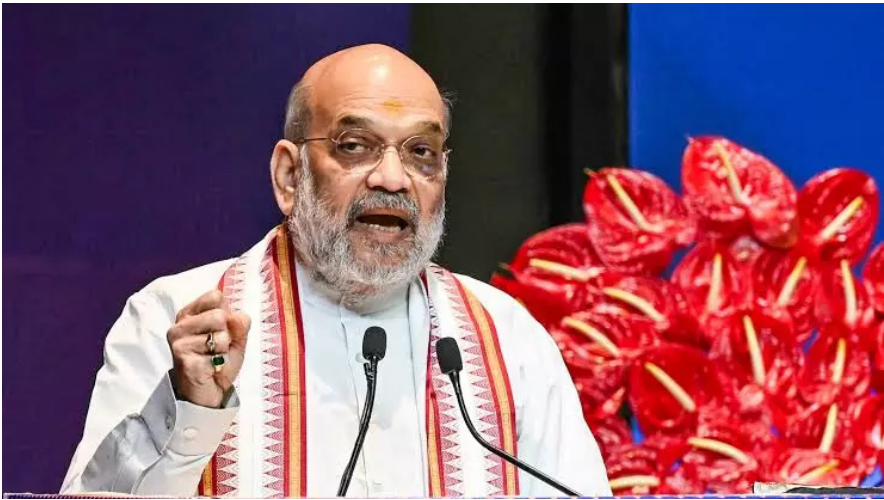


Amit Shah Sets 2029 Target For Drug-Free India



NEW DELHI: Union home minister Amit Shah on Sunday said the Centre had prepared a roadmap to make India drug-free by 2029, in line of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's objective that drug-free youth power would lead to Viksit Bharat in 2047.

The Modi government was committed to making the country drug-free to realise the dream of a developed India, just as it has worked to end the menace of Naxalism and terrorism, Shah, said addressing a press conference in Goa after chairing a high level meeting on narcotics that was attended by Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant as well as Union home ministry and state government officials.

The Centre has adopted a coordinated, nationwide strategy to dismantle the entire narcotics network, from drug trafficking and financing to

rehabilitation, as part of its goal of 'Drug-Free India' by 2029, he said.

Shah said the Centre had a target to demolish 100 national and international networks by March 2029 and bring back 100 fugitives to the country. By March 2027, there will be clear end-to-end visibility of the supply chain while at least 75 secret labs would be destroyed in 2026, he said.

He said the government had also adopted a mission-mode approach to bring back fugitives hiding abroad. Between July 2019 and July 2026, 274 wanted or absconding criminals were brought back to India from 36 countries, he said. Over the past three years, 401 red corner notices have been issued, including 182 up to July.

Shah said more than 1,400 Central and state agencies were connected through Interpol, facilitating faster information sharing. Between 2019 and 2026, assets worth `17,874 crore belonging to fugitives were attached, while `18,762 crore was recovered or restored.

"Before 2014, the fight against narcotics was largely conducted in small units and isolation. Agencies were often satisfied catching small-time accused. Our government is making the fight national security priority," he said.

Under the Narendra Modi regime, Jammu and Kashmir was on the path to

progress and development after the decline of terrorism, which is gradually approaching zero there, the minister said. The sentiment of separatism had waned post the abrogation of Article 370, Shah said.

"The Modi government has taken various steps to improve and strengthen internal security. Those who dreamt of a 'red' (Maoist) corridor from Tirupati to Pashupati have laid down arms and joined the mainstream. The northeast is also calm. Over 10,000 young people have laid down arms," he said.

Shah stated that Naxalism, which persisted for five decades, has become a thing of the past. "We have eradicated Naxalism and will deal with the menace of narcotics in the same manner," the Union minister asserted.

In 2019, a four-tier National Coordination Committee for Countering Drug Trafficking (NCCCDT) mechanism was created at the executive, state and district levels to ensure co-ordinated action against the drug menace. "Dedicated Anti-Narcotics Task Forces (ANTFs) have been constituted in all states and Union Territories and local police have been linked with the national strategy," Shah said.

The government had linked awareness, treatment, counselling, rehabilitation and livelihood opportunities with the anti-narcotics campaign, he pointed out, adding that the '1933' MANAS helpline has been introduced to support persons with drug addiction.

The Modi government's three-year roadmap to a drug-free India is based on a four-pillared approach to destroy narcotic networks, Shah said. "These pillars include intelligence and operation-based enforcement, control on synthetic drugs, demand and harm reduction and creation of capacity and coordination," he added.

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Revanth Lauds PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud's Role In Party

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy congratulated MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud for completing two years as PCC president of Telangana. "From an ordinary worker to the party's state charioteer...The decision to entrust the reins of Telangana Congress to a BC son... This is not merely about assigning a

position, but a testament to the Congress party's commitment to social justice..." the CM posted on X. He continued: "From the day he took on that responsibility... Under the leadership of AICC President Sri Mallikarjun Kharge @kharge garu, and the guidance of Sri R a h u l

Gandhi@RahulGandhi garu, the journey of Mahesh Kumar Goud garu in strengthening the party, standing as a support for the workers, is commendable. With the same dedication, wishing to reach even more milestones in public service, heartfelt congratulations to Mahesh Kumar Goud garu."

AP CM To Set Agenda For Collectors, Focus On Growth, Welfare

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will set the agenda for Andhra Pradesh's district administration at the eighth Collectors' Conference at the state secretariat in Amaravati on September 10 and 11.

Figuring prominently at the meeting would be matters related to economic growth, welfare delivery, governance, investments, water security and law and order.

The chief minister would address the officials on the opening day and review the implementation of decisions taken at the seventh meet in May. The Action Taken Report will examine district-wise progress, pending decisions and reasons for delays, "putting accountability at the centre of the deliberations."

The CM would subsequently take stock of the state's economic performance, including GSDP, national and state growth, district-wise targets and achievements for 2025-26 and targets for 2026-27. Special attention would be given to Swarna Andhra@2047 district roadmaps, with execution gaps across its seven pillars to be discussed.

Implementation of the government's Super Six

and welfare schemes would come under review, including coverage and pendency, drinking-water plans, housing and employment. Naidu will also assess the performance of the health and education departments.

Investment proposals and the ease of doing business will be another major focus, along with the progress of the Jaladhara water security programme. The first day would conclude with a showcase of best practices and innovations developed by selected district collectors.

On the second day, Naidu would review e-governance, RTGS, e-Office file disposal and pendency, PGRS grievance redressal and the use of Data Lake and AWARE. District-wise and scheme-wise performance relating to the public perception of governance would also be ex-

amined.

Land administration and centrally sponsored schemes would be reviewed with emphasis on funds sanctioned, utilised and remaining balances. Skilling and employment programmes, placement outcomes and welfare of minorities, BCs, SCs and STs would also figure in the discussions.

A significant feature of the conference would be Naidu's interaction with collectors through a dedicated Open Forum, allowing them to directly raise issues like field-level bottlenecks. The conference would conclude with a detailed law-and-order review, followed by the CM's unveiling of the roadmap for the future.

The schedule has been structured around district-wise comparative data, presentations followed by discussions and clear ownership of follow-up actions.

Voters Baffled After They Receive Notices, Following Hearing Dates Elapse

Hyderabad: Several voters across Telangana have received Special Intensive Revision-linked (SIR) notices after their hearing dates had already elapsed, even as delays in printing and logistical and technical issues have slowed the process at several places. Over 45 per cent of voters are yet to receive the notices and have expressed concern over the delayed notices.

Shabana Begum, 64, from Nirmal received a notice on September 5, while her hearing had been scheduled for September 1. "My family members got notices regarding anomalies in SIR enumeration and handed over notices to us on September 5 at 12.30 pm, but the hearing date mentioned in the notice is September 1; then what can we do ?" asked Shaik Salman, son of Shabana Begum.

Volunteers assisting with the SIR process said there were several instances across the state of notices reaching voters after the hearing dates. "There are several such cases across the state, but citizens are not ready to share the details for fear of repercussions," said an SIR volunteer and founder of ADALAH, based in Karimnagar.

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) Election Commission coordination committee chairman P. Rajesh Kumar

said similar instances had come to his notice. "There are scores of cases which have come to light in recent days throughout the State, but at present the copies of such cases are not available," Rajesh said.

By Sunday, of more than 93 lakh voters with anomalies, over 50 lakh had received notices. About 32 lakh voters had appeared for hearings and were undergoing verification, while 13 lakh had completed the verification process and reached the final electoral roll.

Officials said voters who received notices after their hearing dates had elapsed would be given fresh dates.

"The SIR process has been impacted owing to elapse hearing dates. Those who missed the dates will get a fresh date for hearing," clarified a higher official.

