

CM Revanth Moots Podcars For City's Congested Areas

Hyderabad:Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to explore personal rapid transit (PRT) systems to improve public transport in Hyderabad's congested areas, connecting residential and industrial hubs with Metro Rail, MMTS and bus stations.

He stressed the need to adopt advanced technology, study the world's best PRT systems and expedite implementation to meet the city's future transportation needs. PRT vehicles, also called podcars or railed taxis, travel on elevated tracks and carry 3 to 6 people each.

During a review meeting on Hyderabad Core Urban Region Economy (CURE) projects on Friday, the Chief Minister asked officials to identify suitable locations, particularly areas with heavy passenger movement and those frequented by workers and employees of industrial establishments. He emphasised the importance of selecting appropriate corridors and ensuring efficient operation and maintenance of the proposed system.

Revanth Reddy also directed officials to expedite flyover and underpass projects to improve connectivity between different parts of the



CURE region and ensure smoother traffic movement. Reviewing traffic management measures around KBR Park, he called for steps to streamline the one-way traffic system, including at road junctions connecting various colonies and major roads, free-left turns and U-turns.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to speed up utility shifting and complete the works at the earliest. He specifically directed them to accelerate construction of the flyover from Nagarjuna Circle towards Jubilee Hills Check Post. Citing the pace of infrastructure projects in cities such as Mumbai, he asked officials to study the technologies and construction methods adopted there and ensure that works, once launched, are completed within a year.

He also called for a study on the feasibility of constructing a radial road parallel to the proposed Hyderabad-Mumbai bullet train corridor. Officials were asked to examine possibilities for widening existing roads and building new ones between Shankarpally and Chevella.

On recycled water utilisation, the Chief Minister directed offi-

cial to expedite the necessary works. Officials informed him that plans had been prepared to utilise 500 million litres per day (MLD) of recycled water. He asked them to ensure supplies to Bharat Future City, data centres at Chandanvelly and Aluru, and other industrial establishments. He also called for promoting recycled water use in high-rise buildings, landscaped areas and parks.

Revanth Reddy also directed the Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Malkajgiri municipal corporations, HYDRAA, the Water Board and Hyderabad Growth Corridor Limited to work in coordination for effective implementation of the CURE Act. He also asked officials to expedite the establishment of offices for the Cyberabad and Malkajgiri corporations.

CM's secretary C. Manicka Raj, Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited adviser N.V.S. Reddy, additional managing director B Ajith Reddy, municipal commissioners R.V. Karnan, Srujana and Vinay Krishna Reddy, and water board managing director K Ashok Reddy, among others, attended the meeting.

Ponguleti Asks Collectors To Regularise Land Within One Month



In a major relief to property owners affected by GO 59, the Telangana government has directed district collectors to clear pending applications for regularisation of government land measuring 500 square yards or less under GO 59 within a month.

Revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said on Friday said the decision is part of the assurances given by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy in the Legislative Assembly to resolve long-pending issues relating to Section 22-A of the Registration Act. The government has so far issued seven orders, including the constitution of a high-level committee, to address various problems associated with properties listed under Section 22-A.

After reviewing the issue with senior officials in the Secretariat on Friday, Srinivas Reddy said the government had issued Memo No. 48030 in accordance with GOs 14, 22, 29 and 41, directing collectors to dispose of pending applications under GO 59 within 30 days.

The minister said officials had been instructed to scrutinise the original land records, eligibility of applicants, extent of land sought to be regularised and other relevant aspects thoroughly before taking a decision. Any irregularities or violations of rules found during the scrutiny should be examined and dealt with in accordance with the existing norms, he said, stressing that eligible applicants should receive justice without any room for errors.

He said the implementation of GO 59 had been suspended after irregularities in some cases during the previous BRS government. He also said that officials should ensure that such lapses were not repeated, adding that cases in which conveyance deeds had already been issued should also be examined comprehensively.

Several applications submitted under GO 59 had remained pending for years for various reasons, forcing ordinary people with small house plots and other properties to make repeated visits to government offices. The government is committed to resolving such long-standing public grievances, he added.

Applications involving matters pending before courts and disputed properties would be decided only in accordance with the directions issued by the respective courts, the minister clarified.

The minister said the government is taking steps to resolve 10 to 12 categories of issues linked to Section 22-A on a fast-track basis.

