make people’s lives easier. He assured them of the government’s full support and urged them to explore how space technology can be used in agriculture, livestock management, dairy, the environment and other areas that affect people’s everyday lives.

The interaction was attended by CEOs of leading companies in the space sector working in diverse fields, including rocket building, reusable semi-cryogenic launch vehicles, avionics, satellites, advanced propulsion systems, space and defence intelligence, space-debris removal, and AI-powered hyperlocal weather and climate intelligence.

The Prime Minister congratulated the leaders of the space sector for showing courage and taking the lead in a new area. He said the confidence shown by the sector had strengthened the vision behind opening the space sector to private participation.

Modi noted that many countries either cannot invest in the space sector or do not wish to invest in it and this gives India a major opportunity to rapidly strengthen its position in the global space sector.

The Prime Minister encouraged the space companies to explore new applications of their technologies and focus on how these can make people’s lives easier.

He suggested greater collaboration between space-sector companies and companies working in other sectors. Companies working on space debris, he said, could work with environmental organisations to scale up their technologies. Similarly, space technology companies working with the agriculture sector could collaborate with agricultural universities and departments to help farmers make better-informed decisions and maximise their output.

The Prime Minister called for creating an ecosystem and an environment where, when the world thinks of space, it looks towards India. He said that India’s space sector can act as a magnet to attract global talent, companies and investment to the country.

Calling for closer collaboration with “Atal Tinkering Labs”, he said that this can create curiosity and interest in the space sector among young children from an early age.

The interaction saw participation from CEOs and Founders of 20 startups working in space sector, including Skyroot Aerospace, Agnikul Cosmos, Pixxel, Dhruva Space, GalaxEye, PierSight, Bellatrix Aerospace, Digantara, SatSure, Suhora Technologies, Manastu Space, Astrobase, TakeMe2Space, VyomIC, Cosmoserve Space, OrbitAID Aerospace, SkyServe (Hyspace), Serendipity Space, Vassar Labs and mistEO.

The CEOs highlighted the rapid progress being made by India’s private space industry and shared their vision for its future.

From Hyderabad to Australia: Raj Kumar Saini’s Political Journey An Indian Political Voice Abroad as Founder of ‘The Republican’

Party Matters Discussed with Modi, Albanese, KCR and Chandrababu; Latest Meeting with Amit Shah
Analysis by Y. L. Ashok, Senior Journalist

New Delhi/Hyderabad, August 20: It is no ordinary achievement for an Indian to establish a political party on foreign soil. It is even more noteworthy when someone with roots in Hyderabad builds a political platform in Australia. The political journey of Raj Kumar Saini, founder of The Republican in Australia, is now attracting considerable attention.

Raj Kumar Saini appears to have begun his political journey with the belief that Indians settled abroad should not only achieve economic success but also increase their participation in the social and political systems of their adopted countries. His party can be viewed as an effort to build a political platform in Australia centred on Indian culture, Sanatana Dharma, community service and democratic values.



state’s subsequent political development—on the political participation of Indians abroad, party building and social issues can be regarded as another important aspect of Saini’s political journey.

Having been born and raised in Telangana, Saini appears to believe that his experience of closely observing the state’s political developments provides valuable background for his political initiative in Australia.

Party Matters Discussed with Chandrababu Naidu

Raj Kumar Saini has stated that he also discussed matters relating to his party with Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

Given Chandrababu Naidu’s experience in technology, diaspora engagement, development, investment and maintaining connections with Telugu communities worldwide, Saini appears to regard the interaction as particularly significant.

The fact that a person from the Telugu states, seeking to build a political party in Australia, has held discussions with prominent political leaders from both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh adds a distinctive dimension to his journey.

Latest Meeting with Amit Shah Draws Fresh Attention

Against the backdrop of these developments, Raj Kumar Saini’s meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah at his residence in New Delhi has assumed greater significance.

During the one-on-one meeting, Saini said they discussed politics, Sanatana Dharma, Indian values, community service initiatives, and the social and political participation of Indians living abroad.

He expressed his gratitude to Amit Shah for giving him valuable time and extending a warm welcome. Saini described the interaction as warm, productive and highly encouraging.

Focus on Sanatana Dharma and Community Service

The issues highlighted by Raj Kumar Saini indicate that Sanatana Dharma, Indian culture and community service hold an important place in his political vision. However, expanding political activities in a foreign society requires not only preserving Indian culture but also respecting Australia’s multicultural character, its laws and its democratic values.

Community service can provide a strong foundation for political engagement.

A political platform can earn public support only by working among the people, understanding their concerns, striving to resolve their problems and encouraging young people to participate in the democratic process.

The Real Challenge Goes Beyond Establishing a Party

The establishment of The Republican is only the beginning of Raj Kumar Saini’s political journey. The greater challenge lies in taking the party to the people, developing clear policies, proposing practical solutions to local problems and earning public trust.

In a multicultural democracy such as Australia, several questions remain to be answered: How will the party formulate policies that address not only the concerns of Indians but also those of the wider Australian community? To what extent will it involve young people, women, professionals and recently arrived Indian migrants? How much space will it be able to secure within Australia’s political system? These are matters that only the future will determine.

An Indian Political Voice on Foreign Soil

As the number and influence of Indians around the world continue to grow, their political participation in their adopted countries is also becoming increasingly important. At a time when people of Indian origin are playing significant roles in local politics across many countries, Raj Kumar Saini’s establishment of a political party in Australia can be viewed as part of this broader global development.

A journey that began in Hyderabad has now reached Australia’s political arena. Establishing The Republican, raising party-related matters with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, explaining the party’s objectives to Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, discussing political matters with former Telangana Chief Minister KCR and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, and most recently meeting Union Home Minister Amit Shah—these developments have given Raj Kumar Saini’s political journey a distinctive identity.

However, establishing a party is only the beginning. This political journey will gain its true meaning only by winning the confidence of the people, advancing clear policies, maintaining a sustained commitment to community service and strengthening democratic values.

The attempt by a Hyderabad native to establish a political party on Australian soil and create a platform for the voices of Indian Australians is undoubtedly distinctive. Its real political test, however, will be whether this initiative can grow into a strong people’s movement.

The latest meeting with Amit Shah represents another important milestone in Raj Kumar Saini’s journey. In which direction will this journey from Hyderabad to Australia now proceed? To what extent will The Republican make its mark on Australian politics? Only time will provide the answers

Shah: Tri-State Security Grid To Fortify ‘Chicken’s Neck’



Kolkata: Union home minister Amit Shah on Friday said the Centre had set up a triangular security grid around the strategically vital Siliguri Corridor, popularly known as the “Chicken’s Neck”, and would build an administrative complex on an 80-acre plot in Siliguri to further strengthen security in the region.

Shah said the security grid would operate from three bases — in West Bengal, Bihar and Assam — with enhanced surveillance, deployment and resources around the corridor, which connects the northeastern states with the rest of the country and lies close to multiple international borders. He made the announcement after launching several security infrastructure projects of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) at Ranidanga in Siliguri.

“The Narendra Modi government has recognised the importance of national security of the Siliguri Corridor very well,” Shah said. He said the Centre had strengthened its security presence in the area and periodically conducted exercises such as “Teesta Prahar”.Shah praised the SSB for guarding unfenced stretches of India’s international borders and said the Centre was committed to making the strategically sensitive corridor more secure.

He also attacked former chief minister Mamata Banerjee, alleging that her government had repeatedly failed to provide land required for border fencing and security infrastructure.

Shah said the Centre had faced difficulties in acquiring hundreds of acres for strengthening border security during the previous government. He thanked Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari for facilitating the transfer of land required by the BSF and SSB and said 1,129 acres had been made available.

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Party Details Conveyed to Australian Prime Minister Albanese

Raj Kumar Saini also says that he briefed Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese about The Republican. This can be viewed as an effort to bring the growing influence, social needs and political participation of the Indian community to the attention of Australia’s leadership.

By explaining his political vision to Indian leaders on the one hand and communicating his party’s objectives to the leadership of the country in which he lives on the other, Saini appears to be seeking to add a political dimension to the Indian community’s connection between the two nations.

Political Matters Discussed with KCR

Raj Kumar Saini has also stated that he discussed his party and political journey with former Telangana Chief Minister Kalvakuntla Chandrashekar Rao.

A discussion with a leader such as KCR—who played a pivotal role in the Telangana statehood movement and the

focus on four key pillars — engineering, enforcement, education and emergency care. Under the engineering component, infrastructure deficiencies at identified black spots would be assessed and rectified to improve road safety.

Traffic rules would be strictly enforced through the creation of zero-tolerance zones, while road-safety awareness programmes would be conducted among students and the general public. As many as 105 schools and 14 colleges, covering around 70,000 students, would be brought under the awareness campaign.

The campaign would focus on responsible road-user behaviour, including helmet and seat-belt use, lane discipline and pedestrian safety. Training would also be provided to first responders so that timely basic assistance could be offered to accident victims during emergencies.

VIJAYAWADA STRIVES TO BECOME ROAD SAFETY MODEL

VIJAYAWADA: Vijayawada is set to embark on a comprehensive road-safety initiative aimed at making the city a model town in road safety, with a target of reducing road accident deaths and injuries by 10 to 15 per cent. NTR district collector Dr G. Lakshmisha said on Friday that active participation from all sections of society was essential to achieve the goal. He said the Ideal Town on Road Safety project would bring together government departments, the police, private organisations, educational institutions, NGOs and other stakeholders to work in coordination to reduce road fatalities.