Monday 07, September, 2026

NEPAL, A VICTIM OF FRAGILE ECOLOGY

Nepal's devastating floods, triggered by glacial collapse, present a poignant irony. The tiny Himalayan nation has been paying a disproportionate price for global warming, though it has not contributed significantly to the crisis. It is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters because of its fragile ecology, while the climate change crisis, caused by greenhouse gas emissions and human activities, has further worsened the situation. This is despite the fact that Nepal produces less than 0.1% of global emissions. The August 26 floods have left a trail of death and destruction, with the search still on for missing persons and the death toll rising by the day. It is estimated that the country, already reeling under an economic crisis and political instability, would need \$4-5 billion for reconstruction. This is equivalent to one-tenth of a national economy that depends on remittances and tourism. Without help from countries like India and China, it cannot recover from the catastrophe. Climate change is altering the geology of glaciers, permafrost, and glacial lakes across the Himalayas, creating potential ticking time bombs. The latest tragedy has underscored the need for international cooperation to handle crises of such magnitude. India, China and other countries, along with international universities, research institutions and hazard-monitoring agencies, should become permanent partners. In an eloquent write-up, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor explained how the Nepal floods came as a devastating reminder of the fragile, interconnected ecological reality of Himalayan Asia and called for establishing an institutionalised tripartite mechanism among India, Nepal and China dedicated exclusively to ecological protection, real-time hydrological information-sharing, and joint climate adaptation efforts.

Arguing that designing such an institutional framework requires a clear-eyed assessment of the region's historical track record regarding ecological transparency, he rightly pointed out that cooperation between upper-riparian and lower-riparian states in the Himalaya has historically been uneven, reactive, and constrained by national security secrecy. Both India and Nepal have repeatedly voiced dissatisfaction with the quality, frequency, and timeliness of hydrological and geological data shared by China. The mounting toll of the floods is a grim reminder of the region's precarity. It underscores how a disturbance in higher altitudes can swiftly become a downstream catastrophe. Landslides, avalanches, and erratic rainfall can trigger cascading events. Several studies, including Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, have documented the retreat of glaciers in the rapidly warming Himalaya. The meltwater accumulates in glacial lakes, which can suddenly burst, sending enormous volumes of water and debris down narrow valleys. Over the years, Beijing's approach to sharing hydrological data during the monsoon season has been governed largely by transactional, bilateral MoUs rather than automatic, open-data commitments. Lower-riparian nations have often been left in the dark during critical moments. Even existing bilateral mechanisms between India and Nepal have frequently suffered from inadequate instrumentation in remote high-altitude zones, and a lack of an integrated early-warning architecture.

Combative BRS Gears Up for Assembly Session

Hyderabad:The BRS on Sunday made it clear that party president and former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao would not attend the Monsoon Session of the Legislative Assembly starting on Monday. "KCR need not attend an Assembly where the Chief Minister uses revoltingly abusive language," the party said.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting of the BRS Legislature Party (BRS LP) in Erravalli at Chandrashekar Rao's farmhouse, senior leader T. Harish Rao said all the MLAs and MLCs urged the party president to stay away from the Assembly. "The Chief Minister is using abusive, vulgar language against political opponents. There is not a day when he does wish that KCR loses his life. Such language lowers the dignity of the Assembly. KCR does not need to attend a House where such language is used," he said.

Harish Rao said there were precedents when former CMs stayed away from the Assembly, and instead took their fight directly to the people. "Leaders like NTR, Jayalalithaa and Chandrababu Naidu faced disrespect in the Assembly, took their fight to the people and returned to power. KCR will also take this fight to the people, and come back to the House as the CM," he said.

"We are enough to ask questions and hold the government accountable. We demand that the government hold this session for 30 days so all issues can be discussed threadbare," Harish Rao said.



On Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's comments on the expense related to Chandrashekar Rao's security, Harish Rao said: "KCR is not just the Leader of Opposition but a two-time Chief Minister. Why is Revanth Reddy questioning his security? Former chief ministers in neighbouring states are also provided security," he said.

"Before questioning KCR's security, Revanth must explain why four gunmen are being provided for his brother Tirupathi Reddy and why Rs 40 crore has been spent on the security of a man who is not even a ward member anywhere," Harish Rao said.

Chandrashekar Rao, he said, directed the MLAs and MLCs to hold the government ac-

countable to its promises and expose how the Congress failed on all fronts in its first 1,000 days of being in power.

BRS Agenda for Assembly monsoon session

- Problems resulting from Section 22A restrictions
- Power cuts affecting farmers
- Failure of the loan waiver
- GO 97 and issues concerning polytechnic colleges
- Problems in Singareni
- PRC and DA for employees
- Failure of the EHS scheme
- Pending fee reimbursement for students

BRS leader Balka Suman demands Vivek to fulfill his poll promises

BRS district president Balka Suman demanded that Labour Minister Vivek Venkataswamy fulfil his election promises in Chennur and release a white paper on Congress-led development. He also questioned the shelving of major projects, including the Chennur Lift Irrigation Project

Mancherial: The BRS district president Balka Suman demanded that the labor minister Dr Vivek Venkataswamy fulfill his poll promises in Chennur Assembly constituency and to release a white paper on his achievements during 1,000 days ruling of the Congress. He along with former minister Koppula Eshwar addressed media persons in Kyathanpalli on Sunday.

Stating that the Congress had completed 1,000 days in office criticising former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, Suman asked when Vivek would set up industries and create 40,000 jobs as promised at the time of the elections. When would Vivek establish both a skill development centre and 100-bedded hospital and fulfill other promises made to electors during the polls, he



questioned.

He wanted Vivek to release a white paper on developmental activities taken up by the Congress in Chennur segment so far. The BRS district president claimed that Vivek was inaugurating the works funded and sanctioned by the BRS government. He alleged that the minister was halting major projects taken up by the then government fearing the credit would go to the BRS.

Suman wondered as to why the flagship Chennur Lift Irrigation

project was shelved. He recalled that the project was envisaged to irrigate approximately one lakh acres in Chennur segment spending Rs 1,700 crore. Works on a pump house of the project were commenced, rekindling hopes of farmers from the region. However, Vivek has not laid a focus on continuing the project. Several developmental projects have been shelved, Suman pointed out.

He demanded Vivek to immediately start developmental projects and to strive hard to grow the segment on all fronts in place of criticizing him at regular intervals. He further alleged that Vivek and his son Peddapalli MP Vamshikrishna were spoiling the tranquility of Mancherial district by encouraging factions for their vested interests instead of focusing on development of the region

KCR To Hit The Streets, Picks Kaleshwaram, Palamuru Projects To Take On Govt

In a sign that might indicate that he has had enough of criticism from the Congress, BRS president and former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao on Sunday announced that he would lead movements against the Congress government's neglect of the Kaleshwaram and Palamuru-Rangareddy lift irrigation projects, after the Assembly session commencing on Monday.

Chandrashekar Rao, who has stayed away from the public eye for most part since the 2023 elections, announced his decision at a meeting of the BRS Legislature Party at his Erravalli farmhouse.



Briefing reporters on the meeting, BRS Assembly deputy floor leader T. Harish Rao said

Chandrashekar Rao would lead the movements after the conclusion of the Monsoon Session of the Assembly to protest the government's neglect of the Kaleshwaram barrages, and the failure of the government to complete the Palamuru-Rangareddy lift irrigation scheme.

Harish Rao said: "The Kaleshwaram project has water, but the government is not lifting it for farmers. The Palamuru-Rangareddy project, which was nearly 80 per cent completed during KCR's government, is also being ignored. Completing the remaining works can help bring around 60 tmc ft of water to the region," he said.

Common Pass for Metro, Buses Likely in 15 Days

Hyderabad: Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) and TGSRTC are likely to introduce a common travel pass for Metro Rail and RTC buses, with daily and monthly options for commuters, within the next 15 days. Once implemented, commuters will be able to use a single pass for travel on both Metro Rail trains and RTC buses.

The decision was taken after Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju prodded officials of HMRL and RTC during a coordination meeting held at Metro Rail Bhavan in Begumpet on Sunday.

According to sources, Jaju directed HMRL and RTC officials to finalise the common fare structure and implement the joint pass without delay. "Officials from L&T Hyderabad Metro Rail and TGSRTC informed him that the technical arrangements for the integrated pass system had been finalised," it was stated.

The common pass is intended to facilitate



travel for commuters who use both Metro and bus services for their daily journeys. At an earlier meeting, Jaju had also directed officials to provide longer trains to accommodate passenger rush.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the proposed 7.5-km Old City Metro corridor and enquired about road-widening works and the tender pro-

cess for appointing a General Consultant. He directed officials to expedite the works and ensure that project activities commence at the earliest.

Later, Jaju travelled by Metro from Begumpet to Paradise along with HMRL managing director Sarfaraz Ahmad and additional managing director B. Ajith Reddy. He inspected commercial complexes and parking facilities at the stations and suggested measures for their further development.

Telangana: BRS Backs Auto Drivers; Satyavathi Rathod Slams Revanth

MAHABUBABAD: The BRS organised a protest rally at Pedda Thanda in Kuravi mandal, demanding that the government immediately address the problems faced by auto-rickshaw drivers and ensure justice for them. Former minister Satyavathi Rathod participated in the rally and drove an auto-rickshaw herself to express solidarity with the drivers. She later offered prayers at Bodrayi Thalli and prayed for Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to be blessed with wisdom.

Rathod strongly criticised Revanth Reddy, warning that people would reject leaders who make irresponsible remarks at public platforms. She alleged that the Congress government had no achievements to showcase and was instead spending its time criticising the KCR family.