By-poll Win Endorsement Of CM Vijay's Leadership, Governance: Nirmal Kumar

Chennai: Tamil Nadu Energy Resources and Law Minister Nirmal Kumar on Friday termed the ruling TVK's by-poll victory in Madurantakam and Dharapuram as an endorsement of Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay's governance and leadership. Reacting to the emerging counting trends indicating an overwhelming victory for the ruling TVK – the first crucial poll victory since the government was formed in May – the minister told reporters here, "The credit for the victory goes to Chief Minister Vijay's governance and leadership. The results are a direct endorsement of the good governance of the 4-month-old TVK government".

Tamil Nadu's ruling TVK is all set to win



the bypolls to Madurantakam and Dharapuram Assembly constituencies as the margin between the Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay-led party and its nearest rival DMK continued to widen as counting of votes

progressed towards completion. While the fortunes of TVK nominee in Dharapuram, P Sathyabama, initially witnessed a see-saw battle with the AIADMK surging to the first place following a number of rounds, subsequently she established a clear lead, and towards the close of the 20th round she was leading by 10,003 votes.

In Madurantakam, TVK candidate Maragatham Kumaravel maintained a steady lead from the beginning, and by the 12th round it was well over 13,000 votes. DMK nominee I Paranthamen continued to be in second place, and the AIADMK candidate S Kanitha Sampath was third.

IMC 2026 Inaugural Day Convenes Global Leaders to Chart Strategic Blueprints for 6G Testbeds, Satellite Convergence and AI-Native Networks

New Delhi, 9th October 2026: Building on a landmark inaugural session, the 10th edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2026 gathered global industry leaders, policymakers, telecom operators and academia, to advance the forum's defining theme of 'Scale Without Boundaries.' The day deepened strategic discourse across 6G testbeds, direct-to-device satellite connectivity and the monetisation of AI-native digital infrastructure, setting the stage for one of the most substantive programme days for the forum.

The 10th edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2026 was officially inaugurated today by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi. He lauded IMC for playing a pivotal role in uniting technology, re-

search, industry, investment and ideas to serve humanity. Emphasising that technology scales only through trust, the Prime Minister highlighted India's rapid evolution from a technology consumer to a global creator.

Addressing the forum in the inaugural session, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, Hon'ble Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region, said, "India has demonstrated that digital scale need not come at the cost of affordability. UPI, Aadhar and digilocker demonstrate transformative power of affordable connectivity. Mobile phones have become bank branches and telecom networks have become India's highway. By adding a billion people to the digital ecosystem, we will add innovators and entrepreneurs. Our responsibility is to ensure that geography or income does not limit their chances or opportunities."

P Ramakrishna, CEO, IMC, said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address at the 10th India Mobile Congress reaffirmed IMC evolution beyond being a showcase for technology. His observation that the IMC has served as a mirror of India's digital growth underscores how the platform has evolved alongside the country's transformation into a digitally empowered nation. As IMC enters its next chap-



ter, our focus will be on making the platform more outcome-driven and making Indian innovations reach global markets.

Organised by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), the landmark 10th edition of IMC is set to welcome over 1.5 lakh attendees from more than 100 countries.

Quotes from industry leaders and policymakers on Inaugural day of India Mobile Congress 2026:

Lt. Gen. Dr. S.P. Kochhar, Director General, COAI said, "As India Mobile Congress marks a decade, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a digitally empowered India sets the tone for the next decade of transformation. India's robust digital infrastructure has created a strong foundation

for a future driven by connectivity, AI, 6G and emerging technologies. The next decade is about taking India's digital journey from scale to global impact, positioning the country as a creator and trusted technology leader for the world."

Magnus Ewerbring, CTO - APAC, Ericsson said, "Networks are becoming increasingly intent-driven, operators specify the outcome or service they want, and the network dynamically determines how best to deliver it. This will be critical as operators look to offer more differentiated and personalised services, including on-demand network capabilities tailored to specific customer needs. Moving from pre-configured network resources to dynamic, intelligent configuration will require a fundamental shift in how networks are designed and operated."

Luciana Camargos, Head of Spectrum, GSMA said, "We need a regulatory framework that enables the service while ensuring that terrestrial networks are protected from interference. Device availability is another important consideration, particularly where satellite services rely on specific spectrum bands. Governments and industry therefore need to work together to address the barriers to adoption,

including affordability and digital literacy, so that connectivity can reach those who need it most."

Tarun Chitkara, VP - Regulatory, Bharti Airtel

"In critical areas, such as border regions or hilly areas, where there is a genuine requirement for connectivity but very little population to serve, Direct-to-Device can make a real difference. I see three important requirements: the right regulatory framework, technical integration and, finally, commercial considerations. The infrastructure is ready, and technical integration can be addressed. What we need now is a regulatory framework that enables these services and creates a favourable environment for operators to bring connectivity to places where conventional infrastructure may not be commercially viable."



