

Expedite Identification and Welfare Measures for Telangana Activists: Revanth to Officials

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday directed officials to expedite the process of identifying Telangana statehood activists and implementing welfare measures for them and their families. He was speaking during a meeting with a committee constituted by the government to identify the activists submitted a report on its consultations and recommendations.

The committee, headed by Dr K. Keshava Rao, briefed Revanth Reddy on the classification of Telangana movement activists and their major demands. The Chief Minister examined the report and responded positively to the requests made by the activists.

Among the demands placed before the government were allotment of 250-square-yard residential plots, Cheyutha pensions, health cards, free travel in TGSRTC buses and formal recognition for government employees who participated in the Telangana movement.

Revanth Reddy reiterated that it was the responsibility of the government to honour the contribution of those who had sacrificed their lives, careers and future for achieving statehood for Telangana and to extend support to their families. He directed the committee to complete the identification and welfare exer-



cise without any delay and at the earliest.

The Chief Minister also instructed senior officials to extend administrative support to the committee in carrying out the identification process. This includes developing an official web portal, receiving applications digitally, coordinating the exercise at the district level and providing the necessary administrative and technical resources.

The committee said it had recently conducted extensive consultations at the Amaraveerula Smarak (Amaradeepam) with more than 13,000 Telangana movement activists, besides representatives of various joint action committees, people's organisations, poets, artists and women activists. Details of the

consultations, a draft classification of activists and their key demands were presented to the Chief Minister.

The meeting was attended by committee members, who included MLC Prof. M. Kodandaram, committee executive member Mothe Shobhan Reddy and former MLC S. Ramulu Naik. Rajya Sabha member Vem Narender Reddy, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, CMO principal secretary V. Seshadri and senior officials were present.

Minor Irrigation Revival - Farmers Commission Submits Report To CM

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday called on the Telangana Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Commission to focus on issues such as crop diversification, increasing horticultural cultivation, and setting up farmer producer organizations.

Revanth Reddy was speaking with the commission members, who called on him on Saturday and submitted a report on minor irrigation that it had prepared. Commission chairman M. Kodanda Reddy briefed the Chief Minister on the recommendations in the report on ways and means to strengthen minor irrigation sources, and on their effective use in agriculture.



Among the recommendations were to re-establish a dedicated minor irrigation system with technical units to enhance water-use efficiency, set up command area-based management systems connecting minor and major irrigation resources, and the enactment of a special minor irrigation law for protection of tanks.

Kodanda Reddy, commission members Ramulu Naik, Ram Reddy Gopal Reddy, Gangadhar, and M. Bhavani Reddy were present.

A key suggestion was the need for immediate identification of full tank level (FTL) boundaries of tanks, removal of encroachments, and restoration of all minor irrigation tanks which, the

commission said, was essential for water security, agricultural stabilisation that in turn could contribute to rural livelihoods.

The Chief Minister expressed satisfaction at the group's work on the various programmes the commission took up in the last two years, and recommendations on various subjects it submitted to the government.

Telangana, Mauritius Explore Cooperation in IT, Tourism, Public Administration

The two ministers discussed ways to strengthen cooperation between Telangana and Mauritius in areas including public administration, tourism, IT and IT-enabled services (ITeS), emerging technologies, skill development and education

Telangana, Mauritius Explore Cooperation in IT, Tourism, Public Administration

Mauritius Minister for Public Service and Administrative Reforms Luchmanen Pethia meeting IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat here on Saturday. (Photo: By Arrangement)

Hyderabad: Mauritius Minister for Public Service and Administrative Reforms Luchmanen Pethia met IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat here on Saturday.

The two ministers discussed ways to strengthen cooperation between Telangana and Mauritius in areas including public administration, tourism, IT and IT-enabled services (ITeS), emerging technologies, skill development and education.

Pethia said Mauritius regarded Telangana as a trusted partner and expressed interest in collaboration in capacity building and modern administrative practices. He sought Telangana's support in enhancing the capabilities of



Mauritius government employees through training and knowledge-sharing initiatives.

The Mauritius Minister also expressed his government's interest in working with the MCRHRD, Young India Skills University and other educational and skill-development institutions in Telangana.

Sridhar Babu said Telangana was ready to extend its cooperation to Mauritius across sectors. He said the State government attached importance to international partnerships and knowledge exchange, particularly in areas where Telangana has developed expertise.

He also invited Pethia to participate in the Telangana Rising Global Summit 2026, to be organised by the State government on December 7 and 8.

GSLV-F17 To Launch EOS-05 On September 4

NELLORE: India is set to mark another milestone in its space programme with the launch of GSLV-F17 carrying EOS-05, the country's first-ever imaging satellite designed to operate from geosynchronous orbit, on September 4.

The GSLV-F17/EOS-05 mission is scheduled for 2.55 am from the Second Launch Pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. The launch vehicle will place EOS-05 into a Sub-Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (Sub-GTO).

EOS-05 is a state-of-the-art Earth observation spacecraft designed to capture detailed images of the Earth and provide data for monitoring and other applications that require regular observation of the land and environment.

GSLV-F17 will be the 19th flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The mission will use a four-metre-diameter, ogive-shaped composite payload fairing to protect the satellite during its ascent.

EOS-05 is described as India's first imaging satellite designed to operate from geosynchronous orbit. It is a replacement for GISAT-1A, which was lost in a launch failure in 2021.

The mission will be closely watched following two successive PSLV mission failures in 2025 and



early 2026. ISRO had temporarily paused launches to investigate the causes of the setbacks involving the launch vehicle. The failures had raised concerns, making the GSLV-F17/EOS-05 mission particularly significant as the space agency seeks to reinforce confidence in its launch programme.

The satellite is expected to strengthen India's capabilities in Earth imaging, monitoring and other applications requiring advanced observation data.

The mission marks another significant step in India's expanding space-based Earth observation programme and its efforts to deploy increasingly advanced satellite systems for national applications.

Remove 22A restrictions or BRS will gherao Sangareddy Collectorate: Harish Rao

Hyderabad: The Bharat Rashtia Samithi (BRS) has warned that it would lay siege to the Sangareddy Collectorate if properties placed in the prohibited category under Section 22A were not removed from the list.

BRS Deputy Floor Leader T Harish Rao on Saturday met families affected by the 22A issue at GMR Function Hall in Patancheru constituency.

The affected families said their decades-old properties had suddenly been included in the 22A prohibited list, preventing registrations and causing serious difficulties. Some also alleged that officials were demanding money to resolve their problems.

Addressing the gathering, Harish Rao alleged that nearly one lakh houses in Patancheru constituency had been included in the 22A list.

More than 50,565 acres across five mandals had been included in the prohibited list, he said. The affected areas included around 12,432 acres in Gummadidala, 3,200 acres in Ameenpur, 8,300 acres in Ramachandrapuram, 12,300 acres in Patancheru and 13,900 acres in Jinnaram, he stated.

He alleged that the 22A issue was affecting several parts of Hyderabad and its surrounding districts.



Harish Rao questioned the reported removal of properties belonging to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy from the 22A list.

"When the issue about their properties was also in the prohibited list, they were removed overnight without any application. If their properties can be removed without applications, why are ordinary people being forced to run from office to office?" he asked.

He also questioned the government's claim that 98 per cent of the properties had already been removed from the prohibited list.