Dr Lakshmisha unveiled posters related to the project at the Collectorate here on Friday. The initiative is being taken up with the Honda India Foundation as the CSR partner and TRAX — Road Safety NGO as the implementing agency, in



coordination with the Transport and Police departments. The collector said the project would

focus on four key pillars — engineering, enforcement, education and emergency care. Under the engineering component, infrastructure deficiencies at identified black spots would be assessed and rectified to improve road safety.

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“My Words – My Story”: Aims to Strengthen Reading Culture Among Children

Nirmal District : The “India Gets Reading Campaign 8.0 – 2026”, being conducted under the auspices of Room to Read India, aims to develop joyful and regular reading habits among children while strengthening foundational literacy and language development.

As part of this year’s campaign, a wall poster featuring the theme “My Words – My Story” was unveiled by Nirmal District Education Officer Darshanam Bhojanna.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that reading is not merely a foundational skill, but also an important tool for children’s language development, imagination, critical thinking, self-confidence and self-expression. He stated that reading becomes more meaningful and enjoyable when children read stories and books in languages that are close to their homes, communities and life experiences.

He urged teachers to effectively conduct the daily activities planned under the campaign in all government schools across the district and make the programme a grand success.

India Gets Reading 8.0 continues to be a major national-level initiative promoting a culture of reading. Its key objectives include developing regular reading habits among children, strengthening reading comprehension and language development, and increasing access to diverse and quality children’s literature. The campaign also aims to create sustained demand for quality children’s books in Indian languages.

As part of the campaign, teachers, librarians, parents, education department officials and other stakeholders will play a key role. Priority will be given to increasing the use of quality children’s books in schools and libraries, strengthening the role of teachers and librarians in selecting books, and encouraging the development of children’s literature in local languages.

Through the 2026 campaign, efforts will also be made to identify and encourage emerging and talented writers and illustrators who demonstrate creativity in writing and illustrating for children, thereby further strengthening the children’s literature sector.

Calling for collective efforts to develop life-long reading habits among children, the District Education Officer said the campaign is being conducted with the inspiration that “Every child should read – read with joy – and express their voice and their story.”

District Quality Coordinator Narsaiah, Com-



munity Mobilisation Coordinator Praveen, Assistant Statistical Coordinator Limbadri, Room to Read India Trust District Coordinator Vijay Kumar, and office staff participated in the programme.

School Games Federation Meetings

The Nirmal District School Games Federation (SGF) meeting will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at 10:00 AM at the NTR Mini Stadium to discuss the conduct of district- and state-level sports competitions for the year 2026, District Education Officer Darshanam Bhojanna and District SGF Organizing Secretary Rathod Laxman said.

They stated that Physical Education Teachers interested in organizing the 2026 district- and state-level sports competitions should bring their proposals with the permission of their respective headmasters.

The District Education Officer also instructed the headmasters of schools to relieve the Physical Education Teachers of Nirmal district so that they can attend the meeting.

Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam Inaugurates Its Second Branch in Secunderabad

Hyderabad, 21 August 2026: Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam – Multi-Speciality Ayurveda Hospitals, Hyderabad, inaugurated its second branch in Secunderabad today, marking another significant milestone in its journey towards making authentic Ayurveda and holistic healthcare more accessible to the community.

The new centre was inaugurated on 21 August 2026 at 10:30 AM, in the presence of distinguished guests, doctors, well-wishers and members of the Art of Living community.

Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam began its journey in Gachibowli nearly nine years ago, with a vision of providing authentic Ayurveda-based healthcare along with a holistic approach to physical, mental and emotional well-being. Over the years, the centre has grown through the trust and support of patients, the medical fraternity, the Art of Living community and well-wishers.

The new Secunderabad branch has been established in response to the growing demand from people in Secunderabad and surrounding areas who have been seeking access to quality Ayurvedic healthcare closer to their homes.

The hospital offers Ayurvedic consultations, Panchakarma therapies, specialised treatments, lifestyle guidance, Yoga and holistic wellness services, with a focus on personalised and patient-centred care.

Speaking on the occasion, the management of Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam said, “This second branch is not merely an expansion of our hospital; it is the fulfilment of a long-standing aspiration of many members of our com-



munity. The love, encouragement and blessings we have received over the years have given us the confidence to take this next step. We remain committed to serving society through authentic Ayurveda and holistic healthcare.”

The hospital also expressed its gratitude to Sri Sri Ravishankar Gururji and the Art of Living community for their continued inspiration, support and blessings throughout its journey.

With the new centre, Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam aims to reach a larger section of society and promote Ayurveda as a comprehensive approach to preventive healthcare, treatment and long-term wellness.

About Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam:

Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam is a Multi-Speciality Ayurveda Hospital in Hyderabad offering Ayurveda, Panchakarma, Yoga and holistic wellness services. With its new Secunderabad branch, the organisation continues its mission of making authentic, compassionate and integrated Ayurvedic healthcare accessible to more people.

Jindal Steel, IIT Hyderabad to Establish Centre of Excellence for Advanced Steel Solutions

SANGAREDDY

Correspondent, Au-

gust 20, 2026: Jindal

Steel and the Indian In-

stitute of Technology

Hyderabad (IITH) have

signed a Memorandum

of Understanding

(MoU) to establish the

Jindal Steel Centre of

Excellence (CoE) for

High-Strength, Value-

Added and Value-Engi-

neered Steel Products

and Solutions on the IIT

Hyderabad campus.

The first-of-its-kind

centre will focus on

accelerating the appli-

cation and adoption of

advanced steel solu-

tions across infra-

structure, engineering,

construction and strate-

gic industrial sectors.

It will combine

IITH's technical capa-

bilities with Jindal

Steel's manufacturing,

metallurgical and engi-

neering expertise to

develop and demon-

strate applications for

high-strength, value-

engineered steels.

The solutions are

expected to offer



higher performance,

lower material con-

sumption, reduced

weight, faster execu-

tion, improved durabi-

lity and better lifecycle

economics. Applica-

tions will include build-

ings and bridges, pen-

stocks and large-di-

ameter pipes, defence

equipment, heavy ma-

chinery, power plants,

refineries, transporta-

tion and other critical

industrial sectors.

Jindal Steel will in-

vest in developing the

physical centre on the

IIT Hyderabad cam-

pus. The facility will

serve as a hub for ap-

plication development,

technical demonstra-

tions, training, industry

engagement and

knowledge sharing.

IIT Hyderabad Di-

rector Prof. B.S. Murty

said the centre would

strengthen IITH's role

in promoting ad-

vanced steel solutions

across India's engi-

neering, infrastructure

and industrial sectors.

He added that the in-

itiative would enable

faculty and students

to work closely with

industry on real-world

applications, demon-

strating how high-

strength, value-engi-

neered steels can im-

prove efficiency, per-

formance and

sustainability.

Jindal Steel Manag-

ing Director V.R.

Sharma said the part-

nership would help

expand the use of high-

strength, value-engi-

neered steel across

India. He said the cen-

tre would showcase

solutions that are

stronger, lighter, faster

and more efficient

across a wide range of

applications, and

would accelerate their

adoption in real-world

projects.

The partnership will

also include applica-

tion development

programmes, work-

shops, symposia, in-

dustry-academia train-

ing, demonstration

projects, student in-

ternships and place-

ments, academic

modules and other in-

dustry engagement in-

itiatives. The centre will

work with industry

stakeholders, govern-

ment agencies and

end users to support

technical evaluation

and facilitate the large-

scale adoption of ad-

vanced steel solu-

tions.

Kothagudem Government Medical College Works to Be Expedited

Collector Ankit directs officials to complete remaining works by December

August 21, 2026: District Collector Ankit on Friday inspected the construction works of the Kothagudem Government Medical College being built in Lakshmidevipalli mandal and directed the concerned officials to speed up the works and complete the remaining construction in a planned manner by December.

The Collector reviewed the progress of the construction works at the site and instructed the officials to ensure that all works are completed within the stipulated time without any delay. He emphasized that the construction should be carried out strictly in accordance with prescribed quality standards.

Collector Ankit inspected various blocks under construction, including the boys’ hostel, girls’ hostel, classrooms, laboratory block, main college buildings and hospital facilities. He sought details from the officials regarding the progress of each component and directed them to further accelerate the pace of work.

Officials informed the Collector that the construction of the boys’ and girls’ hostels had reached the final stage. The Collector directed them to complete the remaining hostel works within one month and make them ready for use.

Reviewing the medical college layout map, Ankit enquired about the internal roads, library, classrooms, laboratories, student accommodation and other infrastructure facilities being developed on the campus. He instructed the officials to ensure that all necessary facilities are made available to students.

Officials informed the Collector that the Kothagudem Government Medical



College has an annual intake capacity of 150 MBBS seats and that teaching activities are currently being conducted at the Nursing College.

The Collector also reviewed the teaching facilities, hostel accommodation, classrooms, laboratories, drinking water and other basic amenities being provided to students at the Nursing College. He asked whether students were receiving all the required facilities and whether any additional infrastructure was needed.

Speaking on the occasion, Collector Ankit said that the construction of the Government Medical College was a project of great importance to the district. He directed the officials to fix a specific timeline for every work and move forward with a clear action plan.

He instructed the officials to continuously monitor the progress of the works, resolve issues immediately and ensure that all remaining construction activities are completed by December.

The Government Medical College is being constructed over an area of about 25 acres. The Collector directed the officials to ensure that all necessary infrastructure is provided for students, teaching staff and medical personnel. He also stressed that quality standards must be strictly maintained in the construction works while keeping future requirements in view.