Saturday 10, October, 2026

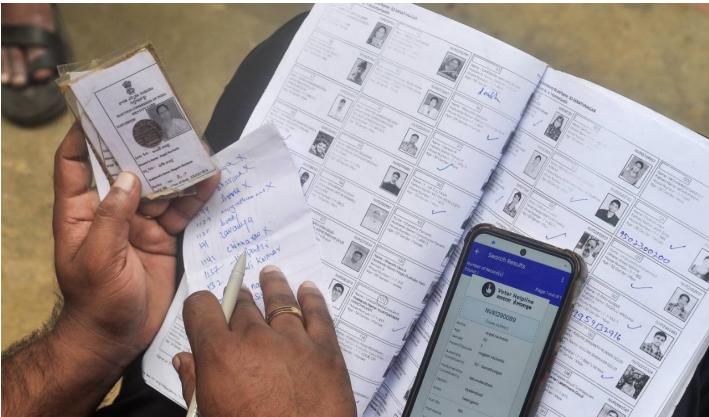
GST 2.0, A WELCOME COURSE CORRECTION

Though the overall report card of the GST regime has been satisfactory, there are areas that need course correction to make the system more effective and responsive. Sweeping arrest powers were one of the provisions that drew criticism, and rightly so. It was widely seen by businesses as an instrument of harassment. The second phase of GST reforms proposes to take away arrest powers from tax officials and make a court order a prerequisite for any arrest. The 57th GST Council meeting, to be held in Delhi, is set to deliberate on the proposed reforms in the enforcement and compliance areas. This is a welcome development as it could become the next major pillar of the government's next-generation GST reforms, the GST 2.0. The key objective is to distinguish between deliberate tax evasion and genuine compliance-related issues. The prosecution threshold for tax evasion is also being raised from Rs 1 crore to Rs 5 crore. This must be seen as a move towards a more mature system — one that does not paint everybody with the same brush. Under the existing framework, authorised officers can invoke Section 69 of the CGST Act and arrest individuals suspected of specified offences, including issuing fake invoices, fraudulent input tax credit claims and collecting tax without depositing it with the government. While these powers are intended for serious violations, the prospect of arrest by tax authorities has long raised concerns about harassment of taxpayers. The proposed reforms take a more balanced approach. Ordinary disputes should primarily be settled through assessment, recovery of tax, interest and penalties. Criminal prosecution should be reserved for substantial fraud, with arrests requiring judicial scrutiny. Such a framework would strengthen due process without weakening the State's ability to penalise tax evaders. The proposals also narrow the scope of prosecution provisions so that they do not apply to routine cases. Small e-commerce sellers could use platform warehouses for GST registration. The registration system would also show applicants only the relevant sections and give them a tailored document list. The wider GST 2.0 agenda has some encouraging features. These include faster, risk-based refunds, simpler registration, protection of genuine buyers' input tax credit, and fewer low-value notices that can substantially reduce compliance costs. Allowing businesses to apply for registration in multiple States through a common process could further improve ease of doing business. The reforms must spell out a clear roadmap: trust compliant taxpayers, let technology conduct thorough risk checks, and pursue fraudsters aggressively. Overcoming the initial scepticism, technical glitches and political differences, the GST regime, an audacious indirect tax reform rolled out in 2017, has come a long way and proved largely beneficial for the country. The taxpayer base grew from 66.5 lakh at the time of launch to 1.6 crore in 2026. Steady double-digit growth, despite rate cuts, indicates base-widening and improved compliance.

Telangana SIR: 18.12 lakh voters face exclusion from final electoral list

More than 18.12 lakh electors in Telangana are at risk of being removed from the electoral rolls for failing to respond to notices issued during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise.

Hyderabad: As many as 18.12 lakh electors in Telangana risk losing their voting rights as they have yet to respond to notices issued during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. A staggering 92,88,187 notices have been generated during the ongoing SIR process and 92,23,486 notices were served to the voters concerned, leaving 64,701 notices pending, as part of the ongoing SIR exercise. As per the information shared by the Telangana Chief Electoral Office, hearings of 82,11,205 electors have been completed. Of these, 74,62,851 voters have been found eligible for inclusion in the final electoral publication as of Friday. A total of 12,969 electors have been found ineligible and they will be excluded from the final list. Among the notices served, 18,12,367 electors are yet to respond despite multiple reminders and house visits by the Booth Level Officers (BLOs). This comes even as the Election Commission of India (ECI) announced new measures such as doing away with in-person hearings and house-visits by the BLOs to collect documents and upload them on the ECINet.