Robust Arrangements for NEET-PG 2026 Examination

Candidates to be allowed into examination centres only between 7:30 AM and 8:45 AM: Collector Koya Sriharsha

Peddapalli Correspondent, August 29: District Collector Koya Sriharsha has directed officials to make foolproof arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of the NEET-PG 2026 examination in Peddapalli district. On Saturday, the Collector, along with DCP Ram Reddy, inspected the arrangements at three examination centres — Mother Teresa Engineering College at Peddakalva in Peddapalli mandal, Trinity Engineering College near Bandarikutta in Peddapalli, and JNTU Engineering College at Centenary Colony in Ramagiri mandal. Speaking on the occasion, Collector Koya Sriharsha said the NEET-PG 2026 examination would be conducted on August 30 from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Candidates would be permitted to enter the examination halls only between 7:30 AM and 8:45 AM. He advised candidates to bring an original photo identity card along with the original Permanent/Provisional MBBS Qualification Certificate and a self-attested photocopy of the certificate. He also instructed candidates to take a colour, back-to-back printout of the admit card on a single A4-size sheet as prescribed. Ensure uninterrupted power and medical facilities: The Collector directed TGNPDCL officials to take advance measures to ensure uninterrupted power supply at all examination centres. He instructed the DMHO to arrange health assistants and ensure that necessary medical facilities were readily available at the centres. Police officials were directed to make adequate security arrangements around the examination centres and ensure that no untoward incidents occurred. CCTV surveillance and mobile jammers: The Collector said CCTV surveillance and mobile jammers would be installed at the examination centres. Every candidate would undergo HHMD screening and manual body frisking. He directed officials to strictly follow the prescribed procedures during registration, including Aadhaar authentication, photograph capture, left-thumb impression, face comparison and barcode scanning. Electronic gadgets, watches, jewellery and shoes would not be permitted inside the examination centres, he clarified. Two flying squads deployed: Two flying squads have been constituted in the district to monitor the examination, the Collector said. The question paper would consist of five time-bound sections, with 42 minutes allotted for each section. Water bottles would be provided to candidates, while rough sheets and pens would not be provided. He further stated that candidates would not be permitted bio-breaks after registration is completed before the commencement of the examination. The Collector directed all concerned officials to work in close coordination and ensure the successful conduct of the examination. He instructed examination officials and staff to strictly follow all prescribed guidelines and ensure that candidates face no inconvenience. He also directed officials to keep all necessary infrastructure and basic amenities ready at the examination centres and take all precautionary measures to prevent any lapses in the examination process. Peddapalli RDO Gangaiah, Tahsildar Rajayya, Sultanabad Tahsildar Basheeruddin, Ramagiri Tahsildar Suman, examination centre administrators and officials from various departments were present.

AAP Demands Demolition of Alleged Illegal D-Mart Construction on Government Land in Sofinagar

Nirmal District: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has demanded the demolition of the alleged illegal construction of a D-Mart commercial building on government land in Survey No. 256 at Sofinagar, within Nirmal town limits. AAP Telangana Joint Secretary Syed Haider approached the Telangana Lokayukta in Hyderabad, alleging that a D-Mart commercial complex had been illegally constructed on government land worth crores of rupees. The complaint was filed as Complaint No. 412/2026/B1. Responding to the complaint and the documents submitted by Syed Haider, the Lokayukta directed the district administration to conduct a comprehensive inquiry and submit a detailed report. Accordingly, the Nirmal District Collector's office issued an official letter (Notice No. E/52/2024-1, dated August 11, 2026) to the Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) and the Nirmal Urban Tahsildar, directing them to submit a detailed inquiry report by September 8, 2026. Speaking to the media, Syed Haider alleged that the land had earlier been recorded as government land by the Collector, but that subsequent corrections were made in the records allegedly favouring private interests. He claimed to possess documents and evidence supporting his allegations. He further alleged that some Revenue and Municipal officials had colluded with private individuals, made changes to land records and facilitated permissions for the construction of the commercial complex. Syed Haider demanded that the government immediately take possession of the land in Survey No. 256, demolish the D-Mart building if it is found to have been constructed illegally, and initiate criminal and legal action against officials and others found responsible. He stated that the AAP would continue its legal and public fight until the alleged government land is reclaimed and the illegal construction is removed. He also appealed to the people of Nirmal to support the party's efforts.



Will Extend Full Support for Padmashali Sangam Development - Whip, MLA Aadi Srinivas

Vemulawada, August 29: The newly elected executive body of the Vemulawada Town Padmashali Sangam paid a courtesy visit to Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Shri Aadi Srinivas. On this occasion, they felicitated him with a shawl. Congratulating the new committee, MLA Aadi Srinivas assured that he would extend his full cooperation for the development of the Padmashali Sangam. He stated that the government is committed to the development of community associations. Association President Rampally Venkataramana, Vice Presidents Nagula Vishnu Prasad, Nadigatla Bhikshapati,



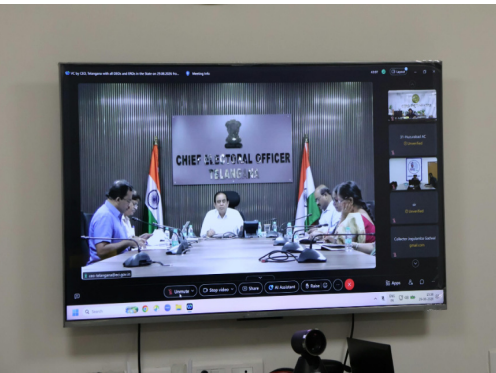
Vasam Bhoomesh, General Secretary Tatikonda Raju, Kukkula Balaraju along with secretaries, honorary presidents, advisors, assistant secretaries, directors and community elders participated in the program.

Speed Up Special Intensive Revision Process: CEO Sudarshan Reddy All Pending Notices Must Be Served Immediately; Complaints and Objections to Be Enquired Into Within the Stipulated Time

BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM, AUGUST 29: State Chief Electoral Officer Sudarshan Reddy has directed officials to further speed up the Special Intensive Revision process of electoral rolls and complete all related activities transparently within the stipulated time. Reviewing the progress of the programme through a video conference from Hyderabad on Saturday along with senior officials, Sudarshan Reddy interacted with Collectors, District Election Officers, Electoral Registration Officers and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers of all districts across the State. He issued key instructions regarding the service of notices, pending cases, enquiries and disposal of complaints and objections. The Chief Electoral Officer directed officials to ensure that all pending notices are served on the concerned persons without delay. He instructed them to take up enquiries after the completion of the stipulated seven-day period from the date of service of the notice. Complaints and objections should be enquired into and disposed of within the prescribed time, while all



relevant records must be examined promptly, he said. Sudarshan Reddy also instructed officials to make the lists of anomalies and unmapped voters available to the agents of recognised political parties. He stressed the need for extensive awareness campaigns to clearly inform the public about the documents and supporting evidence required while submitting claims and objections. The current status of claims and objections should be updated daily on the notice board, he said, adding that transparency and accountability must be maintained at every stage of the revision process. Officials were also directed to provide necessary training to Assistant Electoral Registration Officers appointed for the Special Intensive Revision process and hold meetings with representatives of



recognised political parties to further expedite the programme. Swift Action in the District: Collector Ankit Bhadradi Kothagudem District Collector Ankit said that notices had been issued to voters identified under anomalies and unmapped categories in the district and the relevant details had been updated in the application. He said the enquiry process relating to the notices was being completed and necessary steps were being taken to resolve the issues. Collector Ankit assured that the Special Intensive Revision process would be conducted transparently in accordance with the guidelines of the Election Commission of India and completed within the stipulated timeframe. Election staff and other concerned officials participated in the review meeting.

Nizamabad Celebrates Major Dhyana Chand Jayanti with Sports Events :

Nizamabad, August 29, 2026 : The District Youth and Sports Department organised Major Dhyana Chand Jayanti celebrations with great enthusiasm in Nizamabad under the leadership of District Youth and Sports Officer B. Pavan Kumar. The programme was held to commemorate the birth anniversary of Major Dhyana Chand, one of India's greatest hockey legends, and to promote the importance of sports among the younger generation.



District Olympic Association General Secretary Bobbili Narsaiah, Handball Association General Secretary Mohammed Yaseen, retired Physical Education Teacher and former SGF General Secretary A. Mohan, national-level hockey player Sai Vineeth, kabaddi player Meesala Prashanth, Suresh, Ganga Das and other sports department personnel and representatives of various sports associations participated in the programme. The celebrations began with a special prayer ceremony at the portrait of Major Dhyana Chand. The participating athletes were later administered a sports pledge, reaffirming their commitment to discipline, sportsmanship and dedication to their respective disciplines. Addressing the gathering, Bobbili Narsaiah advised young sportspersons to concentrate on regular training and continuous improvement. He said athletes should utilise every opportunity to develop their skills and aim for participation in national and international competitions. He also emphasised that consistent practice and determination are essential for achieving success in sports. The programme also featured felicitation of sportspersons and personalities who made significant contributions to the field. A. Mohan, who recently retired as a Physical Education Teacher and had earlier served as SGF General Secretary, was honoured for his long and dedicated service to physical education and sports development. Hockey player Sai Vineeth was felicitated for secur-

ing employment through the sports quota, while young athletes who represented at the national level were also recognised. Saanvi Reddy of St. Jude's School was honoured for participating in national-level kabaddi, while Manvi of Presidency School and Ayaz of Integral School were felicitated for their participation in national-level handball competitions. The celebrations reflected the department's efforts to encourage young talent and motivate athletes to pursue higher levels of achievement. The organisers said that recognising successful sportspersons would inspire other youngsters to take up sports seriously and work towards representing the district, State and country. DYSO B. Pavan Kumar thanked Physical Education Teachers, coaches, sports association office-bearers, staff and athletes for their cooperation and support in making the Major Dhyana Chand Jayanti celebrations a success.