She alleged that Revanth Reddy becoming Chief Minister had become a curse for the people of Telangana. She accused the Chief Minister, his brothers and Cabinet colleagues of illegally amassing as-



sets and said people from all sections of society were suffering under the present government. She predicted that the Congress government would be voted out in the next elections.

Rathod urged auto-rickshaw drivers to remain confident and assured them that the BRS would stand by them. Former ZP chairperson Angothu Bindu, BRS leaders, auto drivers and auto owners attended the programme.

BRS takes out autorickshaw rally in Karimnagar

As part of its week-long agitation, the BRS took out an autorickshaw rally in Karimnagar town on Sunday.

Local MLA Gangula Kamalakar, who flagged off the rally at Telangana Chowk, personally drove an autorickshaw. On the occasion, they displayed Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's flexi posters, which had two scarves of both Congress and TD.

Speaking on the occasion, Kamalakar said that autorickshaw drivers lost employment with the introduction of free bus service to women.

Imposition of challans by the traffic police has become another burden. Unable to cope with the situation, about 256 autorickshaw drivers have died so far.

In order to help drivers, the government promised to give `12,000 per year. However, there was no response from the government, he alleged.

To help the drivers, the previous BRS government used to bear the life tax of autorickshaws. However, the congress government stalled it and failed to constitute an autorickshaw welfare board, he said.

KCR calls for another water war, to lead people's movement against neglect of irrigation projects

BRS chief K Chandrashekhara Rao has called for a statewide "water war" against the Congress government, accusing it of neglecting irrigation and drinking water projects. He directed BRS legislators to raise water, unemployment, education and governance issues during the Assembly session

Hyderabad: BRS chief and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao on Sunday called for another "water war" against the Congress government for deliberately neglecting irrigation and drinking water projects and depriving people of water despite its availability in major reservoirs. He will soon lead a State-wide mass movement involving lakhs of people, including farmers and party workers, if the government's negligence continues.

He said the BRS would discuss the proposed irrigation campaign with senior and district leaders and finalise the action plan soon. He also directed legislators to press the government on irrigation issues and, if necessary, stall both Houses over the matter. "We gave three years to the Congress government, but it failed to implement electoral promises even after 1,000 days. We should not tolerate it anymore," he asserted.

Addressing a joint meeting of BRS Legislature Party members at his Erravelli residence ahead of the Assembly session beginning Monday, Chandrashekhara Rao pointed out that the National Dam Safety Authority's (NDSA) statement that the Kaleshwaram project could be used, had exposed the Congress government's propaganda and conspiracy to discredit the project. He said minor repairs at Medigadda barrage could enable the Kaleshwaram project to resume operations and benefit farmers in nearly 13 districts.

He questioned the government's delay in operating the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, which he said was 90 per cent complete during the previous BRS regime. He asked why Krishna River waters were not being lifted to provide irrigation and drinking water to the people of Nalgonda, Palamuru and Rangareddy.

The BRS chief also questioned the delayed and partial release of water to Telangana farmers from Nagarjuna Sagar and Srisailem despite water being available in the projects. He accused the Congress government of facilitating the neighbouring State's use of the wa-



ter. He reminded that the Telangana movement itself was fought to ensure water for people of the State, but the Congress government neglected it. "Such negligence in safeguarding our water rights should not be tolerated," he asserted.

Chandrashekhara Rao directed BRS legislators to put the government on the defensive during the Assembly session on its failure to fulfil guarantees and promises made before the elections. He asked them to raise issues including pending fee reimbursement, GO 97 affecting polytechnic education, unemployment and pending job calendar.

He also directed party members to raise the inclusion of patta lands in the 22A prohibited list, alleged irregularities in the Future City initiative, corruption in Singareni Collieries Company Limited, government land auctions, the handling of the Hyderabad Metro Rail takeover and the proposed Godavari-Cauvery river-link project.

On drinking water, the Opposition leader accused the government of weakening the Mission Bhagiratha system amid drought conditions. He also criticised the Congress government's negligence of government schools and residential schools, and called for discussion on deaths of students and girls in these institutions.

He asked BRS legislators to raise alleged deterioration in law and order, crimes against women, corruption, electricity policies, retirement benefits to retired employees and the delay in implementing the Pay Revision Commission. He observed that, mired in nepotism and favouritism, the Congress leaders corrupted the State governance, making it inefficient to serve people.

Chandrashekhara Rao said the Assembly should be used as a platform to question the government's performance rather than for personal attacks on opposition members. He expressed satisfaction over the BRS's protests marking 1,000 days of Congress rule and appreciated the party working president KT Rama Rao, senior leaders and district-level workers for their efforts.

Climate Change Has No Borders, Neither Should Solutions: Kavya

Warangal MP Dr Kadiyam Kavya called on South Asian countries to move beyond national borders and pursue collective action to tackle the growing threat of climate change. She said environmental protection and addressing the climate crisis were not the responsibility of any single country and stressed the need for regional cooperation to find common solutions.

Speaking at the 'South Asia Parliamentary Dialogue on Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development' in Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan, Dr Kavya said rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, floods, droughts and water scarcity were already affecting agriculture, livelihoods, public health and economies across the region.

"Climate change has no borders. Therefore, solutions should have no borders either," she said, calling for greater focus on renewable energy, clean energy sources, water conservation, green infrastructure and biodiversity protection.

She urged policymakers to consider the needs of farmers, women, youth, the poor and marginalised communities,



who are among the worst affected by climate change. She stressed the need to promote climate-resilient agriculture and efficient water management while strengthening early warning systems for natural disasters.

Dr Kavya also called for India to share its experience in renewable energy and green development initiatives with other South Asian countries.

"Development does not mean destroying nature. True sustainable development means achieving progress while protecting nature," Dr Kavya said.

Telangana: Vinay Bhaskar Demands Release of Pending Fee Reimbursement Funds

Hanamkonda: The BRS student wing organised a rally and dharna in Hanamkonda on Friday, demanding the immediate release of pending fee reimbursement funds and cancellation of GO 97. Students and youth marched from Ekashila Park to the collectorate under the leadership of former chief whip and former MLA Dasyam Vinay Bhaskar and submitted a memorandum to the DRO. Vinay Bhaskar said the delay in releasing fee reimbursement funds was causing hardship to students from poor and middle-class families and urged the government to clear the pending dues immediately to safeguard their future.

He also demanded that the government address problems faced by polytechnic students due to GO 97 and withdraw the order. Police reportedly stopped government polytechnic students from joining the protest, but they ex-



pressed solidarity with the agitation and participated in the programme. Vinay Bhaskar said the BRS would continue its fight until the problems faced by students were resolved.

Congress Holds Bike Rallies To Mark 1,000 Days Of Praja Palana

Congress leaders and cadre led by DCC president Naresh Jadhav took out a bike rally in Adilabad town on Saturday to mark 1,000 days of the Congress government's Praja Palana. Adilabad market committee chairman Srikanth Reddy, former Adilabad MP Soyam Bapurao, former DCC president Sajid Khan and former Adilabad market committee chairman Sanjeev Reddy participated in the rally. Similar rallies were held in Nirmal, Mancherla and Komaram Bheem Asifabad districts, with local DCC presidents,



MLAs and MLCs participating. Premsagar Rao participated in the programme in Mancherla, while MLC Dande Vittal and DCC president Atram Suguna participated in Asifabad.

During the rally, Naresh Jadhav highlighted the welfare and development schemes being implemented by the gov-

ernment. He criticised the previous BRS government and its leadership, alleging that it had failed to implement welfare schemes and indulged in corruption in the name of development during its 10-year rule. In Mancherla town, Congress leaders took out a rally involving 1,000 bikes. Mancherla corporation mayor Darni Madhukar, former DCC president Surekha, market committee chairman Ramagiri Banesh, vice-chairman Jale Rayalingu, Mancherla corporation Congress president and corporator Toomula Naresh and others participated.

We Will Work For Producers' Welfare, Says C. Kalyan

Mana Panel has emerged victorious in the Telugu Film Producers Council elections held today, defeating the Progressive Panel by a clear majority. Expressing his happiness over the victory, president-elect C. Kalyan thanked producers who travelled from different places to participate in the elections.

"I thank all the producers who came from far-off places and cast their votes for us. Our panel members have won with a 95% majority, and I am grateful to everyone for their support," said C. Kalyan.

He assured that the new team would focus on the welfare and well-being of producers. "We will work for the welfare of producers and look after their interests. Tollywood is doing better than many other film industries, and we request everyone to cooperate with us. We will soon hold a press meet and announce our action plan. We will stand by small producers and support them in every possible



way," he said.

According to sources, around 600 members exercised their franchise, giving the Mana Panel a clear majority. Chadalavada Srinivasa Rao was elected as Treasurer, while Mohan Vadlapatla was elected Vice President.

Twelve members from the Mana Panel were also elected to the Executive Committee, including Sunil Narang, DVV Danayya, Vamsi Nandipati and Palli Kesava Rao, among others.

From the Progressive Panel, Damodara Prasad was elected as Vice President, while Ammi Raju and Thummalapalli Rama Satyanarayana were elected as Joint Secretaries. Three members of the Progressive Panel — Ravi Shankar Yellamanchili, Niranjan Reddy and D.S. Rao — were elected to the Executive Committee.