Except in circumstances, as decided by the ERO or AERO, hearings will be held, preferably online. Even this will be done through the available and convenient communication modes. Speaking to Telangana Today, Telangana Chief Electoral Office (CEO) C Sudharsan Reddy said electors who fail to respond to the notices would be categorised under ASDD and would be removed from the final list. "Our BLOs are making house visits and completing the process. If an eligible elector is left out, they can enrol again," he said. Before the SIR exercise began, Telangana had a total of 3,38,26,448 voters and 2,64,87,213 submitted enumeration forms. A staggering 73,39,235 electors, who were categorised under the Absent, Shifted, Dead and Double votes (ASDD), have already been removed from the draft rolls. As per the revised schedule, the notice and disposal of claims and objections phase will conclude on November 5. The final electoral rolls will be published on November 9.

Medak MP Urges Farmers To Build Recharge Pits

HYDERABAD: Medak MP M. Raghunandan Rao has urged farmers to use the ₹36,000 financial assistance provided under the VB-G RAM-G scheme to construct water recharge pits. He said the pits would help revive borewells that have dried up due to adverse weather conditions linked to El Niño. The MP inaugurated the first recharge system built under the scheme at a school in Chinna Nizampet village of Bhoompeta mandal, Siddipet district. He said farmers should act quickly to improve the water-holding capacity of their borewells and conserve every drop of water. Raghunandan Rao said the construction of recharge pits should be taken up across villages like a mass movement to prepare for a possible drought.



He asked sarpanches, deputy sarpanches, public representatives and officials to begin work on a war footing. He said local initiatives would help strengthen groundwater levels and protect farmers from future shortages. The VB-G RAM-G scheme provides financial support to farmers for building recharge structures. Proper use of the assistance would help improve groundwater levels and reduce the impact of dry weather, he said.

Land Acquisition for RRR-North Completed, Says Komatireddy

Hyderabad: Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Friday said land acquisition for the 161.5-km northern section of the Hyderabad Regional Ring Road (RRR) had been completed and fresh tenders would be invited soon. The final clearance for the Rs 12,073-crore Hyderabad-Vijayawada six-lane highway project is expected from the Centre shortly. The RRR northern section will connect Sangareddy, Narsapur, Toopran, Gajwel, Jagdevpur, Bhongir and Choutuppal. The minister said two earlier rounds of tenders had been cancelled due to incomplete land acquisition. With the process now completed, fresh tenders would be invited, while the detailed project report (DPR) was nearing completion. Venkat Reddy said he had urged Union minister Nitin Gadkari to expedite financial clearances and Union Cabinet approval for the northern section. He also sought equal priority for the RRR southern stretch, which is crucial for the development of Bharat Future City, industrial parks and radial roads. The minister said the state had secured approval for the expansion of National Highway-65 along the Hyderabad-Vijayawada-Machilipatnam corridor into a six-lane highway with two additional service lanes. The project had cleared the technical committee stage and was awaiting Union Cabinet approval. He said the government aimed to complete the tendering process within two months and begin work after obtaining final clearances. He urged the Centre to expedite clearances for the proposed 52-km elevated corridor between Mannanur and Srisailem along NH-765 through the Nallamala forest. He said the DPR for the Rs 7,600-crore project had been prepared. The proposed corridor would improve access for pilgrims visiting Srisailem while minimising ecological damage to the tiger reserve, he added.