Prasad Reddy provided financial assistance to the victim's family

Zaheerabad August: It is known that a couple from Bedampet village died in a road accident near Sajjapur in Kohir mandal of Sangareddy district. Congress leader Prasad Reddy expressed shock over this tragic incident. He visited the village on and met the family members and expressed his deepest condolences. He provided financial assistance of Rs 50,000 to the victim's family. He gave courage to the victim's family. Prasad Reddy assured that he would stand by them. Bedampet Sarpanch Dayanand, Municipal Councilor Sirisha, former Sarpanch Sudhakar, Deputy sarpanch Maisayya and others were present at the event.





Sunday 30, August, 2026

INDIAN RAILWAYS—BASIC AMENITIES OFF TRACK

A train journey in India is often romanticised by writers for providing a glimpse of stunning diversity, but a closer look at the condition of railway stations and passenger amenities tells a different story. A story of neglect, callousness and inefficiency. Whether it is in cleanliness, hygiene, infrastructure, safety or punctuality, Indian Railways fares poorly. The latest report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) paints a grim picture of the Railways and shows that the country's busiest public spaces continue to fail passengers on the basics. The findings expose systemic gaps in safety, sanitation and service delivery across a network that carries 292.4 crore non-suburban passengers annually through 5,908 stations and over 7,424 daily passenger trains. The audit of 512 stations across all 16 railway zones found that 458 stations, constituting 89%, lacked one or more mandatory Minimum Essential Amenities. Only 54 stations met the prescribed standards. Even premier stations such as New Delhi, Howrah and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus showed serious deficiencies. The Railways presents a curious paradox: while it has excelled in expanding the networks and become much better at building new assets, it continues to be poor at maintaining, operating and managing existing assets to high standards. The most alarming finding of the CAG concerns public health. Drinking water samples from platform taps tested positive for total coliform bacteria, including E. coli, at 49 stations in 2022-23 and 56 stations in 2023-24. Rail Freight

Further, bacteriological tests other than total coliforms were found to be unsatisfactory at eight stations across four zones in 2022-23 and 11 stations across five zones in 2023-24. The auditor also found that chemical testing of drinking water was not conducted by health inspectors at 179 stations across 11 railway zones. At another 77 stations in six zones, the tests were not carried out as frequently as required. As per the prescribed rules, drinking water should be tested twice a year. The fact that unsatisfactory test results were reported at different locations on multiple occasions indicates that the Railways needs to work out a more effective system to ensure provision of safe drinking water to passengers at all stations. Despite significant spending on station cleaning, sanitation remained inadequate at several stations. The Railways must strictly follow the prescribed protocols for inspecting water supply systems and testing drinking water quality. The audit also exposed chronic neglect of passenger facilities. Accessibility remained poor, with deficiencies in ramps, tactile pathways and accessible toilets. Perhaps the most damning finding is that this is not merely a funding problem. Between 36% and 44% of the passenger-amenity budget remained unspent for five consecutive years.

PM Modi to hold talks with Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in Tashkent

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Uzbekistan on Saturday for a two-day bilateral visit at President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's invitation. The two leaders are expected to discuss trade, investment, defence, technology, energy, education and other areas of bilateral cooperation.

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to visit Tashkent on Saturday for a two-day bilateral visit at the invitation of Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev. This will be Prime Minister Modi's fourth visit to Uzbekistan and he is scheduled to hold delegation-level talks with President Mirziyoyev to further strengthen the strategic partnership between the two countries. According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the two leaders would review cooperation in trade and investment, defence, digital connectivity, energy, education and people-to-people domains and set the agenda for the road ahead. They will also share perspectives on advancing the shared developmental visions of 'Viksit Bharat 2047' and 'Uzbekistan-2030'. PM Modi is also expected to visit the Shastri Memorial in Tashkent and the Mahatma Gandhi Centre at the Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies. This will be PM Modi's fourth visit to Uzbekistan, said Sibi George, Secretary (West) at MEA. He had earlier visited Uzbekistan and other Central Asian countries in 2015, followed by visits in 2016 and 2022 to

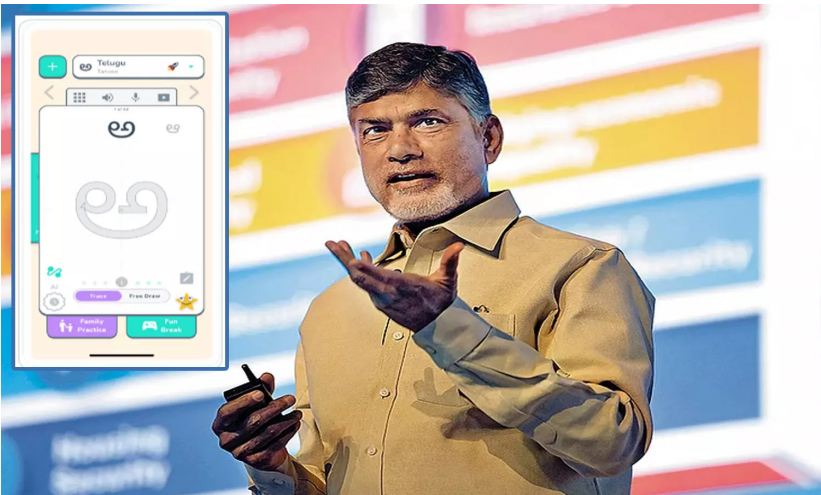


attend the SCO Summits. India and Uzbekistan have maintained extensive and fruitful engagements in both bilateral and multilateral formats over the past many years. The Uzbek President visited India for a State Visit in 2018 and also participated in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit in 2019. History PM Modi and Mirziyoyev met on the sidelines of COP28 in Dubai in 2023 and also in 2024, on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Kazan. The leaders last met in 2025 on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin, China. Discussions are expected to cover a wide range of areas of mutual interest and identify new avenues for strengthening bilateral cooperation, including trade and investment, critical minerals, healthcare, business-to-business engagement, education, space, technology, culture and people-to-people exchanges. "This engagement will provide an opportunity to highlight the long-standing cultural ties between India and Uzbekistan, as well as the important role of academic and people-to-people exchange in further strengthening the bilateral relationship," Secretary George noted dur-

ing a special media briefing on the visit of PM Modi to Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan on Thursday. At the Tashkent State University, Prime Minister Modi will also interact with Indologists and scholars. "The Prime Minister's visit will reaffirm the close, multi-faceted and growing strategic partnership between India and Uzbekistan," stated Secretary George. Following the State Visit to Uzbekistan, Prime Minister Modi will travel to Bishkek on August 31 to participate in the 26th SCO Summit. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the SCO and this year's theme is '25 Years of the SCO: Together Towards Sustainable Peace, Development, and Prosperity'. In May, SCO Secretary General Nurlan Yermekbayev, a former Defence Minister of Kazakhstan, visited India and also the Nalanda University. The programme elements for the upcoming SCO leadership summit in Bishkek include a welcome dinner on August 31 and the summit plenary the next day, where Prime Minister Modi will deliver his remarks. A number of bilateral engagements are also being planned on the sidelines in Bishkek.

CM Naidu Lauds Language App That Teaches Children To Learn Mother Tongue

Amaravati: On the occasion of Telugu Bhasha Dinotsavam (Telugu Language Day), on Saturday, a new educational app named Coolphabets was launched with the goal of helping children learn to read and write Indian languages, including Telugu. Announcing the launch, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu recalled the famous words of the Vijayanagara king Sri Krishnadevarayalu - "Desa bhashalandu Telugu lessa" which means among all the languages of the land, Telugu is supreme, noting that the sentiment behind those words remains just as relevant today. He stressed that Telugu must not merely survive in everyday conversation but must stay vibrantly alive in written form, passed down through generations of readers and writers.