Officials from the medical, engineering and construction departments, Nursing College authorities and representatives of the construction agency participated in the inspection

TGE JAC Holds Preparatory Meeting for Maha Dharna in Sangareddy

SANGAREDDY, Correspondent : August 21, 2026: A preparatory meeting was held under the auspices of the Sangareddy district TGE JAC to ensure the success of the Maha Dharna scheduled for August 27. The meeting was held at the TNGOs Association building in Sangareddy, where leaders discussed employees’ issues, pending demands and strategies to mobilise employees for the protest.

TGE JAC Chairman Jaweed Ali called upon employees from across the district to participate in large numbers and make the Maha Dharna a success. He said the protest was being organised to press for the scrapping of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), strengthening of the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) and Employees Health Scheme (EHS), besides resolving other pending issues.

He said the primary objective of the JAC was to bring employees’ genuine problems to the notice of the government and work towards their resolution.

Later, TGE JAC leaders met the District Collector and Superintendent of Police and submitted a representation regarding the Maha Dharna. They requested the authorities to extend necessary cooperation regarding permissions, security arrangements and other requirements for the programme.



TGE JAC General Secretary Vaidyanath and Co-Chairman Gangadhar said that employees needed to fight unitedly for the resolution of their long-pending issues. They appealed to employees, union leaders and representatives to attend the Maha Dharna on August 27 in large numbers.

The meeting decided to conduct an extensive awareness campaign across the district and mobilise employees to participate in the protest. Leaders of various employee associations attended the meeting.



Saturday 22, August, 2026

MODI’S OUTREACH TO YOUTH

The Prime Minister's Independence Day address reflects the flavour of the season, but the larger question is whether youth discontent will be viewed merely as an issue of jobs, education and technology, or whether the government is willing to understand it as a deeper demand for accountability and responsiveness

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s focus on the youth in his Independence Day address reflects the flavour of the season. It acknowledges the growing restlessness of Gen Z, but it remains to be seen whether the government will walk the talk on the big promises made from the ramparts of the Red Fort. Symbolic gestures and grand announcements would mean nothing if not followed by concrete, measurable action plans. The long-pending reforms in the education sector will help the youth prepare for jobs in emerging technology and innovation economies. Modi’s outreach to the youth included a promise to offer free online coaching for competitive exams and AI skilling programmes in an attempt to address post-globalisation anxieties. The big shift in the Prime Minister’s political messaging came days after Gen Z-led protests over exam paper leaks, and unemployment forced the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan as Education Minister. Addressing the challenges facing the youth, from employment worries to the incursion of artificial intelligence in everyday life, Modi promised that more than one crore youth would be provided AI skills in a “mission mode” drive over the coming year and the country’s digital public infrastructure would be used to provide free online coaching to students wishing to take various competitive exams. Also, there will be a nationwide sports talent hunt among children between five and 15 years of age ahead of the 2036 Olympic Games. The problem is that these themes have appeared repeatedly in election manifestos, government budgets and policy promises across states.

Employment, education infrastructure, online learning and, increasingly, AI have become recurring features of political messaging. The real question is not what is being promised, but how much of it is actually being implemented. The larger question is whether youth discontent will be viewed merely as an issue of jobs, education and technology, or whether the government is willing to understand it as a deeper demand for accountability and responsiveness. The Mood of the Nation tracker has been highlighting that inflation and unemployment are major concerns and need to be resolved. The youth would account for a third of voters in the 2029 general elections. Since they are bound to influence the outcome of the polls, the issues that concern them—education reforms being one of them—must be addressed on a mission mode. The biggest structural weakness of India’s education system begins much before competitive examinations. It has traditionally rewarded memorisation rather than understanding; marks rather than competence; examination performance rather than creativity; conformity rather than questioning; coaching rather than independent learning. The irony is that India can produce millions of students who obtain degrees while many do not acquire adequate communication, quantitative reasoning, problem-solving, digital or workplace skills. The multi-crore coaching industry has become a parallel education system and is particularly powerful because the formal education system does not adequately prepare students for high-stakes examinations.

Revanth Reddy denied permission by Central Government to visit USA

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has been forced to cancel his visit to the United States of America (USA) after the Ministry of External Affairs denied permission, citing “Clearance from political angle is denied”.

The Chief Minister is currently in London and is now scheduled to return to Hyderabad on August 23. He was to visit New York from Boston on August 23 and participate in the Indian Overseas Congress meet and greet. After the meeting, he was scheduled to arrive in Hyderabad on August 30.

However, his tour has now been cut short. The State Government had sought Central permission for the trip to the UK and USA, as per policy and protocol, but only the UK trip was approved. The Centre informed the State Government of its refusal to grant permission after the official delegation reached the UK Government.

Responding to the Central decision, Revanth



Reddy said, “The only purpose of the visit was to, as part of the New Education Policy of the Centre, bring the world’s best institutions to India, to Telangana, to Hyderabad. They would have been an answer to our youth’s aspirations to get education, skills, and training from the best Ivy Leagues and top global institutions.”

“I have always believed we should all think beyond politics and elections when it comes

to nation building and future of the youth,” he said.

While being shocked by the “political denial” for a visit to further TelanganaRising and education, and contribute to Viksit Bharat, the Chief Minister has decided to comply with the Central decision and return to India from London, taking a flight back to Hyderabad instead of proceeding to Boston, USA. He has instructed the officials to go ahead with the USA trip and conclude all the MoUs and partnership agreements.

“We will make Hyderabad a global knowledge hub. The creation of universities from Osmania to HCU to JNTU et al made Hyderabad a hub for best human resources. A single school, Hyderabad Public School, has shown how we can lead the world, producing some of the greatest tech leaders. The starting of IIT, ISB, IIIT, Nalsar helped Hyderabad attract top corporations and their GCCs,” he said.

RAF Deployed At Police Station As Rahul Gandhi Sits On Dharna

The Rapid Action Force (RAF) was deployed in and around the Parliament Street police station here on Friday as Congress leader Rahul Gandhi staged a dharna demanding registration of an FIR over pellet injuries suffered by a 19-year-old youth during the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP)-led protest at Jantar Mantar on July 20.

A large number of police and RAF personnel were deployed around the police station, which also houses the New Delhi DCP’s office. Additional police personnel were pressed into service in view of Gandhi’s sit-in, police sources said.

Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, was accompanied by Sahil Lochab, who suffered pellet injuries to his eyes and abdomen during the protest against the NEET paper leak and alleged examination irregularities. Lochab later underwent surgery at the AIIMS Trauma Centre.

The Congress leader first took Lochab to the Mandir Marg police station and sought registration of an FIR on his complaint. After his demand was not accepted, Gandhi and Lochab went to the Parliament Street police station, where they met Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Sachin Sharma.

The discussion with the DCP did not yield a resolution, following which Gandhi, along with Lochab, sat on a dharna at the police station.



Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and several other senior party leaders later joined the protest.

In a post on X, Gandhi alleged that police had used a pellet gun against Lochab while he was peacefully protesting at Jantar Mantar.

“Such brutality against a peaceful protest is not just illegal – it is a serious crime,” Gandhi said, alleging that neither Union Home Minister Amit Shah had offered an explanation for the alleged use of pellet guns nor Prime Minister Narendra Modi had apologised to the protesters.

Gandhi also questioned why Lochab was not being allowed to register an FIR over his injuries.

He said constitutional rights were being “trampled” and vowed to ensure justice for

Lochab and other students who were allegedly injured during the protest.

“The FIR will be filed. A judicial inquiry will take place. And action will be taken against everyone -- from top to bottom -- who is guilty of this brutality,” Gandhi said.

Meanwhile, a police source said the New Delhi DCP was in touch with Gandhi and that the Crime Branch, which is probing complaints related to the protest, would also investigate Lochab’s complaint.

“As the Crime Branch of the Delhi Police is probing all the complaints, the complaint of Lochab will also be forwarded to the Crime Branch for further investigation,” the source said.

According to sources, Lochab had approached the police with his lawyers on August 14 and submitted a written complaint seeking registration of an FIR. However, no FIR was registered at the time.

The matter was subsequently pursued through email and telephone calls on August 17, but there was no acknowledgement from the police, sources said. Lochab then sought Gandhi’s intervention.

The CJP-led agitation over the NEET paper leak and alleged examination irregularities culminated in the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on July 25.

DMK, TVK clash in Assembly over CM Vijay's Delimitation stand

Chennai: A sharp political face-off erupted in the Tamil Nadu Assembly on Friday as the DMK and the ruling TVK clashed over the state’s official stance on the upcoming delimitation exercise.

Leader of Opposition (LoP) Udhayanidhi Stalin questioned the consistency of Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay, pointing out that while the state assembly had passed a resolution to “freeze” the number of Lok Sabha seats at 543, the Chief Minister had omitted the specific term during the zonal meeting that took place yesterday.

“The TVK government passed a resolution in this House to freeze total Lok Sabha seats at 543, but Chief Minister Vijay did not use the word ‘freeze’ at the Southern Zonal Council meeting,” Udhayanidhi noted, suggesting a dilution of the state’s demand.

Defending the administration, TVK MLA CTR Nirmal Kumar stated that the agenda of the Southern Zonal meeting was specifically tailored to address broader issues concerning all southern states.

Intervening in the debate, Minister Adhav Arjuna asserted that the government’s position remains unwavering. “Our government has no change in stand with regard to delimitation,” he said.