NC Says EC's Credibility "Shattered", Demands CEC Gyanesh Kumar's Resignation



Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir's ruling National Conference (NC), a key constituent of the INDIA bloc, on Friday launched a sharp attack on the Election Commission of India (ECI), declaring that Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar must step down after what it called "deeply controversial decisions" that have pushed the institution's credibility "into peril". The party also condemned reports of detentions of young people across the country ahead of the INDIA bloc and CJP-led protest in New Delhi, police announcements in mosques warning people against joining the demonstration, cancellation of train services, and the heavy security clampdown that turned the national capital "into a cantonment". The NC said these actions were "unconstitutional, undemocratic and violative of citizens' rights". NC Additional General Secretary and Rajya Sabha MP Chowdry Mohammad Ramzan said the "reality behind the BJP's repeated electoral victories" had now come to light. He alleged that 9.7 million voters were removed from electoral rolls in West Bengal, contributing to the Trinamool Congress's defeat despite surveys predicting its win. Ramzan further claimed that the ECI had deleted 170 million voter names nationwide over several years, amounting to nearly 15 percent of India's population. He said the Commission was duty-bound to ensure every citizen aged 18 and above was registered, but was instead "acting contrary to its constitutional responsibility", calling the deletions "alarming" and "a serious blow to democracy". He pointed to recent revelations that have raised "grave questions" about the ECI's functioning, noting that the matter is now before the Supreme Court. Citing the Court's observations, he said it had "no information regarding permission for Form 6", and accused the Commission of falsely invoking the Court's approval "to benefit a particular political party". "These circumstances demand the Chief Election Commissioner's resignation," Ramzan said, arguing that the institution tasked with protecting democratic sanctity had suffered "severe damage". Ramzan also condemned the alleged intimidation of Muslims, suspension of railway services, closure of metro stations, and restrictions imposed on opposition MPs and leaders. "If elected representatives are being treated this way, one can only imagine the plight of ordinary citizens," he said. He reminded that the Constitution guarantees citizens the right to peaceful protest, but claimed those in power were using "unconstitutional methods to hide their wrongdoings". 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YS Jagan alleges Naidu betrayed BCs over 34 per cent local body quota promise

YSR Congress Party chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy accused Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu of betraying Backward Classes by promising 34 per cent reservation in local bodies, after the Supreme Court dismissed the state government's plea against the High Court order striking down the quota.



Amaravati: YSR Congress Party President Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Friday accused Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu of betraying Backward Classes (BCs) on the promise of 34% reservation in local bodies.

The former Chief Minister said the Supreme Court's verdict exposed the deception. "Chandrababu Naidu, you are Mr 420 when it comes to making promises to people from every section and then cheating them," YS Jagan said in a post on X.

"You promised 34% reservations for BCs in local bodies, lured them with that promise and betrayed them. The Supreme Court's verdict has now exposed this deception. Once again, you have been exposed as a cheater," the YSRCP President told Chandrababu Naidu.

"Your Super Six and Super Seven promises are another deception. Cancelling the schemes people received under our government was another. Leaving nearly Rs 9,000 crore due under Vidya Deevena and

Vasathi Deevena is yet another grave betrayal," wrote YS Jagan.

"The manifesto you issued with 143 promises is the biggest deception of all. Your promise to provide 34% reservations to BCs was another big fraud. Mr Chandrababu, apologise to the BCs at least now," he added.

The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed the state government plea challenging the Andhra Pradesh High Court ruling that struck down 34% reservation for BCs in local body elections.

On October 1, the Andhra Pradesh High Court struck down two government orders providing 34 per cent reservation for BCs in local body elections, holding that the quota breached the 50 per cent ceiling on total reservations.

Supreme Court dismisses Naidu government plea over 34 per-cent BC quota

New Delhi: In a setback to the Andhra Pradesh government, the Supreme Court on Friday dismissed its plea challenging the Andhra Pradesh High Court's ruling that struck down the 34 per cent reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) in local body elections.

A Bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Sheel Nagu questioned the legal basis of the data relied upon by the state government to justify the enhanced BC quota, particularly the findings of a Unified Family Survey.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for the Andhra Pradesh government, submitted that there was no reason for the High Court to reject the data as unreliable. However, the Bench led by Justice Datta asked the state government to demonstrate where the High Court had erred in holding that the survey data could not form the basis for determining reservation.

"You show us that this data can be considered. This is a Unified Family Survey — under what law is this being conducted?" the Supreme Court remarked before dismissing



the plea, questioning the legal basis for relying on the survey data to justify the enhanced reservation.

On October 1, the Andhra Pradesh High Court struck down two government orders providing 34 per cent reservation for BCs in local body elections, holding that the quota breached the 50 per cent ceiling on total reservations.

The High Court observed that the aggregate reservation for all categories in local bodies should not exceed 50 per cent, in accordance with the Supreme Court's guidelines.

The ruling came as a setback to the Chandrababu Naidu-led coalition government, as increasing BC reservation in local bodies from 20 per cent to 34 per cent was one of its key promises during the 2024 Assembly elections.

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu had announced the enhanced quota on August 18, stating that BCs would get 34 per cent reservation in rural local bodies and 33.33 per cent in urban local bodies.

Following the High Court's ruling, Naidu directed officials to immediately approach the Supreme Court to challenge the decision.