Speaking about the need for such an initiative, he observed that today's digital-first generation of children is growing increasingly distant from reading and handwriting in Telugu. He also emphasized that a love for the language and the script must be cultivated from early childhood if the Telugu lipi (script) is to con-

tinue shining in the hands of future generations. "I congratulate Kollu Ranjith, Venkat Yeleti and their team. It is heartening that the app is being released on the occasion of Telugu Language Day. It is delightful that the app has been designed to examine children's handwriting with AI technology and provide necessary guidance. Technology should not distance us from our language... it should bring us closer. Our language, our script is the address of our culture, the identity of our Telugu community. I wish that our Telugu language should shine forever in future generations, the Chief Minister wrote in a message shared on social media

Congress Always Relied on Lies: Ramchander Rao



Hyderabad: Telangana BJP President N Ramchander Rao on Saturday targeted the Congress after Penguin Random House India backed out of publishing Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi's memoir - Belonging: A Journey of Love, saying the publisher's decision to seek a fact-check of certain incidents raises questions over the claims made in the book. Speaking to ANI, Rao said there had been "a lot of hype" around Sonia Gandhi's memoir, but the publisher's request for fact-checking itself showed that the Congress had "always relied on lies and tried to create stories." "There has been a lot of hype around the memoir written by Sonia Gandhi. However, the publisher has now requested a fact-check of certain incidents, which itself shows that Congress has always relied on lies and tried to create stories. When an autobiography itself comes under scrutiny and requires fact-checking, the claims made by Congress leaders must definitely be questioned. The readers must also verify for themselves how many lies it contains," Rao said.

BJP National Spokesperson CR Kesavan, speaking in Chennai, also hit out at the Congress over its reaction to the memoir. "Congress leaders attempting to spin stories and fabricate a false narrative of fear over the release of Sonia Gandhi's memoir is not merely ironic; it is glaringly hypocritical," Kesavan said. He questioned Congress leaders who were claiming that there was fear over the contents of the memoir, asking them to explain why the "Congress First Family" was allegedly "nervous and jittery" about making public 51 carton boxes containing correspondence of former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. "These Congress leaders should tell their Congress First Family why the Congress First Family is so nervous and jittery that they are not making public the 51 carton boxes of Nehru's correspondence, which also contain Nehru's letters to Edwin Montagu," he said.

PM Modi Must Order Filing of FIR: Rahul on Kharge Purification Row

New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday attacked the BJP-RSS over the 'shuddhikaran' (purification) ceremony carried out at the venue of a rally addressed by AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge in Haldwani earlier this month, saying it was a "crime" and Prime Minister Narendra Modi must order the registration of an FIR in the matter. The Leader of Opposition said this incident shows the BJP-RSS mindset that they do not want the Dalits to progress and live with respect and be successful. "We are demanding justice for the Congress president. Give the Congress president justice in Uttarakhand. It is the duty of the central and state governments to ensure that Kharge gets justice," he said at a press conference here.



Bhadrachalam Gears Up for Godavari Pushkarams 2027

**Construction of Pushkaram Ghats Begins
Works to Be Taken Up in Three Phases at a Cost of Rs. 49 Crore
All Works to Be Completed by March Next Year
Special Arrangements Planned for Devotees
Collector Ankit and MLA Dr. Tellam Venkat Rao Participate in Bhoomi Puja**

BHADRACHALAM: Bhadrachalam is gearing up for the Godavari Pushkarams to be held in 2027. As part of the preparations to provide better facilities to devotees, construction works for Pushkaram ghats commenced on Saturday along the Godavari riverfront.

Bhadradri Kothagudem District Collector Ankit and Bhadrachalam MLADr. Tellam Venkat Rao participated as chief guests in the special Bhoomi Puja organised to mark the beginning of the works.

Vedic rituals were performed by priests in the presence of the Collector and MLA. Following the prayers, earthwork was formally commenced with the help of a JCB.

Rs. 49 Crore for Three Phases
Speaking on the occasion, Collector Ankit said that works for the Godavari Pushkarams 2027 would be taken up in three phases. The State Government has sanctioned Rs. 46.65 crore for the first phase, Rs. 1.75 crore for the second phase and Rs. 60 lakh for the third phase.

He said that the total works would be carried out at an estimated cost of around Rs. 49 crore and all Pushkaram-related works would be completed by March next year.

Works to Be Extended to Several Areas
The Collector said that Pushkaram ghat works would first be taken up in Bhadrachalam, followed by Parnasala in Dummugudem Mandal and Mothe Pattinagar area in Burgampadu Mandal.

Subsequently, works would also be undertaken at Chinnaravigudem, Ramanujavaram and Ramachandrapuram areas in Mulugu district.

No Inconvenience to Devotees
Bhadrachalam MLA Dr. Tellam Venkat Rao said that the Godavari Pushkarams would be held in June and July 2027 along the Telangana-Andhra Pradesh border areas. He directed officials to complete all works in a coordinated manner so that devotees would not face any inconvenience.

He said Pushkaram ghat works would also be taken up in border areas such as Wazeedu and Venkatapuram.

The MLA instructed officials to make comprehensive arrangements including bathing ghats, toilets, drinking water and other basic amenities for the convenience of devotees.



Special Focus on Katt Road Service Road
Dr. Tellam Venkat Rao directed the Roads and Buildings Department officials to prepare a comprehensive plan and take necessary steps to ensure a full-fledged service road in the Bhadrachalam Katt Road area.

He said advance measures should be taken to ensure smooth movement of the large number of devotees expected to visit Bhadrachalam during the Pushkarams.

Rs. 351 Crore Temple Development Works
The MLA said development and renovation works at the Bhadrachalam Sri Sitaramachandra Swamy Temple are currently being carried out with Rs. 351 crore sanctioned by the State Government.

He said Collector Ankit and concerned officials were regularly reviewing the progress of the temple works and taking steps to speed them up.

He called upon officials and staff of all departments to work in coordination and complete the Godavari Pushkaram works within the stipulated time.

“The Telangana Government is giving special attention to the development of Bhadrachalam and the facilities for devotees. We will protect Bhadrachalam like the apple of our eye and ensure its comprehensive development,” MLA Dr. Tellam Venkat Rao said.

Temple Executive Officer Damodar Rao, former MLC Balasani Lakshminarayana, Irrigation Chief Engineer Srinivas Reddy, Superintending Engineer Maheshwara Rao, Deputy Engineer Bhagyaraj Rathod, Executive Engineer Jani, Bhadrachalam Sarpanch Punem Krishna, Panchayat Executive Officer Srinivas, Tahsildar Ravi, Ward Member Subba Rao, local representatives Bhogala Srinivas Reddy and Budagam Srinivas, Assistant Executive Engineer Raviteja and others participated in the programme

BJP Demands Immediate Release of Pending Student Fee Reimbursement, Scholarships

Nagar Kurnool : BJP Nagar Kurnool district president Vemula Narender Rao demanded the immediate release of pending fee reimbursement and scholarship funds for students. A one-day hunger strike was organised at the district headquarters under his leadership with the slogan “Fee Dues – BJP Fight.”

Speaking on the occasion, Narender Rao alleged that nearly ₹15,000 crore in fee reimbursement dues were pending across Telangana, causing hardship to students and affecting their higher education and employment opportunities. He alleged that colleges were withholding original certificates due to pending fee payments and urged the government to clear the dues immediately.

He also criticised the State government for failing to clear fee reimbursement dues for OBC and EBC students and urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to focus on students' future. He demanded that colleges be in-



structed not to withhold certificates and that a regular calendar be introduced for timely release of scholarships.

Narender Rao warned that the BJP would intensify its agitation across colleges and villages if the government failed to clear the pending dues. BJP leaders and activists, including Nagender Goud, Dhannoju Naresh Chary, Jeti Venkatesh, Padma Yadav, Chandrakala, Pramod Kumar and others, participated in the protest.

SIR Review : Commissioner Directs Staff to Ensure Error-Free Voter Notice Process :

Nizamabad August 29, 2026 : As part of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, the Hon'ble Commissioner S.Dilip Kumar conducted a detailed field-level inspection in Divisions 29, 30, 31 and 54 on Saturday.

During the inspection, the Commissioner reviewed the implementation of various SIR activities, particularly the distribution and receipt of notices issued to voters. The Commissioner instructed the concerned election personnel to ensure that notices reach the re-



spective voters properly and that the receiving process is carried out systematically.

The Commissioner also reviewed the online data-entry process relating to the notices received from voters and directed the staff to enter all details accurately and without any errors or delays. Special emphasis was placed on maintaining proper records and ensuring transparency throughout the process.