The exchange intensified as both sides traded charges of compromising the state’s interests. Udhayanidhi reiterated that the DMK remains committed to a total freeze on the redrawing of constituencies, or at the very least, ensuring that Tamil Nadu’s current 7.18 per cent representation is not reduced.

Minister Adhav Arjuna countered



the LoP, alleging that the DMK had historically shifted its position. “If they ask only for fair delimitation, it would be a betrayal to Tamil Nadu,” Arjuna remarked, claiming the DMK had previously not insisted on the 543-seat cap.

This comes after Vijay on Thursday urged the Union Government to provide a clear assurance that no state would lose parliamentary representation as a consequence of the proposed Delimitation Bill, 2026, warning that population-based delimitation could disproportionately affect the Southern states.

Addressing the 31st meeting of the Southern Zonal Council, Vijay said, “As the freeze on the allocation of Lok Sabha seats based on the 1971 Census approaches its end and the Delimitation Bill, 2026, is considered, there is a genuine and shared concern across the Southern States that delimitation based predominantly on populations may diminish our collective voice in Parliament.” He argued that the Southern states should not be penalised for their achievements in stabilising their population. “The Southern States have been at the forefront of population stabilisation, human development, and economic growth. These achievements reflect the successful implementation of national priorities and should not result in a reduction of our representation. Public policy must not inadvertently penalise States for fulfilling national objectives,” he said.

“I therefore, urge the Union Government to provide a clear legislative assurance that no State will suffer a reduction in its percentage of representation in Parliament on account of its success in population stabilisation. Such an approach would uphold the principles of equity, preserve the federal balance envisioned by our Constitution, and reinforce the confidence of all States in our democratic institutions,” he added.

Talasani Srinivas Yadav asks Revanth Reddy to exercise restraint in political remarks

Hyderabad: Former Minister and BRS deputy floor leader Talasani Srinivas Yadav on Thursday asked Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to change his language and exercise restraint while speaking about political opponents. He said the Chief Minister was forgetting the dignity and decorum attached to his office and making abusive remarks against political opponents.

Addressing a press conference at his camp office in West Marredpally, Srinivas Yadav said Revanth Reddy was claiming credit for projects initiated by the previous BRS government, including the TIMS hospital at Sanathnagar. He reminded that the BRS government had taken up construction of TIMS hospitals at Sanathnagar, Alwal and LB Nagar, keeping future healthcare needs in mind after the difficulties faced during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Questioning the hurried inauguration of the Sanathnagar TIMS without ensuring adequate facilities, the former Minister asked why BRS leaders were placed under house arrest when they sought to visit the hospital. He said the restrictions indicated the government’s fear of exposing deficiencies at the facility.

On the 22A land issue, Srinivas Yadav alleged that the provision was being misused to target private properties, especially those belonging to the poor and middle class. He questioned the government’s authority to include such properties in the prohibited list and alleged that commissions of 30 to 40 per cent were being collected for settlements.



Rahul's 7-hour Sit-in Protest Gets Pellet vVctim an FIR

New Delhi: High drama unfolded at Parliament Street police station on Friday as Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi staged a nearly seven-hour sit-in demanding an FIR over the alleged pellet-gun injuries suffered by a 19-year-old protester. The standoff ended in the evening after Delhi Police registered a case, which Gandhi described as the “first step towards justice”. Gandhi reached the police station with Sahil Lochab and his mother after first approaching Mandir Marg police station to seek registration of the case. When the demand was not accepted, he met deputy commissioner of police (New Delhi) Sachin Sharma at Parliament Street police station, which also houses the DCP’s office.

In visuals released by the Congress, Gandhi is seen asking joint commissioner of police (New Delhi Range) Nupur Prasad and Sharma to register an FIR immediately and showing them Lochab’s injuries. After the officers refused, Gandhi said he was prepared to stage a dharna outside the station for “15, 20 or 30 days” and walked out of the room. Gandhi then began a sit-in inside the police station and said he would not leave until an FIR was registered. The protest came exactly a month after he staged a demonstration outside the Prime Minister’s residence.

“We are only saying that an FIR must be lodged. Sahil is here and his mother is accompanying him. Till an FIR is registered, we will not budge from here,” Gandhi said. Gandhi alleged that officials had told him the FIR could not be registered because there were “orders from the top”. “The police personnel here wanted to register the FIR, but there was a brake on justice from above,” he said, claiming that approval had to come from senior authorities, including Union home secretary Govind Mohan and Union home minister Amit Shah.

The protest drew senior Congress leaders, including Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Jairam Ramesh, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Kumari Selja. Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadav and members of the Indian Youth Congress and the NSUI also arrived, leading to a heavy rush in the area. Security was strengthened with the deployment of police and Rapid Action Force personnel. The protest ended nearly seven hours later when police informed Gandhi that an FIR had been registered against unknown persons under Sections 118 and 125 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. The provisions deal with voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt using dangerous weapons or means and acts endangering the life or personal safety of others.

Emerging from the police station in the evening, Gandhi said the delay raised questions about the functioning of the justice system. “We arrived here at around 11.30 am. It is now almost 7 pm, and only then has the FIR been reg-



istered,” he said. “This is the first step towards justice. An FIR has been registered. Look at how long it took,” Gandhi said, pointing out that nearly a month had passed since Lochab was injured. Gandhi said pellets remained lodged in Lochab’s body, including three in his eye and several near his heart, and claimed that the youth had lost vision in one eye. “This is a police station right in the heart of New Delhi, and justice is not being delivered here. Now imagine what happens at a police station in a village or a small town,” he said. Lochab said Gandhi’s intervention had been crucial in getting his complaint registered. “It took eight hours to register the FIR, and perhaps it wouldn’t have been registered at all if the LoP hadn’t supported me,” he said. Lochab later hugged Gandhi, and the two displayed a copy of the FIR. The case was registered nearly a month after the incident and following repeated attempts by Lochab to lodge his complaint. Sources said he had submitted a written complaint, accompanied by lawyers, on August 14 but received no acknowledgement from police. The episode also triggered a sharp attack from Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, who accused the BJP-led government of shedding “crocodile tears” over nationalism while failing to protect the country’s youth. “Those shedding crocodile tears over nationalism are, in reality, the biggest enemies of the country’s youth,” Kharge said in a post on X. Kharge questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s silence over the alleged police action against the protesters and accused Shah of avoiding accountability. “Amit Shah didn’t show up in Parliament for 19 days. The country wasn’t told who ordered the firing of pellet guns on students and why such brutality was necessary against our youth,” he said. “Our daughters were groped and beaten with lathis and sticks. But Prime Minister Modi hasn’t uttered a single word to this day, and the home minister has kept dodging accountability,” Kharge said. Congress general secretary K.C. Venugopal also attacked the government, alleging that Modi and Shah had shown no concern for the students or listened to their grievances. The students’ protest at Jantar Mantar on July 20 was held over alleged irregularities in the NEET examination. The police response has since come under scrutiny amid allegations of a lathi-charge, excessive force and pellet-gun injuries.

Telangana HC reserves verdict on pleas against Speaker’s ruling in Danam Nagender case

Hyderabad: Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin of the Telangana High Court on Friday reserved judgment on two writ petitions challenging the Legislative Assembly Speaker’s ruling regarding the disqualification of Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender.

The Writ Petitions, filed by BJP Legislature Party leader Aleti Maheshwar Reddy and BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, contend that Nagender incurred disqualification under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution.

Nagender, who won the Khairatabad seat on a BRS ticket in the 2023 Assembly elections, subsequently switched loyalties to the ruling Congress. The Speaker had earlier held that the legislator had not defected from the BRS party.

The High Court clarified that while arguments regarding similar disqualification pleas against eight other BRS-turned-Congress MLAs—Kale



Yadaiah, Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Kadiyam Srihari, Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy, T. Prakash Goud, A. Gandhi, Tellam Venkat Rao, and Sanjay Kumar will be heard separately, the proceedings concerning Danam Nagender were wrapped up given the distinct nature of the allegations against him. Senior counsels K.Vivek Reddy and Gandra Mohan Rao appearing for the petitioners argued that an elected MLA contesting a Lok Sabha election on another party’s ticket as Nagender did on a Congress ticket unambiguously amounts to “voluntarily giving up membership” of his original party under the Tenth Sched-

ule. They asserted that the Speaker ought to have considered acts such as active campaigning and filing nominations on the Congress party’s ticket, irrespective of whether a formal resignation letter was submitted. The petitioners’ counsels stressed that anti-defection laws do not depend on whether the stability of the state government is threatened or if the original party’s numbers inside the Assembly are diminished, but rather on whether the elected member voluntarily severed ties with his parent political outfit. Countering the allegations, Senior Counsels A.Venkatesh and Gourav

Agarwal representing Danam Nagender argued that the petitioners’ case rested almost entirely on media reports and photographs.

The allegations stem from a meeting on March 15, 2024, involving the Chief Minister and an AICC General Secretary, during which a Congress scarf was draped around the MLA’s shoulders, leading to assertions that he formally joined the party on March 17, 2024.

They submitted that nowhere in the news reports or photograph submissions did Nagender explicitly state he had joined the Congress. They contended that such circumstantial media coverage was insufficient to establish a voluntary surrender of membership, adding that official Legislative Assembly records continue to show Danam Nagender as a BRS member.

After elaborate submissions, the Division Bench reserved its orders for 16th September.

CM invites Oxford University Professors To Collab With Telangana

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday invited Oxford University to set up a centre in Hyderabad and collaborate with Telangana in executive education and specialised research.