TCS to Build India's Largest Data Centre in Hyderabad by 2028

Hyderabad: Telangana will host the country's largest AI data centre campus, with TCS subsidiary HyperVault and its partners investing up to ₹70,000 crore in a one-gigawatt (1,000 megawatt) facility spread over more than 250 acres in Future City. This is the largest single investment in the state's AI and data-centre infrastructure sector. The project is expected to create around 7,000 direct and indirect jobs and is planned to be inaugurated on June 2, 2028, on the occasion of Telangana Formation Day.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy announced the mega investment after a meeting with senior representatives of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and HyperVault here on Saturday, during which the government and the company signed a memorandum of understanding for developing the campus. Setting a firm deadline, Revanth Reddy said the government wanted the

country's largest AI data centre to be inaugurated exactly 21 months from Saturday, on June 2, 2028, Telangana Formation Day

"This is a historic project not just for Telangana but for India," the Chief Minister said, describing the announcement as one of the biggest investments in artificial intelligence (AI) and Future City. He said Hyderabad was now at the forefront of the global AI revolution and that access to AI models and computing capacity was rapidly becoming a form of public infrastructure. Having such computing capacity located in Telangana, he said, would provide the state with a significant strategic advantage.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the 50-km Radial Road-1, connecting the Outer Ring Road with Future City through Kongarakalan, saying it would be among the best roads in India and could potentially serve as an emergency runway. He said the



road had been dedicated to Bharat Ratna Ratan Tata, recalling his announcement at the Telangana Rising Global Summit 2025 that a major road would be dedicated to an organisation investing ₹1 lakh crore in Telangana.

TCS CEO K. Krithivasan, COO Aarthi Subramanian, HyperVault president V. Rajanna and HyperVault CEO and managing director Deepesh Nanda participated in the meeting. OpenAI chief technology officer Uday Rudraraju joined through

videoconference from the United States. IT and industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu, ministers N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and Adluri Laxman Kumar, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju and government adviser K. Ramakrishna Rao were among those present.

Recalling his meeting with Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran at the World Economic Forum in Davos in January, Revanth Reddy said he had asked

Chandrasekaran to bring "big news" for Telangana in terms of investment. "He smiled and accepted. He promised me that he would announce it shortly," the Chief Minister said. He explained that the state government had deliberately refrained from announcing the investment until the Tata Group formally made the announcement.

Revanth Reddy also sought to assure investors that Telangana would maintain policy continuity irrespective of changes in government. Referring to the investment policies followed by successive governments in undivided Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, he said governments had improved existing policies rather than abandoning them.

"There is no policy paralysis in my state. I don't want to create any confusion. I want to give you more and more confidence and political differences and ideological differences will not affect the investments policy," he said.

Krithivasan described AI as not merely a technology disruption but a "civilisational shift" that would transform the way societies function. Countries and societies that successfully transition to AI, he said, would be at the forefront, while India had a major opportunity to catch up. He said HyperVault advanced TCS's "Infrastructure-to-Intelligence" strategy by combining AI-ready infrastructure with its cloud, engineering, enterprise transformation and

AI capabilities.

1,000-MW (1-GW) AI data centre campus, with TCS subsidiary HyperVault and partners investing up to ₹70,000 crore. to come up on 250 acres in Future City.

Facility to provide high-end, AI-ready computing infrastructure for frontier AI companies, global hyperscalers and enterprises.

It will incorporate high-performance computing systems, high-density power infrastructure and advanced liquid-cooling technologies.

At full build-out, the campus is expected to rank among the largest and most advanced AI infrastructure campuses in India.

Campus will be developed using green energy and water-neutral design principles.

Government says project would strengthen Telangana's position as a strategic destination for AI and advanced digital infrastructure.

Students are suffering due to delay in release of fee reimbursement : T Harish Rao

Former Minister T Harish Rao alleged that delays in fee reimbursement had forced colleges to withhold certificates, leaving students unable to pursue postgraduate courses. He also criticised the government over college closures, Skill University plans and alleged police action against protesting students



Siddipet: Former Minister T Harish Rao said that many students could not join post graduation courses since the colleges have refused to issue certificates even after completing the degree, B-Tech, B-Pharmacy and other graduation courses. Since the Congress government failed to release any funds towards fee reimbursement during the last three years, Rao said that colleges have refused to issue certificates to students.

Stating that some pharmacy students had approached him when a private college management denied them certificates, the former minister said that the management said that they could not pay the salaries of the faculty due to delay in issuing funds. When he tried to convince them to issue certificates to students, the former minister said that they will be forced to close down the institutes if the government continued to ignore.

Rao, who participated in a protest organised by students in Siddipet town over the delay in release of fee reimbursement, said that the BRS government led by K Chandrashekhara Rao had released the funds from time to time when the state was reeling under serious financial crisis during the Covid-19. He said that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's ignorance had put the students at the risk of losing an academic year.

Due to the ignorance of the government, the former minister said that over 300 degree colleges were closed down including five colleges in Siddipet. Opposing the government's move to merge polytechnic education in Skill University, he said that the students would lose many opportunities since the Skill University is being set up in PPP mode. Rao also warned that he would not tolerate if police behaved violently with the students whenever they organised protests.

'Chhatron Ki Goonj' not enough, Rahul Gandhi must face Telangana youth: KTR

Karimnagar: BRS working president KT Rama Rao launched a scathing attack on Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, accusing him of deceiving unemployed youth and challenging him to visit Telangana to witness the hardships faced by students. Rama Rao accused Rahul Gandhi and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of betraying youth and students by failing to fulfil their electoral promises.

"Rahul Gandhi is changing colours from one State to another. You are talking about 'Chhatron Ki Goonj' across India. I demand you come to Telangana and listen to students' problems. You will hear the real Goonj here," Rama Rao said at a Students and Youth conference here on Saturday.

Questioning Rahul Gandhi over his promise to provide two lakh jobs every year in Telangana, Rama Rao alleged that Congress leaders disappeared after securing votes. "If you do not come, we will come to Delhi," he warned.

Referring to youth protests in Delhi, the BRS working president said the Centre had faced tough times. "The youth, who made even Prime Minister Narendra Modi tremble, have nothing to fear from this Revanth Reddy," he said.

Rama Rao questioned the Congress government over the status of the job calendar, Youth Commission, unemployment allowance, youth loans, fee reimbursement and reservations for local youth in private-sector employment. "Revanth Reddy should stop making excuses and face the youth and the BRS in the Assembly with answers on every unfulfilled promise," he de-



manded.

Hits back at Congress, demands Revanth Reddy's resignation

He also countered the Congress' demand for BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao's resignation. The Congress had promised to implement its six guarantees within 100 days of coming to power, but 1,000 days had passed without fulfilling the assurances, he said. Similarly, the Congress had made 24 promises to youngsters under its Youth Declaration, but not a single one had been fulfilled even after 1,000 days, Rama Rao claimed.

Rama Rao asked the gathering who should resign, the Chief Minister or BRS chief K Chandrashekhara Rao. "Should KCR, who achieved separate Telangana, resign?" he asked. The gathering responded that Revanth Reddy should resign. He then asked whether the Chief Minister, who had promised to fulfil the assurances within 100 days but had deceived the youth, should resign. The gathering again responded in the affirmative.

Rama Rao recalled that the Congress had demanded the BRS president's resignation in 2006 as well. After he resigned from the Karimnagar Lok Sabha seat, the Con-

gress was defeated badly, he said. "Now, Revanth Reddy is trying to lock horns with KCR. He should bear in mind that he too will meet the same fate as the Congress in 2006," Rama Rao warned.

Slamming the Congress' demand as illogical, Rama Rao said its leaders should resign 420 times for failing to fulfil 420 promises. Referring to the Chief Minister's decision to drop Forest Minister Konda Surekha from the Cabinet, Rama Rao said people would dethrone the Congress government in the next elections.

"The Congress came to power with impractical guarantees and by misleading the youth. Did it offer two lakh jobs in a year, scooters to college-going girls or a monthly honorarium of Rs.4,000?" he asked. The youth responded in the negative.

Rama Rao also criticised Revanth Reddy for his remarks that many engineering students were unable even to file job applications. He said students were instead questioning whether the Chief Minister had the skill to fill his election affidavit.

Rama Rao claimed that Telangana had excelled in several sectors during the 10 years of BRS rule, while the State had witnessed "destruction" since the Congress came to power in 2023. "Corruption and irregularities are plaguing governance. Ministers are fighting with each other to loot the State. Bakasura Brothers are amassing wealth and encroaching lands," Rama Rao added.

Congress betrayed students, unemployed youth: Ex-Minister Puvvada

Khammam: The BRS youth wing has organised massive rallies across the erstwhile Khammam district against the Congress government's failure to deliver its election promises made to the youth.

In Khammam a protest rally from Khammam Pavilion Grounds to ZP Centre was taken out on Saturday as part of the BRS party's week-long protests exposing the government's negligence in fulfilling the promises during its 1,000-day rule. Former Minister Puvvada Ajay Kumar, former MP Nama Nageswara Rao and senior leader Gundala Krishna participated in the protest rally.