The Commissioner further directed the election officials to coordinate effectively and complete all election-related activities strictly in accordance with the prescribed guidelines and procedures. The staff were advised to remain vigilant and ensure that the SIR exercise is completed efficiently and smoothly.

FAST-TRACKED WORKS FOR GODAVARI PUSHKARAMS Special Focus on Bhadrachalam and Other Pushkar Ghats All Facilities to Be Ready for Devotees: Collector Ankit

B H A D R A D R I KOTHAGUDEM DISTRICT, AUGUST 29: With the Godavari Pushkarams scheduled to be held in June–July 2027, the Bhadradri Kothagudem district administration has stepped up preparations to ensure smooth and convenient arrangements for devotees. District Collector Ankit said that immediate steps are being taken to begin infrastructure and facility development works at various Pushkar Ghats across the district.

The preparations for the prestigious Godavari Pushkarams were reviewed through a video conference held on Saturday from Hyderabad by Endowments Department Principal Secretary Shailaja Ramaiyer and Commissioner Hanumantha Rao with Collectors of the concerned districts.

As the government is planning to organise the Godavari Pushkarams on a grand scale similar to the Kumbh Mela, officials were directed to make extensive arrangements at all Pushkar Ghats. The approved works are to be launched immediately in the presence of Ministers and other public representatives.



It was also suggested that an experienced senior officer be appointed as a Special Officer to monitor the Pushkaram works. In cases where land acquisition is required, proposals should be submitted without delay. With only about ten months remaining for the mega religious event, officials were instructed to speed up all infrastructure works and complete them within the stipulated time.

Weekly reviews will be conducted to monitor the progress of the works, and regular reports will have to be submitted to the government.

Participating in the video conference from the Collectorate, Collector Ankit said special attention is being given to the Bhadrachalam Pushkar Kshetram, where a huge influx of devotees is expected. He said works will be taken up immediately under the coordination of the Endowments, Irrigation, Panchayat Raj and Roads and Buildings departments.

The Collector further stated that field-level inspections are also being carried out for the development of Pushkar Ghats at Parnasala and Mothapatti Nagar in the Godavari river basin areas of the district.

As a large number of devotees, along with VIPs and VVIPs, are expected to attend the Pushkarams, comprehensive arrangements will be made for vehicle parking, better road connectivity, emergency exit routes and other essential facilities.

Collector Ankit directed the officials to accord top priority to approach roads leading to the Pushkar Ghats, repairs and strengthening of the ghats, and other infrastructure works required for the safe and smooth movement of devotees.

The Bhadradri Kothagudem administration is gearing up to make the 2027 Godavari Pushkarams a grand and memorable event, with devotees' safety and convenience as the top priority.

Financial Discipline Key to a Bright Future for Singareni

**GM (Finance & Accounts) N. Chakravarthy Visits Manuguru Area
Calls for Collective Efforts to Increase Production and Productivity
Grand Felicitation Held for Chakravarthy Ahead of His Retirement**

MANUGURU: Singareni will have a brighter and stronger future only when everyone works with financial discipline, said N. Chakravarthy, General Manager (Finance & Accounts), during his visit to the Manuguru Area.

On his arrival at the GM Office, In-charge General Manager D. Venkata Rama Rao extended a warm welcome and felicitated him with a shawl.

Speaking on the occasion, Chakravarthy said that it had been a matter of great satisfaction for him to serve Singareni in various capacities throughout his long and distinguished career. He said he had contributed to the growth and development of the organisation while discharging responsibilities in different positions. Currently serving as GM (Finance & Accounts), he informed that he would retire at the end of this month.

He said financial discipline was extremely important for ensuring a bright future for Singareni. The organisation's financial resources should be utilised efficiently, keeping its long-term interests in mind, while unnecessary expenditure should be strictly controlled, he said.

Chakravarthy called upon every employee and officer to discharge their duties responsibly and give top priority to disciplined financial management.

He further stressed that employees, trade union leaders and officers should move forward collectively with a common goal for the overall development of the Manuguru Area. Through mutual cooperation and coordination, efforts should be intensified to further increase production and productivity, he said.

Only through unity and collective efforts can the Manuguru Area be taken further on the path



of development and Singareni be elevated to greater heights, he added.

In-charge General Manager D. Venkata Rama Rao praised N. Chakravarthy for his dedicated and distinguished services to Singareni while serving in various capacities. He said Chakravarthy's experience, commitment and contribution, particularly in financial matters, were highly commendable.

He conveyed his best wishes to Chakravarthy on his retirement after rendering long and valuable services to the organisation.

Officials and employees wished Chakravarthy a healthy, happy and peaceful retired life with his family. On the occasion, he was grandly felicitated in recognition of his long-standing and distinguished services to Singareni.

AGM (IED) C.H. Rambabu, AGM (Personnel) S. Ramesh, Area Engineer V. Madhan Naik, Manuguru Open Cast Project Officer E. Srinivas, Quality Department Officer Naga Ramesh, DGM (Survey) L. Dayakar, DGM (Civil) G. Siva Prasad, Finance Manager P. Ramesh, along with officials and employees from various departments, participated in the programme

12th edition of Telangana Golconda Masters tees-off on September 1

Field to feature Saptak Talwar (DP World PGTI Order of Merit leader), Honey Baisoya, Veer Ahlawat, Rashid Khan, local lad Mohd Azhar and defending champion Jamal Hossain

Prize Purse of INR 1 crore

Hyderabad, August 29, 2026: The DP World Professional Golf Tour of India (DP World PGTI), the official sanctioning body of professional golf in India, will be staging the Telangana Golconda Masters 2026 at the Hyderabad Golf Association (HGA) from September 1 – 4, 2026. The prize purse for the event is INR 1 crore.

The tournament was jointly announced by Shri Jupally Krishna Rao, Honourable Minister of Prohibition & Excise, Tourism & Culture and Archaeology, Government of Telangana and Mr. Kapil Dev, President, DP World PGTI, during a press conference held at Hyderabad Golf Association on Saturday, 29th August.

The tournament which will witness participation by 132 golfers is supported by Event Partners Telangana Tourism, Hyderabad Golf Association, The Westin Hyderabad Mindspace, The Q Golf Studio by Playroot Golf, Tour Partners DP World, Axis Bank, Amul, Enerlyte, Air India Maharaja Club, Kalyani, Golf Plus Monthly and Golf De-

sign India. The Government of Telangana has supported the event from its inception in 2015.

The top Indian professionals in the fray include DP World PGTI Order of Merit leader Saptak Talwar, Honey Baisoya, Veer Ahlawat, Rashid Khan, Akshay Sharma and Om Prakash Chouhan, to name a few.

The prominent foreign players in the field are defending champion Jamal Hossain of Bangladesh, Badal Hossain also from Bangladesh, Czech Republic's Stepan Danek, Sri Lankans N Thangaraja and Mithun Perera, Nepal's Subash Tamang, Uganda's Joshua Seale and the Japanese duo of Koichiro Ishika and Taiga Tanaka.

The local challenge will be led by Hyderabad-based professionals Mohd Azhar, Vishesh Sharma and Rupinder Singh Gill.

The tournament is part of the Race to DP World India Championship which is a competition to crown the DP World PGTI's number one player. This competition will



also determine the top-24 players from the DP World PGTI Order of Merit who will earn their spots at the season-ending DP World India Championship.

Shri Jupally Krishna Rao, Honourable Minister of Prohibition & Excise, Tourism & Culture and Archaeology, Government of Telangana, said, "We are delighted to be associated with the 12th edition of the Telangana Golconda Masters, a prestigious tournament that has established itself as an important event on the Indian golfing calendar. With the tournament

carrying Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR) points and attracting some of the leading professional golfers from India as well as overseas, it provides Telangana with an excellent platform to showcase its rich tourism potential to a global audience.

"Hyderabad, with its unique blend of history, heritage, culture and modernity, offers tremendous opportunities for golf tourism. The magnificent Hyderabad Golf Club, located against the iconic backdrop of the historic Golconda Fort, provides a truly distinc-

tive setting for this championship and highlights the immense potential of Telangana as a golf tourism destination.

"The Tourism Department, Government of Telangana, is proud to have been associated with the International Event - Telangana Golconda Masters for several years and looks forward to continuing this partnership to further promote golf tourism and position Telangana as a preferred destination for both domestic and international visitors. I

extend a warm welcome to all the participating golfers, officials and visitors to Telangana and wish all the players an exciting and successful tournament."