As part of the Telangana Rising delegation, Revanth Reddy visited Oxford University and held discussions with Prof. Maya Tudor of the Blavatnik School of Government and Prof. Faisal Devji of Balliol College.

During his interaction, the Chief Minister outlined the Telangana Rising vision and the state’s plans to transform Hyderabad into a global education hub.

K. Ramakrishna Rao, adviser and ex-officio special chief secretary, CMO, gave a presentation on opportunities available to foreign universities under the Central government’s National Education Policy, with emphasis on the advantages offered by Hyderabad and Telangana.

Professors Tudor and Devji responded positively and offered several contexts for collaboration with the Telangana government.



The delegation invited Oxford representatives to send a team to the Telangana Rising Global Summit, scheduled to be held in Hyderabad on December 7, 8 and 9, 2026.

Revanth Reddy also visited the portrait of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at Somerville College, where she was an alumna. The portrait was gifted to the college by Sonia Gandhi in 2002.

Later, the Chief Minister visited the Utilita Bowl, run by the GMR Group, along with GMR Group corporate chairman Kiran Kumar Grandhi. The integrated sporting facility includes a golf course, other sporting infrastructure and a hotel.

Revanth Reddy held discussions with Ramakrishna Rao and the GMR global sports unit and invited the group to invest in and contribute to creating sporting infrastructure in Telangana. The Chief Minister was scheduled to visit Emirates Stadium later on Friday to watch an EPL match between Arsenal and Coventry.

GOVT URGES FARMERS TO USE GROUNDWATER SPARINGLY

Hyderabad:After saying that just around seven lakh acres of agricultural land – of the 30-lakh odd acres that are under various projects — can be provided with irrigation water this Kharif crop season, the state government has now turned its focus on the groundwater reserves which, according to it, do not present a satisfactory picture.

On Friday, the government directed officials of various departments, including those from agriculture and panchayat raj, to educate farmers on



careful and judicious use of groundwater for the rest of the crop season. With the requirement for water expected to increase in September and October, the two months when the monsoon is expected to fail even more than what it already has this year so far, farm-

ers must be discouraged from using automatic starter motors for their borewell pumps and extract more water than what is required.

The officials were also directed by the government to prepare daily groundwater availability status reports that could be

shared with farmers. The recent rain has not really contributed to the groundwater reserves, and even water levels in reservoirs are not very encouraging, the officials were told. Agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, speaking at an interdepartmental meeting on preparedness to face El Nino conditions, also told officials to focus on restoration of the 44,000 tanks and lakes in the state, which can help recharge groundwater tables.

Telangana polytechnic staff boycott talks with govt over merger with YISU

The Telangana Polytechnic Joint Action Committee (TP-JAC), which is opposing the merger of polytechnics with Young India Skills University, insists on written assurances and demands revocation of GO 97 or removal of the clause integrating polytechnics with YISU.

Hyderabad: The Telangana Polytechnic Joint Action Committee (TP-JAC), which is spearheading the protest against the State government’s decision to merge the polytechnics with the Young India Skills University (YISU), has boycotted a meeting with Technical Education department officials here on Friday.

The TP-JAC was called to discuss the issues regarding the merger of the polytechnics with the YISU. However, with no logical or positive conclusion being arrived at in the last two meetings the polytechnic staff boycotted the meeting.



“We are being given oral assurances on protecting the interests of polytechnic students and staff. However, whenever we asked them to give these in writing they did not accept it. We either want the government to either revoke the GO 97 or remove clause 4 – integrating polytechnics with YISU – until then protests will not conclude,” said one of the TP-JAC office bearers.

Meanwhile, Shakti Minister Dr G Vivek Venkatswamy met the protesting students at Government Polytechnic Masab Tank and assured them that ECET would be conducted for polytechnic students. The AIDSO said protest would continue until all demands are met and GO merging polytechnics with Shakti department is withdrawn.

Corporate-Level Healthcare at Government Hospital

**MLA Kunamneni's Efforts Bear Fruit
Cath Lab Coming Soon to Kothagudem
Rs.3 Crore Sanctioned for Government General Hospital**

Kothagudem, August 21: The long-standing efforts of Kothagudem MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao to provide corporate-level healthcare services to the people of the constituency and the district have finally borne fruit. The government has sanctioned ₹3 crore for the development of Kothagudem Government General Hospital (GGH).

The sanctioned funds will be used to strengthen the hospital with advanced medical facilities. A modern Cath Lab will soon be made available to provide timely treatment to patients suffering from heart-related emergencies. A Critical Care Unit will also be established to provide advanced treatment to critically ill patients.

In addition, an advanced MRI scanning fa-



cility will be introduced at the hospital, helping poor and middle-class patients avoid spending thousands of rupees at private diagnostic centres. A fully equipped 20-bed ICU is also being developed for patients requiring intensive medical care.

Until now, patients suffering from heart attacks and other serious medical emergencies often had to travel to distant cities such as Hyderabad and Khammam for advanced treatment. Delays in receiving timely medical

care had resulted in tragic consequences in several cases.

With advanced healthcare facilities being made available at Kothagudem GGH itself, people of the district are expected to benefit significantly. The development is being seen as a major step towards transforming the government hospital into a centre offering quality and specialised healthcare services.

People of the constituency, along with public organisations and workers, have welcomed the initiative and appreciated MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao's efforts to strengthen healthcare facilities for the poor.

A major boost to government healthcare — Kothagudem GGH set to offer advanced medical services to the people!

Rs. 12 Crore Post Office– Hemachandrapuram Double Road

KOTHAGUDEM: Good news for the people of Kothagudem constituency. The tender process for widening and construction of a double road from Post Office Centre via Seshagirinagar to Hemachandrapuram at an estimated cost of Rs. 12 crore has been successfully completed. With this, the long-pending road development works are finally set to move forward.

The road has been severely damaged due to the movement of heavy Singareni vehicles, causing serious inconvenience to motorists and local residents. Taking note of the problems caused by potholes, dust and heavy traffic, local MLA Koonamneni Sambasiva Rao took special initiative to find a permanent solution to the issue.

The MLA held several meetings with senior Singareni officials and urged them to take up the road reconstruction and widening works. Following his continued efforts and persistent follow-up, the Singareni management responded positively and sanctioned the required funds.

With the funds sanctioned, Singareni officials have already completed the tendering process for the works. As the necessary approvals have also been completed, arrangements are being made to commence the double road construction works at the ground level shortly.

Once the project is completed, travel from Post Office Centre to Hemachandrapuram will become much easier and safer. The widened road is expected to improve the movement of heavy vehicles, reduce traffic congestion and provide permanent relief to local residents from potholes and dust-related problems.

Local residents have expressed happiness over the development, appreciating MLA Koonamneni Sambasiva Rao's initiative in addressing the long-standing public issue. The Rs. 12 crore double road project is expected to become another major milestone in infrastructure development in Kothagudem constituency.



Scrap GO No. 97 Immediately! Protect the Future of Polytechnic Students – Kesari Yuvaraju

Bhadrachalam, August 21: Telangana Students' Wing Bhadrachalam Constituency President Kesari Yuvaraju has demanded that the Congress government immediately withdraw GO No. 97, which proposes the merger of Polytechnic education with the Young India Skill University.

Speaking at a meeting held in Bhadrachalam, Yuvaraju said merging Polytechnic education with another educational system was not an appropriate decision. He expressed concern that the government's move could create uncertainty over the future of thousands of Polytechnic students across Telangana.

He said Polytechnic education plays a crucial role in providing technical education to students from poor and middle-class families while creating better employment opportunities. Any sudden changes to the existing system are causing serious concern among students and their parents, he said.



Concern Over the Future of 75,000 Students

Yuvaraju expressed concern that the future of around 75,000 Polytechnic students across the state could be adversely affected by the decision. He urged the government to immediately reconsider GO No. 97 and keep it on hold, keeping the interests of students in mind.

He further demanded that the government withdraw decisions that could affect students' interests. The Telangana Students' Wing will continue its fight until justice is done to Polytechnic students, he asserted.

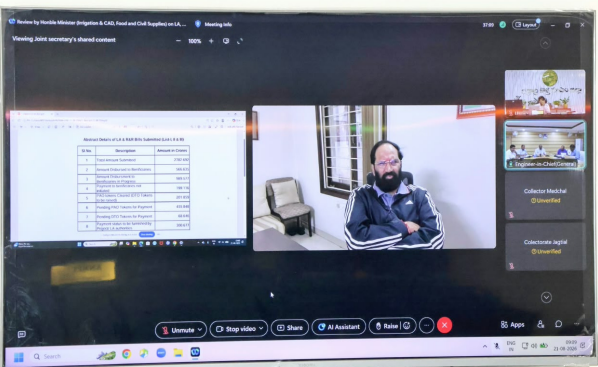
BRS leaders Kesari Yuvaraju, Imandi Nageswara Rao, Ranjith Kumar and others participated in the meeting.

Pending Land Acquisition Process Must Be Expedited

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy directs officials to ensure irrigation project works face no hurdles

KOTHAGUDEM, AUGUST 21 (TODAY FREEDOM NEWS): State Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies Uttam Kumar Reddy has directed officials to expedite the pending land acquisition, compensation payment and rehabilitation processes related to irrigation projects in the district.