Addressing the gathering Ajay Kumar lashed out at the Revanth Reddy government, stating that the Congress party betrayed the students and unemployed youth. Fee reimbursement arrears amounting to thousands of crores of rupees have remained pending for the past three years.



In accordance with the 'Youth Declaration' announced by Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi, the government owes unemployment allowances ranging from Rs 1.20 lakh to Rs 1.30 lakh to each unemployed youth over three years.

The government deceived the youth by failing to announce a job calendar within 100 days and the provision of 2 lakh jobs annually. The government had issued notifications for only

16,000 jobs, while the recruitment processes for all other posts had actually been completed during the previous BRS tenure, Ajay Kumar noted.

In a similar rally taken out from Laxmidevipalli market yard to Ganesh Temple in Kothagudem, BRS parliamentary party leader Vaddiraju Ravichandra stated that no ruler who toyed with the lives of students and youths has ever survived politically.

He recalled how, following protests by thousands of students and youth at Jantar Mantar against the NEET paper leak, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was compelled to step in and have Minister Dharmendra Pradhan resign.

Ravichandra alleged that the Congress government has been neglecting as many as 1,050 gurukuls developed by former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao with the resolve to provide quality English-medium education to all sections of society.

Revanth Reddy claims 1,000 days of good governance at Nakrekal meet

Nalgonda: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Saturday claimed that the Congress government had delivered 1,000 days of good governance and questioned the BRS' demand for his resignation over the failure to fulfil promises made to the people.

He asked people to compare the 10-year rule of the BRS with the Congress government's 1,000 days in office. The BRS government had failed to implement the crop loan waiver, and farmers should bear this in mind, he said at a public meeting in Nakrekal.

Without naming the opposition parties, Revanth Reddy continued his intemperate language towards their leaders. "My culture is stopping me from punishing the opposition leaders and that's why they are roaming freely and making false allegations against me," he stated.

The Chief Minister maintained that opposition parties were instigating auto drivers to demand the abolition of free bus



travel for women. Listing the welfare and development programmes being implemented for women, he challenged the opposition to a debate in the Assembly or anywhere in the State.

Revanth Reddy also claimed that 72,000 government jobs had been provided to unemployed youth within one year. He said the government was addressing the concerns of farmers, women and unemployed youth.

He directed party leaders to organise a public meeting in Rajanna Sircilla by the end of this month, followed by another in Siddipet next month. He asserted that the Congress flag would be hoisted in both constituencies. "The Congress will be back to power with a thumping majority in the 2029 elections," Revanth Reddy claimed.

Interestingly, Munugode MLA Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy hogged the limelight at the meeting. Amid speculation over a possible Cabinet expansion, Rajgopal Reddy attended a public meeting addressed by the Chief Minister after a long gap. When Revanth Reddy announced his name on stage, the gathering responded with cheers and whistles.

Gundu Sudharani Takes Charge as KUDA Chairperson

Warangal: Gundu Sudharani assumed charge as chairperson of the Kakatiya Urban Development Authority (Kuda) at the Kuda office in Hanamkonda on Saturday in the presence of Kuda vice-chairman and Hanumakonda district collector Chahat Bajpai, MLAs Nayini Rajender Reddy, Kadiyam Srihari and Revoori Prakash Reddy, among others.

After assuming office, Sudharani said she would work diligently to discharge the responsibilities entrusted to her as Kuda chairperson. She thanked Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, ministers, MLAs and other public representatives for giving her the opportunity.



She said planned urban development within the Kuda limits would be given priority. Steps would be taken to strengthen infrastructure in line with the growing needs of the city and provide better civic amenities to residents, she added.

Sudharani emphasised the need for elected representatives and officials to work in coordination to advance development programmes. With the cooperation of all stakeholders, she said she would strive to further develop Warangal city and the wider Kuda jurisdiction.

Later, the MLAs and the collector congratulated Sudharani by presenting her bouquets and saplings.

Harish Rao questions Congress claims on 24-hour power supply to farmers

Former Minister T Harish Rao questioned the Congress government's claim of providing 24-hour power supply to farmers after inspecting a sub-station in Siddipet. He said its log book showed power was supplied for only 10 hours and 15 minutes on September 3.

Siddipet: Exposing the false claims of Congress government on 24-hour power supply to farming sector, Former Minister T Harish Rao, who inspected a sub-station at Gambeerpur in Dubbak mandal, found that the Transco had supplied a 10-hour power on September 3 from this particular sub station. After checking the log book at the sub-station in the presence of farmers and local leaders, he said that the electricity department could supply power for only 10 hours 15 minutes on Friday.

Speaking to news reporters after inspecting the substation, he said that the Congress came to power by promising 24-hour power supply to the farming sector. However, he said that they could not continue what the former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao did during the rule.

Challenging R&B Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, who said BRS was just supplying a 20-hour power supply, Rao asked Komatireddy to inspect any substation in Nalgonda if he really wanted to commit to the promises made. Stating that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy came to power to bring back Congress rule, he said that the State was reeling under serious short supply of power like they suffered during Congress rule before 2014.

Demanding Revanth Reddy to answer to 40 lakh farmers, who had agriculture connections, Rao said that the Chief Minister should answer the people on their failure in providing power. Later, Harish Rao also addressed at "rythu polikeka" protest programme organised by Dubbak MLA Kotha Prabhakar Reddy at Habsipur in Dubbak, Rao said that the Congress government could not lift water from Kaleshwaram to this year enforcing the drought on farmers. He said that the Congress government could not take up an inch of canal work.



Governor Unveils Higher Education Renewal Journal

Hyderabad:How universities can renew their academic systems, respond to technological and global changes, and strengthen research and innovation constitutes the latest issue of the Telangana Journal of Higher Education (TJHE), released by Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Saturday.

The Volume 2, Issue 1 (January-June 2026) issue, titled "Universities in the Twenty-First Century: Renewal, Reforms and Roadmaps," is an international, peer-reviewed biannual journal published by the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE). It focuses on contemporary issues and emerging developments in higher education.

Releasing the journal, Shukla said academic platforms such as TJHE give scholars, teachers, researchers and policymakers an opportunity to deliberate on emerging challenges, exchange knowledge and explore innovative approaches to advance higher education.

The Governor appreciated TGCHE chairman Prof. V. Balakista Reddy and his team for promoting research, academic



scholarship and informed discourse through the journal. He also appreciated the council's initiatives to strengthen research culture and academic excellence in Telangana.

Shukla expressed the hope that TJHE would contribute to "evidence-based research and policy dialogue" and emerge as a significant scholarly platform for higher education in Telangana and beyond.

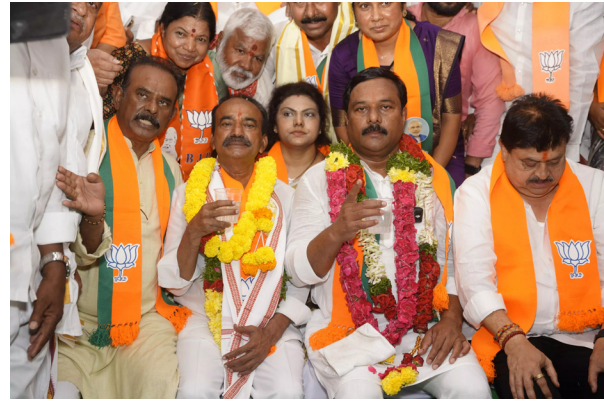
Reddy said the journal reflected TGCHE's commitment to strengthening research culture, promoting academic excellence and facilitating meaningful policy dialogue in higher education. TGCHE secretary Prof. Sriram Venkatesh was also present.

Reddy also briefed the Governor about the Research Education Advancement Conclave in Hyderabad (REACH Conclave), scheduled for September 26. The conclave will bring higher education institutions and other stakeholders together to discuss research, innovation, collaboration and the future of higher education. According to TGCHE, the conclave aims to strengthen the state's higher education, research and innovation ecosystem.

BJP Demands Judicial Probe Into 22A Land Listings

HYDERABAD: The Telangana BJP staged a maha dharna demanding a judicial inquiry by a High Court judge into the Section 22A listings that placed farmers' and private land in the prohibited category under the Bhu-Bharathi portal. The party alleged that thousands of crores in land deals were diverted to benami firms of revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, leaving lakhs of landowners unable to sell property or secure loans.

Union minister G. Kishan Reddy charged the Congress with turning Telangana into a "Revanth Reddy-Rahul Gandhi private limited real estate company" to fund political expenses. He alleged that patta lands with house permissions and utilities were being pushed into the prohibited list



to aid "land mafia" and criticised the sale of housing board sites, park lands and endowment properties under auctions.

Kishan Reddy claimed the Congress regime was collecting 30 per cent commissions to remove lands from the list, and said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was coordinating with collectors on "which lands to sell". He warned that BJP would recover every rupee and restore justice to affected farmers, workers and students.

BJP state president N. Ramchander Rao said the Bhu-Bharathi

system had worsened hardships for farmers and the middle class by arbitrarily tagging homes and agricultural lands as prohibited. He alleged that the earlier BRS regime took 15 per cent commissions, while the present government was collecting 30 per cent, collapsing the revenue system and denying people credit.

Rao said nearly 50 lakh people were suffering as they could not sell land or obtain loans for education and marriages. He demanded a judicial inquiry, criticised the Assembly session being limited to two days,

and warned that BJP would fight "from the streets to the Assembly" until all affected lands were removed from the 22A list.