Mr. Kapil Dev, President, DP World Professional Golf Tour of India (DP World PGTI), said, "We are extremely excited to return for the 12th edition of the Telangana Golconda Masters, an event that has established itself as one of the most eagerly-awaited tournaments on the DP World PGTI schedule. We are

grateful to Telangana Tourism for its continued support and partnership in taking the tournament from strength to strength, and we thank the Hyderabad Golf Association for once again providing us with an excellent venue. The tournament will go a long way in promoting Telangana and the city of Hyderabad as a leading destination for golf tourism. With a strong field and great playing conditions provided by the HGA, we look forward to another exciting and closely-fought contest at the Telangana Golconda Masters."

Mr. Jasvinder Singh Birgi, Captain, Hyderabad Golf Association (HGA), said, "We are honored to host the 12th edition of the prestigious Telangana Golconda Masters at the Hyderabad Golf Association. It is a proud moment for us to welcome some of the country's finest golfing talent to our course. This tournament is a great opportunity for our members to witness top-tier competition and it also showcases our magnificent golf course to a global

audience through the Live Telecast. The players will compete to win the magnificent trophy depicting the historic Golconda Fort which was launched by HGA during the first edition of the event. We look forward to an exciting week of world-class golf."

Promoted by the Telangana Tourism Development Corporation and the Hyderabad Golf Association (HGA), the 212-acre expanse provides an 18-hole, 6017-yard, par-70 layout that also features a floodlit driving range, a pro shop, a golf fitting shop, and training & practice facilities. A modern clubhouse with dining hall, lounge, open deck, change rooms, and trained staff is also in place.

The 'Best Tourism Friendly Golf Course' award bestowed on it by National Tourism, reiterates the pleasant experience that HGA provides. The Hyderabad Golf Club offers 18 challenging holes that bring players up close with the heritage and beauty of the Deccan hinterland - Golconda Fort and Naya Quila in particular.

Honorary Doctorate Conferred on Social Activist and Juvenile Justice Board Member Gouni Vasu Goud,

Nirmal District : Prominent social activist Gouni Vasu Goud, a native of Avurupalli village in Madugula Mandal of Rangareddy district and currently serving as a Juvenile Justice Board Member for Rangareddy, Vikarabad, Sangareddy and Medak districts, has received a prestigious honour.

In recognition of his outstanding services in the fields of rehabilitation, reintegration, restoration, care and protection of children in conflict with the law, the United American University for Leadership and Excellence conferred upon him an Honorary Doctorate.

The award was presented at a ceremony held at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday in Puducherry. Vasu Goud received the honour from the organisation's Founder and Chairman K. Venkatesham, India Country Director Sukumar, and Deputy Director Vijay Mohan.

Vasu Goud has been consistently responding to public issues and actively participating in child rights protection, welfare and various so-



cial service initiatives. The conferment of the honorary doctorate has brought great joy and pride to the people of his native village, Avurupalli. Several public representatives, social activists and well-wishers congratulated him on receiving the prestigious honour.

MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Honours Retiring Headmaster for 37 Years of Dedicated Service

Services Rendered to Education and Rural Students are Truly Memorable, Says MLA Payam

A grand felicitation and farewell programme was organised in honour of Punem Venkateswara Rao, who retired after rendering 37 years of dedicated service in the field of education as a teacher and Headmaster at a Mandal Parishad Primary School in Aswapuram Mandal.

Pinapaka Constituency MLA Payam Venkateswarlu attended the



programme as the chief guest and felicitated the retiring Headmaster with a shawl and a bouquet.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA praised Punem Venkateswara Rao for his long and dedicated service, stating that he had played a significant role in educating students and shaping their future over the past 37 years.

MLA Payam said that Punem Venkateswara Rao had not limited his services to teaching alone but had also efficiently discharged several additional government responsibilities, including flood duty, population census duties and responsibilities as a Mandal Resource Person.

He further appreciated the retiring Headmaster for his commitment and dedication to duty, which earned him recognition as a District Best Teacher and appreciation at the Collector level.

The MLA said that the services rendered by Punem Venkateswara Rao in providing quality education to students in rural areas and contributing to their academic development would always be remembered. He expressed hope that even after retirement, he would continue to serve society as a guide and inspiration to others.

MLA Payam Venkateswarlu conveyed his heartfelt wishes to Punem Venkateswara Rao and wished him a healthy, peaceful and happy life with his family after retirement.

Mandal President Oruganti Ramesh Babu, teachers, education department officials, district leaders, local public representatives, students, school staff, villagers, family members and well-wishers of the retiring Headmaster participated in the programme.

Journalists take care of their health

Warangal District DCC President Mohammed Ayub Ayub hands over LOC to senior journalist Vanam Bhaskar

Warangal, Bureau; Senior journalist Vanam Bhaskar from Warangal East constituency has been undergoing treatment at NIMS Hospital in Hyderabad due to his recent deterioration in health. Warangal District Congress Party President Mohammed Ayub, who came to know about Vanam Bhaskar's health condition, immediately responded and took special measures to ensure that he gets better treatment. In addition, on Saturday, he took necessary steps to provide him with free treatment through a LOC letter of credit and coordinated with the concerned authorities. On this occasion, District Congress Party President Mohammed Ayub said that journalists, who constantly work as a bridge between the government and the people and public representatives, must take proper care of their health. Society will be better only if you, who influence the society, are healthy. He especially wished senior journalist Vanam Bhaskar a speedy recovery and a full recovery. He said that the Congress Party will always support the welfare of journalists who serve the society. Mohammed Ayub said that they will keep abreast of Vanam Bhaskar's health condition from time to time and will work to provide him with the necessary help.



Neeraj Chopra ruled out of Asian Games with ankle ligament tear

Two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra has been ruled out of the Asian Games after suffering a ligament tear in his ankle during training. Chopra, who recently recorded a season-best throw in Lausanne, will also miss the Diamond League Final.

New Delhi: India's two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra on Saturday announced that he has suffered ligament tear in his ankle during training, ruling him out of the upcoming Asian Games. Stream History Documentaries

Chopra said in a social media post that he sustained the injury shortly after producing a season-best throw in Lausanne.

"After a period of hard work, I finally felt I was gaining the momentum I had been looking for with a Season's Best throw in Lausanne," Chopra said.

"Unfortunately, shortly after, I sustained a ligament tear in my ankle during training. After discussions with my doctor and team,



we've decided that I will sit out the rest of this season. It's disappointing, especially because I felt close to finding my rhythm. But as they say, setbacks are a part of the journey." "My focus now is on recovering well and coming back even stronger," he added.

Chopra's withdrawal from the season also means he will miss the Diamond League Final, for which he had qualified.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi reveals how he became East Zone's surprise wicket-taker in Duleep Trophy

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi impressed with the ball in his Duleep Trophy 2026 debut for East Zone, taking two wickets in three overs. The 15-year-old batter enjoyed his bowling stint and called himself a "wicket-taker" after the team's emphatic win.

New Delhi: 15-year-old sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi opened up about his recent bowling burst in the opening match of the Duleep Trophy 2026 for East Zone after the tormenting batter switched to a bowling role with perfection, taking two wickets in a three-over spell against North East Zone.

The teenage sensation discussed his switch of hats during the match and shared how he felt when bowling and taking two wickets in the second innings of the game, which his team won by an innings and 210 runs on Tuesday.

"If you ask any batter, they always enjoy bowling. A batter always enjoys bowling and a bowler always enjoys batting equally," Sooryavanshi said in a video posted by BCCI Domestic.

Sooryavanshi, who was appointed vice-captain of the zonal side and deputy to Ishan Kishan, opened up about the skipper's decision to bowl him and described himself as a "wicket-taker".

"Opponent team's wickets weren't falling, so I was asked to bowl two or three overs. Ishan Bhaiya felt like he was taking a risk, but he didn't knew that I am a wicket-taker," he added.

In the second innings, the Bihar star bowled just three overs but made a significant impact by taking two wickets in a single over. The 15-year-old, who bowls occasional left-arm spin, got Kishan Lyngdoh caught in deep covers with a ball that tempted the batter to go



aerial. Three balls later, he claimed another wicket when he nicked behind Southpaw Imliwati Lemtur, allowing Kishan to secure a sharp catch behind.

Sooryavanshi spoke on what he had in his mind while bowling the spell. "I had only one thing in my mind: that even if I take five wickets, I'm only going to get to bowl three overs only. So (the plan) was to bowl as well as I can and target one spot only and finish my spell well."