The Minister held a video conference from Hyderabad on Friday with District Collectors and senior Irrigation Department officials to review pending land acquisition, compensation payments, rehabilitation and other issues concerning irrigation projects across the State. District Collector Ankit participated in the video conference from the Collector's Camp Office at the IDOC office



in Kothagudem.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy said that the pending land acquisition process must be completed without delay to ensure the timely completion of irrigation projects. He stated that the government was taking steps to release Rs. 2,800 crore for pending land acquisition works and that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had approved the proposal.

The Minister instructed the Collectors



to expedite pending land acquisition and rehabilitation works to facilitate the creation of new ayacut. Since funds required for land acquisition are being made available, the entire process should be completed without any delay, ensuring that project works continue without interruption, he said.

Collector Ankit directs speedy completion

After the video conference, District Collector Ankit directed the concerned officials to speed up the pending land acquisition, compensation payment and rehabilitation processes related to irrigation projects in the district.

He instructed officials to examine any land acquisition-related issues at the field level and resolve them in coordination with farmers. Compensation payable to farmers and rehabilitation-related matters should be given top priority, he said.

The Collector further directed officials to complete the land acquisition process within the stipulated time without any delay. He stressed that officials of all concerned departments should work in close coordination and resolve pending issues at the earliest to ensure the smooth and uninterrupted progress of irrigation project works.

Officials from the Irrigation Department, Land Acquisition Department and other concerned departments participated in the video conference.

TGE JAC Holds Preparatory Meeting for Maha Dharna in Sangareddy

SANGAREDDY, Correspondent : August 21, 2026: A preparatory meeting was held under the auspices of the Sangareddy district TGE JAC to ensure the success of the Maha Dharna scheduled for August 27. The meeting was held at the TNGOs Association building in Sangareddy, where leaders discussed employees' issues, pending demands and strategies to mobilise employees for the protest.

TGE JAC Chairman

Jaweed Ali called upon employees from across the district to participate in large numbers and make the Maha Dharna a success. He said the protest was being organised to press for the scrapping of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), strengthening of the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) and Employees Health Scheme (EHS), besides resolving other pending issues.

He said the primary



objective of the JAC was to bring employees' genuine problems to the notice of the government and work towards their resolution.

Later, TGE JAC leaders met the District Collector and Superintendent of Police and submitted a representation regarding the

Gangadhar said that employees needed to fight unitedly for the resolution of their long-pending issues. They appealed to employees, union leaders and representatives to attend the Maha Dharna on August 27 in large numbers.

The meeting decided to conduct an extensive awareness campaign across the district and mobilise employees to participate in the protest. Leaders of various employee associations attended the meeting.

State Revenue, Housing and Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy visited Jagtial district.

Foundation stone laid for construction of several newly sanctioned government office buildings

Jagtiala, August 21 : Jagtiala district will have an opportunity to provide better and faster services to the people with the construction of newly sanctioned government office buildings, said State Revenue, Housing and Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy. On Friday, Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, State SC, ST, Elderly, Disabled and Transgender Empowerment Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar, Jagtiala MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar, CCLA Commissioner Lokesh Kumar, Special Secretary Stamps and Registration Department Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanthu, MD Housing Gautam, District Collector B. Satya Prasad laid the foundation stone for the construction of several newly sanctioned government office buildings at Dharur Camp. He said that construction work will be undertaken for the construction of 6 government office buildings at an estimated cost of Rs. 11.80 crore for the construction of Jagtiala Revenue Divisional Office building, Rs. 2.25 crore for the construction of Metpally Revenue Divisional Office building, Rs. 2.25 crore for the construction of the construction of Bhimaram Tahsildar's office building, Rs. 2.25 crore for the construction of Endapally Tahsildar's office building, Rs. 1.40 crore for the construction of Mallyala Sub-Registrar's office building, and Rs. 1.40 crore for the construction of Metpally Sub-Registrar's office building. On this occasion, the foundation stone laying ceremony was held for the construction of new buildings of Jagtiala, Metpally Revenue Divisional Offices, Bhimaram, Endapally Tahsildar's offices, Mallyala, Metpally Sub-Registrar's offices. The Minister stated that by constructing new office buildings with modern facilities, it will be possible to provide the gov-



ernment services required by the people more easily and conveniently. He said that in addition to providing better facilities to the people in government offices, suitable infrastructure will be available for the officers and staff to perform their duties effectively. The Minister instructed the concerned officers to complete the construction work of new buildings with quality standards and within the stipulated time. He said that the government is taking steps to make the services of revenue, registration and other departments more accessible to the people. He suggested that all the necessary facilities should be provided keeping in mind the needs of the people in the construction of offices. The Minister clarified that the government's goal is to further strengthen the administrative facilities in the district and provide transparent and efficient services to the people. Legislative Council Member L. Ramana, Choppadandi MLA Medipelli Satyam, Velama Welfare Corporation Chairman Juvvadi Narsingarao, Additional Collectors B. S. Latha, B. Raja Goud, Jagtiala District Library Chairman Sanghanabhatla Dinesh, Jagtiala, Met Pelli, Korutla RDOs Madhusudhan, Narasimha Rao, Jeevakar Reddy, Jagtiala Municipal Chairman Samindla Vani, Dharmapuri Municipal Chairman Nagajyothi, Met Pelli Municipal Chairman, Korutla Municipal Chairman, Raikal Municipal Chairman, local public representatives of the respective mandals, district level officials, concerned officials and others participated in these programs.

Vedanta Aluminium Launches Advanced Metals for Automotive Industry at AutoEdge 2026

The AutoEdge 2026 conclave brought together leading companies across India’s automotive sector, and featured engaging panel discussions, technical presentations, and expert insights into future industry trends

Hyderabad, 21st August 2026: Vedanta Aluminium (BSE: 544780 | NSE: VAML), India’s leading aluminium producer, today expanded its automotive solutions portfolio with the launch of two advanced offerings under its best-selling Primary Foundry Alloy (PFA) range. These include the Copper-Doped Alloy, developed for high-performance automotive applications, and the Vedanta Foundry Alloy (VFA), a versatile material for enhanced durability, developed in collaboration with IIT Delhi. The two innovations represent a new frontier in the development of next-generation automobiles, enabling lighter, safer, and more efficient vehicles and fuelling new possibilities in the automotive sector.

The two offerings were unveiled to top representatives from India’s leading automotive companies and advanced component

manufacturers at AutoEdge 2026, Vedanta Aluminium’s exclusive conclave for the automotive industry. Now in its second edition, the conclave featured a series of engaging panel discussions, technical presentations, and expert insights into future industry trends.

Vedanta Aluminium is India’s largest PFA producer with an existing capacity of 380 kilotonnes per annum (KTPA). In addition, the company also has a production capacity of 830 KTPA for billets, in a wide range of diameters. Its automotive portfolio comprises of PFA offerings used in alloy wheels, cylinder heads, engine components and other automotive castings, along with specialised billets for HVAC applications and crash-resistant engineering applications. In addition, it is expanding the share of value-added products in its portfolio to 90%, driven by the increas-



ing demand for high quality, sustainably produced aluminium in India and globally.

Rajesh Kumar, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium, said, “India’s automotive industry is rapidly evolving, creating demand for lighter, stronger and more sophisticated material solutions. Aluminium is uniquely positioned to meet these parameters through its versatile combination of lightweighting, strength, durability, resistance to corrosion, and high recyclability. At Vedanta Aluminium, we are strengthening our automotive-grade portfolio with advanced

next-generation metals that are fully developed and manufactured in India while meeting world-class performance benchmarks. These innovations reinforce our commitment to the Make in India effort, building globally competitive manufacturing capabilities within the nation.”

The two new offerings have been specially developed to support the automotive industry’s growing need for vehicles that are lighter, more efficient, and built to perform under demanding conditions. The Copper-Doped Alloy lever-

ages the strengthening properties of copper to enhance durability, wear resistance, and performance at higher operating temperatures, making it particularly suitable for critical engine, transmission, and powertrain components. Meanwhile, the Vedanta Foundry Alloy combines lightweighting with higher strength, improved corrosion resistance, and enhanced casting performance, making it suitable for a wide range of conventional and electric vehicle applications.

Together, these in-

novations enable automotive manufacturers to improve component longevity, enhance vehicle efficiency and reliability, and meet the evolving performance requirements of next-generation mobility. Building on its growing R&D capabilities, Vedanta Aluminium is working with OEMs and component manufacturers to co-develop advanced material solutions.

The expanded portfolio is also closely aligned with the Indian automotive sector’s accelerating drive towards localisation, supply chain resilience, and self-reli-

ance in critical input materials. India is presently the world’s largest market for two-wheelers and three-wheelers, and the third-largest for passenger and commercial vehicles. By broadening the availability of high-performance, automotive-grade alloys designed and manufactured in India, Vedanta Aluminium is enabling manufacturers to strengthen domestic sourcing, reduce import dependency, and build agile, future-ready value chains. This directly supports India’s goal of becoming a global automotive manufacturing hub under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision.

Vedanta Aluminium has integrated quality and sustainability at the heart of its product innovation, resulting in a growing customer base spanning over 60 countries, including major automotive hubs such as the USA, Japan, Italy,

France and Germany. Its entire product range is also offered via Vedanta Metal Bazaar, the world’s largest non-ferrous metals e-store, which has recently launched a new exports module for the company’s global customers.

Its smelters at Jharsuguda, Odisha and Korba, Chhattisgarh (BALCO) are certified by the globally-recognised Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI)’s Performance Standards for demonstrating sustainable operations. In addition, the company’s product range is the first in India to be certified on all applicable standards by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). This is backed by a customer-centric approach that combines bespoke alloy development, state-of-the-art manufacturing, and comprehensive technical support to deliver enhanced value for the automotive industry.