Party leaders including A.V.N. Reddy, Etala Rajender, D.K. Aruna, Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, Raghunandan Rao, Godam Nagesh, Dr K. Laxman, Bandaru Dattatreya, MLAs, MLCs and Kisan Morcha president Basva Lakshmi Narasiah joined the protest.

BJP floor leader Aleti Maheshwar Reddy accused Srinivas Reddy of quid pro quo in land transactions to benefit his companies. He said the prohibited list had expanded from 16 lakh acres to 80 lakh acres, covering apartments, colonies and cultivated lands, and announced that BJP MPs, MLAs and MLCs would observe a fast before intensifying the agitation.

K. Venkat Reddy Skips CM's Meet, Fuels Cabinet Rumours

Nalgonda:Roads and buildings minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy's absence from a public meeting attended by Chief Minister Anumula Revanth Reddy has fuelled rumours about his possible removal from the cabinet.

Venkat Reddy, who joined the Chief Minister for the inauguration of a 100-bed area hospital and laying of a foundation stone, skipped the public meeting citing important work in Hyderabad. His absence has become a talking point in political circles.

In contrast, Munugode MLA and Venkat Reddy's brother Komatireddy Raj Gopal Reddy attended the public meeting, moved closely with the Chief Minister on the dais and felicitated him. Raj Gopal Reddy has been lobbying for a Cabinet berth for two years and has openly expressed dissatisfaction over the party high command's failure to fulfil its promise to him.

Raj Gopal Reddy arrived in Nakrekal with a large convoy of vehicles, apparently mobilising supporters from Munugode. Whenever the Chief Minister mentioned Raj Gopal Reddy's name, the venue reverberated with cheers from his supporters, indicating that he had brought a sizeable following to showcase his strength. The political developments at the meeting lent weight to speculation that Raj Gopal Reddy may secure a ministerial post in the forthcoming Cabinet expansion, possibly at the expense of his brother.



Massive Congress Bike Rally in Nirmal to Mark 1,000 Days of Praja Palana

Nirmal District Correspondent : A massive bike rally was organized by the Congress party in Nirmal district headquarters as part of the celebrations marking 1,000 days of Praja Palana (people’s governance). The rally was held with the objective of taking the welfare and development programmes being implemented by the Telangana Congress government under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to the people. A large number of Congress leaders, youth, and party workers participated in the rally.

The programme was attended by Nirmal District Congress Party President and Khanapur MLA Vedma Bhojju Patel, Nirmal Constituency Congress Party In-charge Kuchadi Srihari Rao, Mudhol Constituency In-charge Narayana Patel, former MLA Vital Reddy, and others as chief guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Kuchadi Srihari Rao said that after coming to power, the Congress government had undertaken several programmes aimed at the welfare of the people and the development of farmers, women, youth, and the poor. He said that the welfare schemes implemented during the 1,000 days of Praja Palana were



reaching the people.

Srihari Rao urged people to compare the promises made by the previous BRS government during its ten-year rule with the programmes implemented by the present Congress government during its 1,000 days in office. He said the Congress government was fulfilling its electoral promises in a phased manner while giving priority to public welfare.

“Congress Will Return to Power Again in the 2028 Elections” – Kuchadi Srihari Rao

Congress leaders and party workers participated in the rally in large numbers on motorcycles and took the government’s welfare programmes to the people. The rally continued through Nirmal town in an enthusiastic atmosphere.

Minister Jupally’s Visit Arrangements Must Be Completed Meticulously: Collector Bhavesh Mishra

Nirmal District Correspondent : As District In-charge Minister Jupally Krishna Rao is scheduled to visit Basara on Sunday and participate in the inauguration of various development works, District Collector Bhavesh Mishra directed officials to complete all arrangements for the visit in a foolproof manner.

On Saturday, the District Collector inspected the arrangements for the minister’s visit at the field level in Basara. He reviewed the arrangements at the Sri Gnana Saraswathi Temple and surrounding areas of the Godavari River and sought details from the concerned officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector instructed officials to complete all arrangements well in advance according to the programme schedule to avoid any inconvenience during the minister’s visit. He directed officials to pay special attention to parking, security, traffic regulation, sanitation, drinking water and electricity arrangements. He emphasized that officials of all concerned departments should work in coordination to make the minister’s visit successful and ensure that there were no lapses in the arrangements.

Later, District Collector Bhavesh Mishra inspected the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process at the Bhainsa Tahsildar’s office. He directed officials to complete the issuance of notices and subsequent procedures within the stipulated deadlines. He also instructed officials



to provide voters with the necessary information regarding the SIR process, clarify their doubts and extend full cooperation.

During the inspection, the Collector personally interacted with several voters, enquired about their doubts regarding the SIR process and clarified their concerns.

Bhainsa Sub-Collector Ajmeera Sanket Kumar, Irrigation and R&B Executive Engineers Anil and Subhash, Horticulture Officer Ramana, Basara Temple EO Anjana Devi, Tahsildars Pavan Chandra and Shashi Bhushan, along with other officials and staff, participated in the programmes.

Orphan Girl from Tabitha Ashram Secures MBBS Seat

Collector Koya Sriharsha’s Encouragement Helps Her Take a Major Step Towards Medical Education

Peddapalli Correspondant September 5:: V. Sandhya, an orphan girl who has been studying at Tabitha Ashram since Class 1, has secured an MBBS seat in a government medical college in Bhupalapally district, bringing pride to the institution. Sandhya scored an impressive 955 marks in Intermediate and aspired to pursue medical education. Recognising her potential and determination, Peddapalli District Collector Koya Sriharsha took special interest in supporting her goal and arranged online NEET coaching for her. While staying at Tabitha Ashram, Sandhya made effective use of the online coaching and worked hard with determination. Her efforts paid off as she secured an MBBS seat in the government medical college. Collector Koya Sriharsha congratulated Sandhya on her achievement and appreciated her dedication to education despite growing up under the care of the ashram. He said her success was a matter of great happiness and assured her of continued encouragement and support until she successfully completes her MBBS course. The Collector advised other children studying at Tabitha Ashram to take inspiration from Sandhya and strive for excellence in education. He said the government machinery would extend the necessary support for their educational development. Officials said Sandhya’s achievement would serve as an inspiration to other children at the ashram and demonstrated that talented students can achieve their goals with proper encouragement, guidance and determination. Relevant officials and others participated in the programme.



Casteism on Kharge: B’lore Cops File Zero FIR Against UT BJP Leaders

Bengaluru: The Vidhana Soudha Police in Bengaluru have registered a zero FIR against Uttarakhand BJP members and others over an alleged “purification ritual” conducted at Ramlila Ground in Haldwani after Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge addressed a rally there.

The FIR was registered on August 31 following a complaint filed by T R Ramappa, former vice-chairman of the ST Department of the Indian National Congress. According to the complaint, Kharge, who is also the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, addressed a public rally at Ramlila Ground in Haldwani, Nainital district, on August 8.

The complainant described the gathering as a peaceful and lawful democratic assembly.

It was alleged that on August 10, BJP members and functionaries conducted a “purification ritual” or “Shuddhikkaran” at the same venue.

The complainant alleged that the ritual was intended to convey that Kharge’s presence had rendered the venue “impure” because he belongs to a Scheduled Caste community.

The complaint termed the act an insult and an offence under laws dealing with untouchability.

The complaint also named Uttarakhand BJP president Mahendra Bhatt for allegedly defending and justifying the ritual after it came under criticism.

Police have registered the case under Sections 7(1)(c), 7(1)(d) and 7(1)(e) of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, Section 3(1)(u) of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, and Section 196(1)(b) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, which deals with promoting enmity between different groups.

As the case has been registered as a zero FIR, it can be lodged at any police station irrespective of jurisdiction.

The Vidhana Soudha Police said the FIR will be transferred to the jurisdictional police station in Haldwani, Uttarakhand, for further investigation.



tion. The Bengaluru Police will not investigate the case, the officer said, adding that similar FIRs have been registered in at least eight places across the country in connection with the incident.

The development has triggered a political confrontation between the Congress and the BJP.

Kharge had raised the issue in the Rajya Sabha on August 13 and later wrote to the Leader of the House, JP Nadda, questioning the delay in registering an FIR over the incident.

In his letter, Kharge said the “purification” at the venue where he had addressed the rally was contrary to the spirit of the Constitution and human values, and linked the practice to untouchability.

He also drew a parallel with Dr B R Ambedkar’s Mahad Satyagraha of 1927, to secure the right of untouchables to access drinking water from the public Chawdar Tank in Mahad, Maharashtra.

Meanwhile, Haldwani Police had earlier registered an FIR against Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi based on a complaint alleging that he had given a casteist interpretation to what the organisers described as a routine religious ritual.

The Congress has termed the FIR against Rahul Gandhi an attempt to divert attention from the issue of the alleged purification ritual.

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released the funds from time to time when the state was reeling under serious financial crisis during the Covid-19. He said that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy’s ignorance had put the students at the risk of losing an academic year.