The Rajasthan Royals batter, who now has four First Class wickets, did not set the stage alight with the bat in his usual style, as he was dismissed for just eight in the only innings his team batted. However, he enjoyed making an impact with the ball.

"It was a lot of fun because batting didn't go so well in the match. So, contributing with the ball was great. And of course, when a batter takes a wicket, there's no greater enjoyment than that, so it was a lot of fun!" he concluded.

Sooryavanshi's side has reached the semifinals of the red-ball tournament and will face South Zone in the second semifinal at the BCCI Centre of Excellence Ground 2 in Bengaluru. The match will begin at 9:30 AM on Sunday. The final will begin on September 6.

IND vs SL: Dinusha's Ton Helps Sri Lanka To a Draw in 2nd Test, India Win Series 1-0

Colombo: Sonal Dinusha continued his excellent run of form to score his third century of the series and help Sri Lanka draw the second Test against India on the fifth and final day here on Thursday. India, who won the two-match series 1-0 after their big victory in the first Test in Galle last week, were hoping for an encore here after taking a healthy first-innings lead of 213 runs, but Dinusha (133 not out) came in their way yet again and helped the home team to a draw after stretching their overall lead to 216 runs.

Sri Lanka were 429/9 when both teams agreed to call off the match. Dinusha, who had scored 103 in the first innings of this game and a maiden hundred in the series opener in Galle last week, forged a seventh-wicket partnership of



112 runs with Keshara Nuwantha (46) to lead the home team's resistance in the second innings after they were forced to enforce follow-on on the fourth day. Resuming at the overnight score of 229 for six, an in-form Dinush and Keshara Nuwantha frustrated the Indians with their resilient batting on a fifth day pitch after conceding the big lead to India. For India, Manav Suthar returned figures of 3/121 in 41 overs and Ravindra Jadeja ended with 3/94 in 38.3 overs. Brief Scores: India: 503/9 declared. Sri Lanka: 290 all out and 429/9 in 154 overs (Sonal Dinusha 133 not out, Pasindu Sooriyabandara 92, Kamindu Mendis 55; Manav Suthar 3/121, Ravindra Jadeja 3/94).

SPORTS



Hockey India Announces Cash Reward For Women's Team After 5th Place WC Finish

New Delhi: Hockey India on Friday announced a cash award of Rs 50 lakh for the Indian Women's Hockey Team in recognition of their historic fifth-place finish at the FIH Hockey Women's World Cup, Belgium and Netherlands 2026.

Salima Tete's side sealed the milestone with a 3-1 win over World No. 5 Germany in the 5th/6th place classification match in Amstelveen on Thursday, marking India's best result at the tournament since they finished fourth at the inaugural edition in 1974, according to Hockey India, according to a Hockey India.

The team went through the campaign with just one defeat, holding higher-ranked sides China, England and Australia to draws and recording a 6-1 win over South Africa, before completing their run under Chief Coach Sjoerd Marijne with the win over Germany. Congratulating the team on the achievement, Hockey India President Padma Dilip Tirkey said, "This is a historic result for Indian women's hockey. To finish fifth at a World Cup after 52 years is a testament to the hard work, resilience and fighting



spirit this team has shown throughout the tournament. On behalf of Hockey India, I am pleased to announce a cash award of Rs 50 lakh for the team as a token of our appreciation, and I hope this inspires the players to keep raising the bar." Reflecting the President's sentiments, Hockey India Secretary General Bhola Nath Singh said, "Salima and her team have done the country proud with a campaign that saw them compete with, and hold their own against, some of the best sides in the world.

This announcement is our way of recognising their commitment and hard work, and we hope it further motivates the team as they turn their focus towards the Asian Games." India entered the 5th/6th place classification match after losing only one game in the tournament, to the Netherlands. They also managed draws against higher-ranked teams, China, Australia and England. Germany dominated large parts of the first half, keeping India's attacking unit under pressure.

Both teams failed to break the deadlock in the opening two quarters, with Germany creating more chances and earning penalty corners, but India's goalkeeper Bichu Devi and the defence stood firm. India showed greater attacking intent after the half-time break and turned the match around with a brilliant display in the third quarter. Ishika Chaudhary opened the scoring in the 43rd minute with a superb reverse-lift finish after making a strong run into the circle. India soon doubled their lead when they earned their first penalty corner of the match. Navneet Kaur converted the opportunity in the 44th minute to make it 2-0. Navneet continued her impressive performance and scored her second goal in the 47th minute, calmly lifting the ball past the goalkeeper to give India a three-goal cushion.

Germany reduced the deficit through Lynn Krings in the 59th minute after converting a rebound, but India held their nerve in the final moments to secure a 3-1 victory. Goalkeeper Savita Punia also played a crucial role, making important saves, including a penalty corner stop in the final quarter, to help India close out the match.

Asian Games Chiefs Say Room For Everyone Amid Accommodation Crunch

Tokyo: Asian Games organisers said Friday that all participants at next month's event would have a place to stay after numbers ballooned to more than 17,000, raising fears of a bed shortage. About 15,000 athletes and officials were initially expected at the Games, which are being held in Nagoya and the wider Aichi area from September 19 to October 4. That was already more than the Olympics, but the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) last week put the number at 17,000 -- 11,000 athletes and 6,000 officials.

There is no dedicated athletes' village, organisers instead relying on a cruise ship, temporary wooden containers and hotels. In March, the OCA added teqball and padel to the sporting programme. Organising committee president Hideaki Omura said earlier this week that they had "neither the manpower nor the budget to make the necessary arrangements" for extra participants. "If they still wish to come, they will have to make their own arrangements," said Omura, who also serves as the governor of Aichi Prefecture.

A joint statement from the organising committee and the OCA said accommodation had been found. "All the 17,000+ athletes and officials that are registered for the Asian Games before the closing of Entry by Name in July have been



provided with Games-appropriate accommodation," the statement said. "Unless there are exceptional circumstances, no further registrations have been or will be permitted."

A statement issued only in the name of the organising committee also on Friday said that the number of participants "fluctuates daily" and had not yet been finalised. They also acknowledged that "it is now anticipated that the number of delegation members will exceed 15,000". Organisers have opted for temporary athlete accommodation to cut costs, hiring the Italian cruise ship Costa Serena for the event.

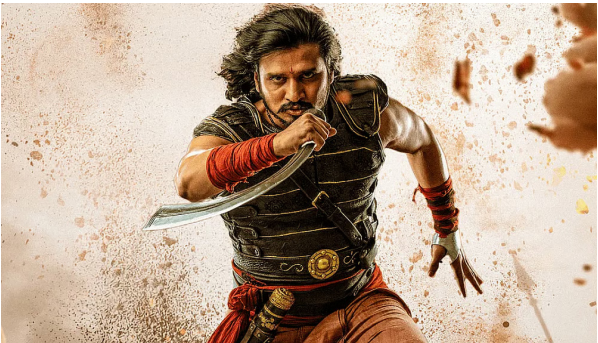
Between 4,000 and 5,000 athletes will stay on the ship, while a further 2,000 athletes and officials will stay in the shipping container-style huts. The rest will be in hotels, including in Tokyo, where swimming, diving and equestrian events will take place. The local organising committee said reports that they were looking to reduce the number of participants were not true. Instead, they said, "certain team officials would arrange their own accommodation". Officials are confident that the plan will not be disrupted by Japan's typhoon season, which is usually in full swing in September-October. "The final preparations are all on track and progressing smoothly ahead of what promises to be the most spectacular Asian Games held for generations," the organising committee and the OCA said in a joint statement.

Buzz: Nikhil To Lock Horns With Devarakonda

One of the most delayed films in recent times, which is on the verge of postponement when it comes to its release, is none other than Nikhil's Swayambhu.

One of the most delayed films in recent times, which is on the verge of postponement when it comes to its release, is none other than Nikhil's Swayambhu. Riding high on the success of Karthikeya 2, the hero came up with this Magadheera-like epic film, whose release date was announced a couple of times but postponed again.

The latest update is that Nikhil wants to jump into the Dasara race by locking October 15th as the release date. Already, another period film, Vijay Devarakonda's Ranabali also locked the Dasara date only,



as Mythri Movie Makers has recently announced that they are hitting cinemas on the 16th. All these days, with Superstar Rajnikanth's Jailer 2 locking the 15th, many thought that the Telugu slot would be locked by Megastar Chiranjeevi's Vishwambhara and hence no other movie announced their dates for Dasara.