Every case should be solved quickly: SP Paritosh Pankaj

Zaheerabad August : Sangareddy District SP Paritosh Pankaj visited and inspected Zaheerabad DSP office and Hadnur Police Station on Friday. He inspected the cleanliness of the station surroundings, staff kit articles and maintenance of station records. He said that quality investigation should be conducted in every case while checking the station records and a special action plan should be prepared to solve missing cases and long-pending cases. He directed the staff to identify areas where property-related crimes are prevalent (crime prone areas) as black spots and increase surveillance during day and night beat duties. He advised the staff to gain full mastery over software applications like CCTNS-2.0, Petition Management System, TS-Cop, HRMS, E-Sakshya, Tech Datam, iRAD Darpan, CEIR, Cyber ??Crime Portal, CDR, Portable Fingerprint Device and act effectively in crime control. He instructed the station



records from Part-1 to Part-5 to be recorded in CCTNS-2.0 from time to time without any pending. Later, speaking to the staff, he advised them to speak politely to the complainants who come to the station and assure them that their problems will be resolved. Village police officers should have complete understanding of the villages assigned to them, have good relations with the village elders and youth and collect advance information regarding law and order. The details of rowdy sheeters and suspect history sheeters within the station area should be known, checked during day and night beat duties and updated online from time to time. He suggested the Papillon device, checking suspected persons and identifying old criminals through fingerprints. He said that technology should be provided in accordance with the changing society and every staff member should be aware of all types of duties. He suggested that helmets and seat belts should be worn while driving vehicles. performance being adopted by the SHO for the welfare of the staff is commendable. Later, he visited the Zaheerabad DSP office and inspected the cleanliness of the office and record management. He suggested that steps should be taken to ensure speedy justice to the victims by conducting quality investigations in SC and ST atrocity cases, POCSO cases, rape cases and dowry death cases. He said that a comprehensive investigation should be conducted in every case following the legal provisions.

The Art Behind a Natural-Looking Hairline

How precision, artistry and innovation are redefining modern hair restoration

Attributed to Dr. Pradeep Sethi and Dr. Arika Bansal, the visionary co-founders behind Eugenix Hair Sciences
Attributed to Dr. Pradeep Sethi and Dr. Arika Bansal, the visionary Co-Founders of Eugenix Hair Sciences

(Vijayawada) The first thing people notice after a successful hair restoration is often not the hair. It is confidence. A few months after the procedure, someone who once avoided photographs begins appearing in them. A professional who habitually checks his reflection before a meeting walks into the room without thinking about his hair. Someone who spent years concealing thinning simply stops worrying about it. No one asks what changed. They simply say, "You look different. In a good way."

Perhaps that is the greatest compliment modern hair restoration can receive. For decades, the category was defined by graft counts, density and dramatic before-and-after photographs. Today, a more informed generation is asking a different question: how natural will the result look? At the centre of this evolution is the follicular graft, a delicate biological unit whose journey does not end when it is extracted. Its handling, out-of-body time and placement can influence its potential to survive and grow. This pursuit of precision led to the development of Direct Hair Transplant (DHT), the technique pioneered by Dr. Pradeep Sethi and Dr. Arika Bansal and introduced to the global medical com-



munity through peer-reviewed research published in the Journal of Cutaneous and Aesthetic Surgery in 2013. In DHT, extraction and implantation happen simultaneously, bringing the time a graft spends outside the body to under 30 minutes, compared with the 3 to 6 hours typical of traditional techniques. The Co-Founders deliberately chose not to patent DHT, so that the entire global hair restoration community could adopt it and patients everywhere could benefit.

The philosophy is simple: when every graft matters, its biological viability must remain central to the process. But protecting the graft is only half the story. The other half is knowing where it belongs. A natural hairline is never simply a straight line. Its subtle irregularities, density and direction must complement the forehead, the temples, facial proportions, age, hair texture and the future pattern of hair loss. This is where hair restoration becomes an art. A technically successful result can still look artificial if the hairline is too low, too dense or too symmetrical. The finest work understands that nature itself is imperfect. The goal is not to create a perfect hairline, but one that looks as though it was never created at all. That philosophy becomes more meaningful through more than 20,000 procedures performed over 15 years at Eugenix Hair Sciences.

Behind the number are individuals who wanted different things: a professional seeking greater confidence, someone tired of hiding thinning hair in photographs, or simply a person wanting their appearance to reflect how energetic they feel inside. The visible transformation may be hair. The deeper transformation is confidence.

This is why hair restoration is increasingly entering the conversation around healthy ageing and self-investment. People are investing in fitness, nutrition and preventive healthcare to remain active and confident for longer. Hair restoration is becoming part of that same philosophy: not necessarily to look younger, but to feel more aligned with oneself. As patients become more discerning, they are looking beyond dramatic results and asking about science, technique, donor management, longevity and naturalness. This evolution now brings Eugenix to Bengaluru, with the clinic’s upcoming centre set to bring its science-led, patient-centric approach to a city synonymous with innovation. The future will bring newer technologies and greater precision. But technology alone cannot create naturalness.

ECI Secretary visits polling stations

Warangal, Bureau: Election Commission of India Secretary Naveen Kumar, who came to inspect the ongoing comprehensive voter survey process in Warangal district, visited several polling stations in the district.

On this occasion, he inspected the ongoing voter survey process at the polling stations and the duties being performed by the Booth Level Officers (BLOs).

He inquired about the collection and verification of voter details and other issues with the BLOs.

Later, in a review meeting held at the District Collectorate Conference Hall, Election Commission of India Secretary Naveen Kumar participated with District Collector Dr. Satya Sarada and reviewed the conduct of the comprehensive voter survey with the EROs and AEROs of Warangal East, Vardhannapet and Narsampet constituencies in the district.

Speaking on the occasion, Election Commission of India Secretary Naveen Kumar said that BLOs should be appointed and trained in the newly established polling stations.

The officials were instructed to send proposals to appoint additional AEROs to issue notices to voters in the district who are in no mapping anomalies.

The notices issued to the voters should be accepted after thorough examination.

The officials were instructed to conduct the comprehensive voter survey process in a transparent and organized manner as per the rules and to take steps to ensure that there is no room for any mistakes in the verification and verification of voter details.



Speaking on the occasion, District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada explained to the Chairman of the Election Commissioner of India, Naveen Kumar, through a PPT, the manner in which the special comprehensive voter survey was conducted in the district.



Movie Review: 'Irumudi'

Actors: Ravi Teja, Priya Bhavani Shankar, Baby Nakshatra, Saikumar, Swasika, Ramesh Indira, Ajay Ghosh, Ramana Bhargava and others
Music: G.V. Prakash Kumar
Cinematography: Vishnu Sharma
Producers: Naveen Yerneni, Ravi Shankar
Writer-Director: Shiva Nirvana
Mass Raja Raviteja has been waiting for a blockbuster for many years. To get the same, he set his image aside, but the Sankranthi starrer “Bharta Mahaseyulaku Wignyapthi” failed to click. Now he has done a similar experiment with Shiva Nirvana’s Irumudi. Let’s see if it worked or not.

STORY:
Trinadh (Raviteja) makes his living by driving an autorickshaw in the Godavari region, and cultivates banana plantations in his fields. He loves his daughter Manikanta (Baby Nakshatra) to the crore. However, he has a weakness for alcohol and gives it up only during the 41 days of Ayyappa Deeksha. In the process of saving his village’s girls from eve-teasers, he has lots of enemies. This time, when Trinadh is about to take up the Deeksha, some stunning events take place in his village. How they affect Trinadh, who’s responsible for that, and how Trinadh tackles them forms the rest of the story.

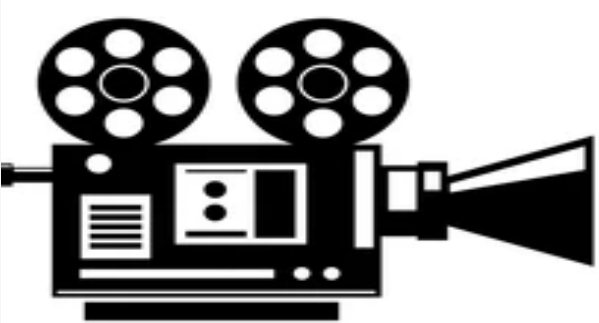
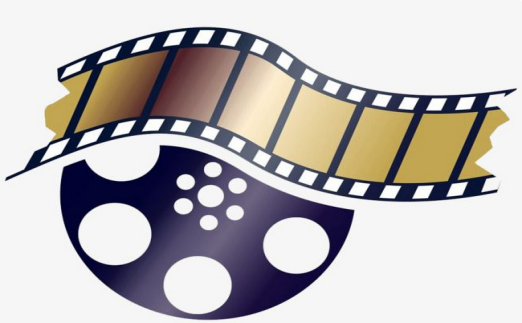
NARRATION-ANALYSIS:
If we go back in time 10 years, a star hero playing the role of an Ayyappa Devotee and naming the film Irumudi is impossible. Even now, that would be a surprise. A hero like Raviteja, who is known for mass-masala movies, has agreed to do this movie, and a director like Siva Nirvana wanting to make this film are shockers before the release. But then, the story shown on the screen is another level shocker. The concept of sexual harassment, which has no wider acceptance and some mind-blowing twists are the central core of Irumudi. Many elements in Irumudi are otherwise deemed indigestible by the Telugu audience. The film’s narrative crossed the stock dialogue that ‘the audience doesn’t accept this’ and amazed them with an honest attempt at narrative. The devotion, thrill, family emotions, sentiment, drama, message and other elements are skillfully blended in Irumudi, making it work.