Due to the ignorance of the government, the former minister said that over 300 degree colleges were closed down including five colleges in Siddipet. Opposing the government’s move to merge polytechnic education in Skill University, he said that the students would lose many opportunities since the Skill University is being set up in PPP mode. Rao also warned that he would not tolerate if police behaved violently with the students whenever they organised protests.

BRS MLA Warns Minister Ponguleti At Pro-test Programme

HANAMKONDA: Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy has warned minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy for the latter’s remarks against BRS chief and former chief minister K. Chandrasekhara Rao.

“Minister Ponguleti should speak carefully. Otherwise, we will deal with you. Telangana is KCR’s stronghold,” Kaushik Reddy declared while addressing a “Vantavarpu” protest rally organised by the opposition BRS party at the Kamalapur mandal headquarters in Hanamkonda district on Friday.

The MLA charged that the Congress had promised to implement its Six Guarantees within 100 days, but had failed to fulfil them even after completing 1,000 days in office.

Kaushik Reddy alleged that attempts are being made to loot properties worth ₹2,000 crore at Vattinagulapally in Hyderabad. He accused the Congress government of blackmailing people by placing one lakh acres in Hyderabad on the blacklist.

The BRS MLA declared that Congress will not secure even single-digit seats in the next assembly elections and most of its contestants would lose their election deposits



US Open 2026 Day 7: Zverev, Rybakina headline third-round action

Alexander Zverev and Elena Rybakina headline Day 7 of the US Open 2026 as the third round continues in New York. Coco Gauff, Iga Swiatek, Naomi Osaka and Taylor Fritz are also in action, while Yuki Bhambri begins his doubles campaign

New York: Men’s singles top seed Alexander Zverev and women’s second seed Elena Rybakina will headline an action-packed Day 7 at the US Open 2026.

Zverev will face 25th seed Alejandro Tabilo in his third-round match, while Rybakina will take on Ukraine’s unseeded Yuliia Starodubtseva for a place in the pre-quarters as attention turns to the stars in New York.

Eyes will be on the top-seeded German Zverev as he heads into the third round after two five-setters, which have kept him on the court for nine hours and 26 minutes. The World No.2 has not lost to Tabilo in his two previous meetings with the Chilean, but given his previous two gruelling contests, an upset is not out of the question.

Meanwhile, Rybakina continues her quest for her maiden Flushing Meadows title and the World No.1 spot, both of which are currently held by Aryna Sabalenka. Rybakina has cruised past her opponents in her first two rounds and has lost her serve only once. She will look to avenge her loss to Starodubtseva from the French Open 2026 round 2, which was the only meeting between these two.

There will be much more in the pipeline in New York on Day 7 as the pre-quarterfinals approach. Fourth seed and home favourite Coco Gauff will face Cristina Bucsa in round 3, while 2022 champion Iga Swiatek will take on Marie Bouzkova for a place in the round of 16. Naomi Osaka, a two-time champion in New York, will resume her quest as she takes on Belgium’s Elise Mertens in round 3.

In the men’s singles, American star Taylor Fritz will face Francisco Cerundolo in round 3, while



fifth-seeded Flavio Cobolli will take on 28th-seeded Alexander Blockx for a place in the round of 16.

For India, Yuki Bhambri will kick off his campaign in the men’s doubles, partnering New Zealand’s Michael Venus for the clash against Ryan Seggerman and Patrik Trhac of the USA. Send Money Overseas

Check the schedule for Day 7:

Arthur Ashe Stadium
Starts at 9:00 PM IST

Men’s Singles (Round 3): [9] Taylor Fritz (USA) vs. [24] Francisco Cerundolo (ARG)

Women’s Singles (Round 3) [Not before 11:00 PM IST]: Cristina Bucsa (ESP) vs. [4] Coco Gauff (USA)

Starts at 4:30 AM IST (Sun, Sept 6)

Women’s Singles (Round 3): [14] Iva Jovic (USA) vs. [17] Alexandra Eala (PHI)

Men’s Singles (Round 3): [1] Alexander Zverev (GER) vs. [25] Alejandro Tabilo (CHI)

Louis Armstrong Stadium
Starts at 8:30 PM IST

Women’s Singles (Round 3): [24] Anastasia Potapova (AUT) vs. [10] Amanda Anisimova (USA)

Men’s Singles (Round 3): [28] Alexander Blockx (BEL) vs. [5] Flavio Cobolli (ITA)

Starts at 4:30 AM IST (Sun, Sept 6)

Women’s Singles (Round 3): [13] Naomi Osaka (JPN) vs. [23] Elise Mertens (BEL)

Men’s Singles (Round 3): [17] Jakub Mensik (CZE) vs. [14] Learner Tien (USA)

Grandstand
Starts at 8:30 PM IST

Women’s Singles (Round 3): [22] Madison Keys (USA) vs. Qinwen Zheng (CHN)

Women’s Singles (Round 3): [8] Iga Swiatek (POL) vs. [25] Marie Bouzkova (CZE)

Men’s Singles (Round 3): Michael Zheng (USA) vs. Arthur Gea (FRA)

Women’s Singles (Round 3) [Not before 2:30 AM IST, Sun, Sept 6]: Yuliia Starodubtseva (UKR) vs. [2] Elena Rybakina (KAZ)

Stadium 17
Women’s Singles (Round 3): [5] Mirra Andreeva vs. Nikola Bartunkova (CZE)

Men’s Singles (Round 3): Karen Khachanov vs. Benjamin Bonzi (FRA)

Men’s Singles (Round 3) [Not before 2:00 AM IST, Sun, Sept 6]: [31] Zizou Bergs (BEL) vs. Botic van de Zandschulp (NED)

Court 5
Men’s Singles (Round 3): [21] Luciano Darderi (ITA) vs. Dane Sweeny (AUS)

Indians in action Send Money Overseas

Court 11
Men’s Doubles, 1st Round – Yuki Bhambri/Michael Venus (NZL) vs Ryan Seggerman (USA)/Patrik Trhac (USA) – 8:30 p.m.

Serena and Venus Williams Lose in Their Return to US Open Doubles

New York: Serena and Venus Williams are out of the U.S. Open women’s doubles after losing in a match tiebreaker.

The sisters blew a 5-0 lead in the 10-point tiebreaker and lost 6-3, 6-7 (6), 7-6 (10-7) on Friday night to Hao-Ching Chan and Maya Joint.

It was the first U.S. Open match since 2022 at the Grand Slam tournament the sisters won twice. They pulled out the second set in a tiebreaker, battled back from 4-1 down in the third set to tie it, but then faltered late.

Serena came back to tennis this year at 44. Venus has continued to play on tour at 46.

Perhaps it was their



ages, could have been Serena’s long layoff, or maybe it was nerves. But both double-faulted during the tiebreaker after they had played so brilliantly late in the third set and then in the first few points of the tiebreaker.

Serena ended up losing to Joint for the second time this summer. She fell to the Australian in three sets at Wimbledon in her return to singles play, and she and Venus then had to pull out of their doubles match after Serena hurt her knee.

That delayed their return until New York, where they won in 1999 and 2009 and are now 27-8 in their 10 appearances.



‘Always special feeling at Chepauk’: Tilak Varma excited for Duleep Trophy final

South Zone captain Tilak Varma is excited to play the Duleep Trophy final against East Zone at Chennai’s MA Chidambaram Stadium. Recalling fond memories at Chepauk, including his T20 World Cup performance, Tilak said he is eagerly awaiting the crowd

Chennai: South Zone captain Tilak Varma said it was a “really special” feeling to be at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai for the Duleep Trophy final against East Zone as he looks to guide his team to the title.

Tilak heaped praise on the crowd at Chepauk, highlighting his “good memories” at the venue.

“We have got great memories here, and the ground has been very historic. When you come to Chennai, the first thing that always comes to mind is Mahibhai. And at the same time, I have got very good memories here,” Tilak said in a video posted by BCCI Domestic.

“The Chennai crowd, they really support me well. Whether I was playing for Mumbai Indians or for India, the crowd has shown me great love. So that is a good sign



for me,” he added. Send Money Overseas

Tilak can look back on his time at Chepauk with good memories. It was at this very ground that he scored a blistering 16-ball 44 in the T20 World Cup 2026 Super Eight clash against Zimbabwe, which rejuvenated his campaign.

“And I have got good memories here in the World Cup against Zimbabwe. I think I would say that is my comeback match. From there, I was feeling slightly low in the first two games.

“But from here, when I charged up against Zimbabwe, I

was on a different level in my batting and in my confidence as well. In one India match, my jersey number is 72, and I have scored 72 here, and I have won the game. It was against England,” he added.

He highlighted that playing the Duleep Trophy final in front of an expected strong crowd would be really special, as the teams played their previous match without fans at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE) ground in Bengaluru.

“So I have got a few memories here. It always feels special to me when I am in Chepauk. It is really

special playing in the Duleep Trophy final.

“We have missed playing in front of the crowd in the last game. But again, now playing the final in Chepauk, I am expecting that there will be a lot of crowd. So it will be really special because I always wait for that crowd when I come to Chennai.

“I love that crowd. They give that love to me as well. I am really waiting for that,” he concluded.

East Zone will take on South Zone in the final of the prestigious Duleep Trophy from Sunday, with the title at stake.