Now that Vijay Deverakonda and Nikhil, both coming up with similar films, are on Dasara eve, some are thinking that even Naga Vamsi might push their #AK47 to Dasara, as that will be the only family film in the race at the Telugu box office. However, that call will be taken only after Jailer 2 jumps out of the race. Because Jailer 2 itself is a big competition, even at the Telugu box office, for all the films that are hitting cinemas.

Kayadu Fans Upset With Big Telugu Film

One of the biggest films that is coming from Tollywood in the next couple of months is none other than Nani's The Paradise.

One of the biggest films that is coming from Tollywood in the next couple of months is none other than Nani's The Paradise. Already, the teaser has unveiled the grand scale of the movie, and it was confirmed that the movie is hitting cinemas on September 25th without fail. However, one aspect of this film is upsetting the fans, and that's none other than Kayadu Lohar.

Other than announcing that Kayadu Lohar is the leading lady, so far, the heroine hasn't got any special boost from the team through any special videos. The film's first released song Aya Sher featured only Nani; then the second single, which will be re-



leased in a day, features Keerthy Suresh. So when will a song featuring Kayadu be released? Currently, she's seen only in the teaser, but the makers haven't given any special attention to her, and that's wondering her fans.

While fans are upset that Kayadu's content is not coming out, with just one month ahead for the film's release, the makers are sure that when they release the song featuring Nani and Kayadu, it's going to be a stunner of sorts. At the same time, Nani is yet to start the promotions of the movie, while there is only 30 days away for the release.

Suriya's Vishwanath & Sons Emerges as a Big Winner in Telugu States?

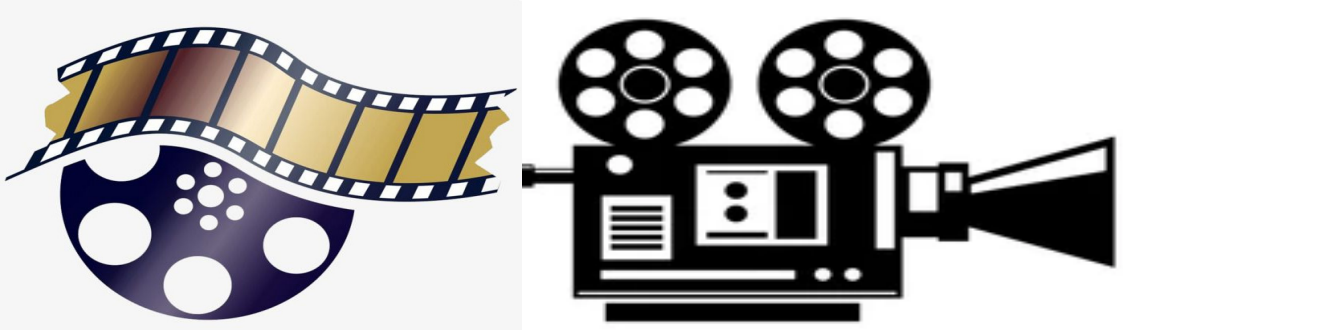
Despite stiff competition from Irumudi and Toxic, Tamil star Suriya's latest film Vishwanath & Sons is reportedly performing strongly across several centres in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

According to a distributor, the film has already registered around Rs 30 crore share in the Telugu states, which is being described as a major achievement for Suriya's Telugu market. "The film has collected around Rs 54 crore gross in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. For a Suriya-starrer, these are very encouraging numbers," he says.

The distributor feels the film's mature romantic theme has struck a chord with Telugu audiences and continues to attract crowds even after its initial run. "Suriya's splendid performance, Mamitha Baiju's bubbly character and their chemistry on screen have connected well with Gen Z audiences in Telugu states. At the same time, some viewers felt the bold theme could have been handled in a more effective manner," he points out.

Nevertheless, Vishwanath & Sons appears to have given Suriya's Telugu market a significant boost. His previous release, Veerabhaduru, reportedly collected around Rs 13 crore share in the Telugu states, while the latest film has set a new benchmark.

"Suriya is back with a bang in the Telugu states. He has once again proved that he has a strong following here and can pull crowds among the masses," the distributor concludes.



CINEMA

Dharmasthala Constituency Trailer Out: Senior Actors Shine In Powerful Political Drama

The upcoming Telugu political entertainer Dharmasthala Constituency is getting ready for its worldwide theatrical release on September 4. The film is produced by Merum Bhaskar under the banner of Moving Dreams India Private Limited and is directed by debutant filmmaker Jai Gnan Prabha Thota. A grand trailer launch event was held in Hyderabad, where the cast and crew shared their experiences about the movie.

The trailer showcased intense political drama with senior actors Sai Kumar and Suman powerful dialogues. Also, Nataraj, Vithika Sheru presence added another interesting layer for the film. The trailer promises an intensive political drama awakening positive thoughts in society.

The film features Suman, Saikumar, Nataraj, Vithika Sheru, Varun Sandesh, Raja Ravindra, Rajeew Kanakala, Kalakeya Prabhakar, Prithvi, Shiv and others in important roles. The trailer and the teams words at the event have created curiosity among movie lovers.

Art director Bhargavachari Noundla said that the film has come out well and requested audiences to watch it in theatres. Music director Mahaveer Elender revealed that the movie has five songs, all written by popular lyricist Chandrabose. He especially mentioned the song Aarambham, saying it reflects the main idea of the story through its lyrics.

Producer Merum Bhaskar explained that the team completed the entire shoot,



including patchwork, within 45 days. He praised director Jai Gnan Prabha for his clear vision and said the final output has given the team confidence.

Actress Vithika Sheru revealed that she was impressed by the songs before listening to the complete story. She liked her character because it was different from her earlier roles. She also said that her return to films after a break became more special because of this project.

Director Jai Gnan Prabha thanked the entire cast and crew for supporting his first film. He said every character has importance in the story and promised that the movie will keep audiences engaged. He also praised Chandrabose and Mahaveer Elender for their contribution to the songs.

Actor Nataraj appreciated the directors work



Mahendragiri Varahi Trailer: Exquisite Visual Thriller

Sumanth starrer Mahendragiri Varahi has been in production for more than one and a half year as the makers have been crafting a honest epic on a big scale.

Sumanth starrer Mahendragiri Varahi has been in production for more than one and a half year as the makers have been crafting a honest epic on a big scale. Santhossh Jagarlapudi is directing the film and Madhu Kalipu, Laxman are producing it on a lavish scale. The movie glimpse, teaser have created good buzz and team decided to promote in a unique manner by installing Varahi idols outside theatres.

Now, the makers have released the long awaited trailer and it is mind-blowing and exquisite. With a story that deals with goddess Varahi's curse on a King's Lineage, the movie dwells deep into the mysterious circumstances of how the curse started and how can Sumanth overcome it as he is hell bent on finding the way out.

Aishwarya Rajesh impresses in a prominent role as Goddess and her screen presence suits perfectly. Sidhu Jonnalagadda in a cameo appearance appears in a crucial role and his portions seem to be highlight of the film. Sumanth's commendable performance, honesty and body language carry the entire story on his shoulders.

Santhossh's visual storytelling is intriguing and the trailer cut is perfect. Without revealing the entire story, it balances the mystery behind the subject while revealing the interesting teases. Visuals, production values, technical aspects and BGM by Anup Rubens elevates the experience brilliantly. Mahendragiri Varahi is releasing on 11th September with a promise to deliver memorable cinematic experience.



Thorough entertainer Anumanam Pakshi release date confirmed

Rag Mayur stars in the upcoming comedy entertainer Anumana Pakshi.

Rag Mayur stars in the upcoming comedy entertainer Anumana Pakshi. Directed by Vimal Krishna, widely known for his work as the writer-director of the blockbuster DJ Tillu, the film promises a highly entertaining and chaotic ride.

The makers have officially locked the worldwide theatrical release date to bring this unique story to the audiences. Fans and movie lovers can mark their calendars as the film is set to hit the big screens on September 18th.

The newly unveiled release date poster presents a quirky and intriguing vibe. It showcases the protagonist in traditional attire holding a rifle, standing next to a chalkboard filled with humorous existential questions and everyday doubts.

Backed by Rajiv Chilaka, the project features a lively musical score composed by Sricharan Pakala. Living up to its tagline "One Boy. Billion Thoughts. Zero Chill," the film guarantees a fun-filled cinematic experience.