More than experimenting, impressing the audience with that experiment is the key, and Irumudi falls into that category perfectly. The primary elements of the film are a mass hero like Raviteja turning into an Ayyappa devotee and appearing in a lungi throughout the film, and delivering amazing sentiment that makes the audience teary-eyed. While the trailer itself promised that the father-daughter relationship would be shown well in the film, that emotion peaks inside the movie. They not only amaze, but at times, squeeze the heart too. It moves the entire audience big time towards the climax. Director Siva Nirvana rendered the father-daughter characters quite well and instilled the same emotions strongly in the audience too.

The audience does feel the emotions of the characters quite strongly, so the whole story connects to them big time, and they go to a peak towards the ending. Both the hero’s pain and need to avenge would be felt by the audience in the same way, as they respond to the situations on the screen. While Irumudi feels like a moderate movie till the last hour, the last 30 minutes make it a special film. The sexual-harassment element, which isn’t a favourite thing of our filmmakers, is the key element here. If narrated effectively, that topic works out well, and the message gets across properly, as Irumudi proves. The whole film runs in a serious mode, without routine songs, fights, elevations, comedy and masala, despite being a Raviteja movie. While the father-daughter emotion worked out, the devotional scenes, thrilling sequences, and message have worked out well. Parents of a girl child will love Irumudi big time. With an engaging narrative and message-driven story, Irumudi remains a high-light.

PERFORMANCES:
In Raviteja’s total filmography, Irumudi remain special. Coming out of his mass image, it’s appreciable that he did this story. The performer inside him, who was clouded by mass films, has come out in this movie. Deep diving into the role created by Shiva Nirvana, his intense performance will be memorable for years to come. As a middle-class wife, heroine Priya Bhavani Shankar also did well, though her character has no great importance in the story. Baby Nakshatra, the young girl who played Raviteja’s daughter, created an impact equal to that of the hero. Choosing her is the director’s first success, and her emotions move the audience. KGF fame Ramesh Indira shined in a crucial role, while Sai Kumar as Guruswamy is also impressive. Swasika is impressive in the negative role, while the likes of Ajay Ghosh, Meesala Lashman and Ramana Bhargava are impressive too.

TECHNICALITIES:
GV Prakash has given good songs, with Yaalalo being the one that will be remembered. Though the Ayyappa-themed songs are good, they could have been better. However, the background score is effective in crucial scenes. Vishnu Sharma’s cinematography is filled with beautiful visuals, and it is attractive. Mythri Movie Makers provided ample production values. Writer-Director Siva Nirvana has come up with a story that doesn’t resemble his flavour of writing. After showing his strength in writing, he showed the same in conceiving scenes too. He never went overboard with scenes and dialogues. The major twist’s placement and the screen-play around it have shown his brilliance. Without melodrama and with genuine emotions, he made every scene work out. Finally: Irumudi, strong drama & touching message!
Rating: 3.25/5



CINEMA

Mahaprabhu Jagannath to release in cinemas on August 28

Mumbai: The much-awaited animated film “Mahaprabhu Jagannath” is set to bring the divine world of Lord Jagannath to the big screen on August 28.

The film will arrive in cinemas on the auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan and Balaram Jayanti, adding a spiritual touch to the festive celebrations. On Friday, the makers took to social media to announce the release date of the film. Speaking about the release, Durga Prasad Dalai, producer of Mahaprabhu Jagannath, said in a statement, “There are certain moments that feel like they have been decided for you. After everything this film has gone through, to finally see Mahaprabhu Jagannath reaching theatres on Raksha Bandhan and Balaram Jayanti feels like his blessing.”

“Balaram Jayanti is a deeply significant occasion. We have always wanted to make a film that allows children and families to experience the world of Mahaprabhu Jagannath together, and there could not be a more beautiful time for that journey to begin. We have done our part with complete faith and sincerity, and now we leave the film in Mahaprabhu’s hands.”

Balaram Jayanti, which marks the birth anniversary of Lord Balaram, the elder brother of Lord Krishna, is observed on the full moon day of Shravan and holds deep religious and cultural significance.



Rooted in spirituality and the age-old traditions associated with Mahaprabhu, the film’s release during this auspicious festive period adds deeper significance to its theatrical debut.

Produced by ELE Animations, “Mahaprabhu Jagannath” is the first theatrical feature from the studio’s Sanatan Universe. Its soundtrack was released in Hindi, Odia and Telugu, featuring voices including Atharva Bakshi, Aviral Kumar and Abhay Jodhpurkar. The trailer was also unveiled by Pujya Shri Indresh Ji Upadhyaya Maharaj during his Bhagwat Katha in Cuttack, Odisha, in the presence of more than 10,000 devotees.

“Mahaprabhu Jagannath” will release in cinemas across India on August 28, 2026.

Rajinikanth’s Jailer 2 drops first single ‘Ala Bolelo’

Chennai: The makers of director Nelson Dilipkumar’s eagerly awaited action entertainer ‘Jailer 2’, featuring Superstar Rajinikanth in the lead, on Friday released the first single from the film ‘Ala Bolelo’, much to the delight of fans and film buffs.

Sun Pictures, which is producing the film, took to its social media timelines to share the link the lyrical video of the first single. It wrote, “Ala bolelo, Jilla bolelo, Jithala bolelo, Jinthakka bolelo??? #AlaBolelo fever begins, Lyric Video is out now! #Jailer2.”

The song is a foot tapping number that has been set to tune by music director Anirudh. Interestingly, Anirudh himself delivers the song, the lyrics of which have been penned by director Arunraja Kamaraj.

But more than the music or the lyrics, it is the outstanding choreography of Jani Master which garners attention and takes centre stage.

The graceful dance performance of actress Shamna Kasim, whose moves seem to be in perfect synchronisation with the moves of the accompanying dancers, is a treat to watch. The dance performance accompanying the song is likely to win as much appreciation as the song itself.

It may be recalled that only a day ago, actress Shamna Kasim had said that she was overwhelmed with happiness and gratitude at having been a part of director Nelson Dilipkumar’s ‘Jailer 2’.

Taking to her Instagram page to pen a post of gratitude, the actress had said, “I am truly overwhelmed with happiness and gratitude to be a part of the prestigious film Jailer 2!”

She went on to add, “My heartfelt thanks to Superstar Rajinikanth Sir, Nelson Dilipkumar Sir, Anirudh Ravichander Sir, Jani Master, and the entire Jailer 2 team for giving me this incredible opportunity. I thank God for turning this unforgettable dream into reality. Feeling truly honoured, grateful, and blessed! #Jailer2



#SuperstarRajinikanth #NelsonDilipkumar #Anirudh #sunpictures.”

For the unaware, the film is slated to hit screens worldwide on October 15 this year.

The makers had released a release date announcement teaser in which actor Vinayakan was seen issuing a threat with a laugh. “You can’t be at peace after killing me. There’s a big world behind me, Jailer! This is a huge network. You won’t know who is coming (for you), when and how. Your life will turn into hell.”

The teaser then showed Rajini’s arrival in style, even as viewers got to catch a glimpse of the other characters in the film.

The film has triggered huge expectations among fans and the general public ever since the project was first announced.

In April this year, the makers had announced that the unit had wrapped up the film’s shooting. The makers had then shared pictures of a cake cutting ceremony that had taken place to mark the completion of filming

Yash’s ‘Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups’ gets off to a strong start as advance bookings open

Bangalore: The makers of director Geetu Mohandas’s much awaited pan Indian film, ‘Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups’, featuring actor Yash in the lead, on Friday announced the opening of the film’s advance bookings, much to the delight of eagerly waiting fans and film buffs.

Rocking Star Yash took to his X timeline to announce the opening of advance bookings. He wrote, “A fairy tale isn’t just what this film is. It’s also what making it was. One string of thought, talent from everywhere, each doing right by their craft, avalanching into TOXIC.

“Peculiar Alchemy,” as our Director calls it. Five days to go. Book now.” Sources in the industry claimed that advance bookings were now officially open and that the film had gotten off to a very strong start, reflecting the immense anticipation surrounding it.

The early response further underlined the audience pull surrounding Yash and the curiosity around a world that is en-



tirely new to the big screen, they claimed.

To mark the opening of bookings, the makers unveiled a special video featuring Rocking Star Yash, director Geetu Mohandas and the film’s ensemble cast. Through a collection of candid moments and reflections, actors Nayanthara, Kiara Advani, Tara Sutaria, Rukmini Vasanth,

Huma Qureshi, Akshay Oberoi and Sudev Nair shared what made Toxic a special film for them.

From the film’s distinctive world to Geetu Mohandas’s unconventional approach, the cast’s words offered a glimpse into the belief and excitement surrounding the film ahead of its theatrical release.

The announcement further built anticipation to see Yash back on the big screen following the phenomenal success of the ‘KGF’ franchise.

For the unaware, ‘KGF: Chapter 2’ had gone on to emerge as a global box-office phenomenon, grossing over Rs 1,200 crore worldwide, cementing Yash’s stature as one of Indian cinema’s biggest stars.

With ‘Toxic’, the actor returns with a film that has already generated significant anticipation for its scale, distinctive world and ambitious cinematic vision. ‘Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups’ is slated to hit screens worldwide on August 26 this year. Shot simultaneously in Kannada and English, the film will also be released in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam, taking its world to audiences across languages.