East Zone are looking for their first Duleep Trophy title since 2012-13, when they defeated Central Zone in the final to lift their second trophy. South Zone have been far more successful, having won 12 titles, with their last coming in 2023.

Afghanistan T20Is: Srikanth questions India’s full-strength squad, urges youngsters’ inclusion

Former India captain Krishnamachari Srikanth has criticised India’s full-strength squad for the Afghanistan T20I series, saying selectors should have used the opportunity to test youngsters. He also questioned the match-fitness of returning players Jasprit Bumrah, Harshit Rana and others.

New Delhi: Former India captain Krishnamachari Srikanth believes the upcoming T20I series against Afghanistan should have been used to expand India’s pool of young players rather than rely on established names, arguing that recent defeats may have influenced the selectors to prioritise results over experimentation.

India are scheduled to face Afghanistan in a three-match T20I series in Delhi from September 13, with the squad also set to form the core of the team for the Asian Games in Japan later this month. The selection has brought Jasprit Bumrah, Harshit Rana, Nitish Kumar Reddy and Washington Sundar back into the mix despite questions surrounding their match fitness.

For Srikanth, the bigger concern is not the quality of the players picked but what their selection indicates about India’s approach to a series that could have offered opportunities to youngsters.

“After the series losses in Ireland and England, the selectors have decided not to take a chance and picked a full-strength squad for Afghanistan. They are going all guns blazing, but this is a mistake. It’s against teams like Afghanistan that you should try out youngsters. Instead, you’ve picked a full-strength squad out of fear,” Srikanth said on his YouTube channel.



India’s recent T20I results appear to have shaped that thinking. The side endured a difficult overseas stretch under Shreyas Iyer, losing all six completed matches in Ireland and England. A second-string Indian team subsequently responded with a 3-0 series sweep of Zimbabwe in July.

Srikanth feels the response to those setbacks has been excessive, with the Afghanistan squad resembling the group selected for the England assignment.

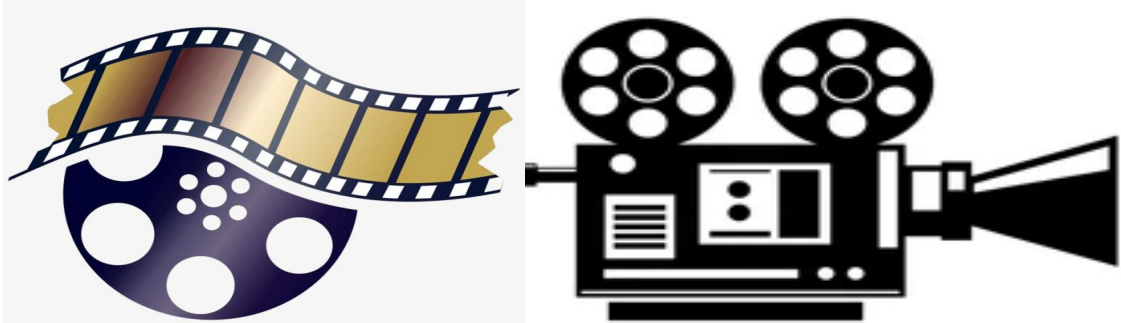
“It feels like a desperation move after the Ireland and England losses. But this squad is almost the same as the one they picked for England.”

The former captain also turned his attention to the fitness status of four returning players. Rather than questioning their credentials, he argued that competitive readiness cannot be established solely through training at the Bengaluru Centre of Excellence.

“These four have not proved match-fitness. So on what basis are they subject to fitness? Just because you prove your fitness at the Bengaluru CoE, are you fit? That’s how Harshit Rana went to England, and then what happened to him there? So match-fitness is important,” opined Srikanth.

Rana and Reddy, in particular, remain players Srikanth rates highly in the shortest format. His objection, he stressed, is about the timing of their selection rather than their ability.

“This is not a question of ability. Harshit Rana has proved to be a very good bowler in T20s, and Nitish Kumar Reddy is brilliant in the short format. But why pick them without match-fitness being proven is the question,” Srikanth said.



CINEMA

Bhogi Poster Creates Chiranjeevi Hitler Memories

Sharwanand’s upcoming movie Bhogi has created fresh interest with a special Raksha Bandhan poster.

Sharwanand’s upcoming movie Bhogi has created fresh interest with a special Raksha Bandhan poster. The poster shows Sharwanand’s character Ganga with his five sisters. The simple family moment has also reminded some Telugu movie fans of the emotional brother-sister connection seen in Chiranjeevi’s popular film Hitler.

Director Sampath Nandi shared the special poster on Raksha Bandhan. He revealed that Ganga has five sisters in the story. The poster shows Sharwanand surrounded by the five women, giving the film a strong family emotion along with its action image.

The poster has a traditional and old-style look. Sharwanand appears in a rugged character, while the presence of his five sisters gives another side to Ganga’s personality. The makers are presenting the relationship as an important part of the story.

The idea of a brother protect-



ing several sisters naturally brought back memories of Chiranjeevi’s Hitler for some movie lovers. That film also became popular for its strong family emotions and the bond between a brother and his sisters. Because of this, fans are now wondering whether Bhogi will also have a powerful emotional

family track along with its action.

Bhogi is being directed by Sampath Nandi and features Sharwanand in the lead role. The film is set in the early 1960s and takes place around a fictional village on the Telangana-Maharashtra border. The movie is being made as a period action drama with a large-scale treatment. The team has already completed major action schedules, including an important climax sequence. A huge set was created for the climax, and hundreds of junior artistes were involved. The makers are reportedly taking special care with the action scenes and visual effects.

Sharwanand is said to have undergone a major transformation for the role of Ganga. His character is expected to be powerful, intense and emotionally connected to his family.

Anupama Parameswaran and Dimple Hayathi are playing the female leads. Anupama is seen as Sulochana Rani, while Dimple plays Mandaram.

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.



Can One Film Face More Problems Than Recent Tamannaah’s Movie

Sidharth Malhotra and Tamannaah Bhatia’s upcoming film Vvaan: Force of the Forest seems to be facing one problem after another.

Sidharth Malhotra and Tamannaah Bhatia’s upcoming film Vvaan: Force of the Forest seems to be facing one problem after another. The film has created curiosity because of its unique folklore-based story, but several recent developments have now raised questions about its theatrical release.

The biggest issue is the major changes happening behind the scenes. Reports suggest that a large part of the film is being reshot and edited again. Director Deepak Mishra, who was associated with the project from the beginning, is reportedly no longer part of the film. Following his exit, changes were also made to the original creative team.

The film is now said to be going through an important editing process under the guidance of producer Ektaa Kapoor. Editors Niraj Kothari and Sahir Raza are reportedly working on the new version of the movie. There are also reports that Sidharth Malhotra asked for around 17 more days of shooting to improve important parts of the film.

The climax and action scenes are said to be among the portions being worked on again. This has put extra pressure on the team because the movie is currently planned for a September 25, 2026 theatrical release.

Vvaan has another major challenge as well. The film is expected to face competition from the Avengers: Endgame Encore release on the same date. The popularity of the Marvel franchise could affect the number of screens and show timings available for Vvaan, especially in big cities and multiplexes.

The film has also received mixed reactions to its teaser. Some viewers felt that the teaser did not create the expected excitement. Questions were raised online about the visual effects, production quality and overall presentation.

Vvaan was earlier expected to arrive during Chhath Puja. Its release plans were later changed, with the film eventually moving toward September 25.

The movie is set against the forests of Central India and is inspired by Indian folklore. The makers reportedly used real forest locations to give the story a natural and authentic look. With reshoots, creative changes, teaser criticism and a major release clash, Vvaan appears to have a difficult road ahead.



Vishwambhara Creates More Questions Than Answers

At the same time, expectations were high for Vishwambhara. The movie has been in the news for a long time, and fans have been waiting for an official release date.

Chiranjeevi fans had mixed feelings on his birthday this year. The special day brought a big surprise with the title announcement and glimpse of his upcoming movie Kaaka. However, the update on Vishwambhara left many fans disappointed.

Kaaka is being directed by Bobby Kolli and presents Chiranjeevi in a new look. The makers also announced that the movie will arrive in theatres on January 13, 2027. This gave fans a reason to celebrate and made the birthday event more exciting.



At the same time, expectations were high for Vishwambhara. The movie has been in the news for a long time, and fans have been waiting for an official release date. The film was earlier planned for January 2025, but it was postponed. Since then, there have been several reports about its new release plans.

On Chiranjeevi’s birthday, the Vishwambhara team released a new poster and also shared the original soundtrack update. Many fans expected the makers to use the special occasion to finally announce the theatrical release date. But the latest update did not mention any date.

This has once again created disappointment among Mega fans. There are reports in the industry that October 16, 2026, could be the release date of Vishwambhara. The date is also being shown on some ticketing and movie-related platforms. However, the makers have not officially confirmed it yet.

Vishwambhara is directed by Vassishta and marks his second movie as a director. Trisha Krishnan is playing the female lead in the fantasy adventure. UV Creations is producing the film on a large scale.

The movie has already created strong expectations because of its grand visuals, fantasy world and Chiranjeevi’s presence. Fans are hoping that the makers will soon give a clear update about the release.

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 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 spe-

cial 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 released 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.