The High Court had also directed the state government and the State Election Commission to initiate the process for local body elections within six weeks. It dismissed petitions seeking a direction to hold the elections only after completion of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the state.

Naidu Promises Over 34% Party Tickets to BCs In Local Polls

TIRUPATI: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Friday promised to allocate more than 34 per cent of the party tickets to Backward Classes (BCs) in local body elections.

He asserted that the Telugu Desam would continue to support their political, social and economic advancement despite the legal hurdles to implementing the reservations for them.

Speaking at a 'Mee Bhoomi, Mee Hakku' meeting at Narsingolu in Jarugumalli mandal of Prakasam district, he said BCs had been the backbone of the TD for 45 years and supporting them was his responsibility.

Naidu said former chief minister NT Rama Rao had introduced 24 per cent



reservations for BCs in local bodies, which he later increased to 34 per cent. However, the previous YSR Congress government reduced the quota to 24 per cent, depriving 16,800 people of opportunities to assume leadership positions in local elections, he alleged.

The CM accused the YSRC of approaching the courts to block the increase by citing the 50 per cent ceiling on reser-

vations. Naidu noted that his government had appointed a commission and obtained a report to pursue higher reservations.

"Though the court struck down the government order relating to the reservations, we will stand by BCs and ensure their representation through the party. I assure you that we will give more than 34 per cent of party tickets to BCs in local body elections," he said.

The chief minister also said public welfare was his government's priority. He urged the people to assess its performance and share their views on welfare schemes and public services. The government, he said, was collecting feedback from people over the phone and making changes wherever necessary.

The performance of government employees and officials was also being monitored to improve transparency and service delivery, he added.

Ministers Anam Ramnarayana Reddy, Dola Bala Veeranjaneya Swamy, Gottipati Ravi Kumar, Nimmala Ramanaidu and Anagani Satya Prasad attended the meeting.

Rural SHG Women To Be Trained for Home Aide, Geriatric Caregiver Jobs: Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

Vijayawada: State government will train rural self-help group (SHG) women as home aides and geriatric caregivers to help them secure dignified employment and a steady income in their native villages or nearby areas, Rural Poverty Alleviation minister Kondapalli Srinivas said on Friday.

In this regard, he announced that the government is launching a special training programme "Home Aaya – Geriatric Care Taker" through the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) to expand employment opportunities for SHG women in the rapidly growing care economy.

The minister said the initiative is aimed at reducing migration among rural



women by creating livelihood opportunities close to their homes. The training will be free of cost, along with accommodation, through Rural Self-Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs).

The programme will equip women with skills to care of senior citizens and bedridden patients. The curriculum will cover personal hygiene, first aid,

and communication skills. There will be practical training to prepare participants for caregiving responsibilities.

As part of the programme, trainees will visit old-age homes, nursing homes, and childcare centres to gain field-level exposure and better understand care services and their requirements.

The minister said in

addition, the programme would familiarise women with banking services, digital transactions, and financial management, enabling them to handle their earnings and finances more effectively. He directed District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) project directors to identify interested SHG women in their respective districts and arrange their training through RSETIs.

Srinivas said the "Home Aaya – Geriatric Care Taker" programme will be implemented on a wider scale during the 2026–27 financial year. He asked rural women to make use of the opportunity to enhance their skills, achieve financial independence, and move towards self-reliance.

Officials Told To Ensure Safe, Smooth Dasara Celebrations

Vijayawada: NTR district collector G. Lakshmisha has directed officials and staff deployed for the Dasara festivities at the Sri Durga Malleswara Swamyvarla Devasthanam (Durga temple) on Indrakeeladri to discharge their duties with devotion and dedication, chanting 'Jai Bhavani', and ensure a hassle-free experience for devotees.

Addressing officials and staff in Vijayawada on Friday, Lakshmisha said the temple had received nearly 20 lakh devotees last year, and the number was expected to touch 25 lakh this year. He stressed the need for coordination among all departments to manage the anticipated rush and provide devotees with a safe and comfortable darshan.

Vijayawada police commissioner S.V. Rajasekhara Babu, Vijayawada Municipal Corporation commissioner H.M. Dhyana Chandra, temple executive officer V.K. Seena Naik, additional commissioner of police K.G.V. Saritha and Vijayawada RDO Vennela Srinu attended the meeting.

The collector instructed sector in-charges and other personnel to inspect their assigned areas in advance, understand sensitive locations and emergency response plans, and report for duty before shift changes to ensure a smooth transfer of responsibilities. They were asked to maintain close coordination with colleagues and promptly communicate important information to the command control room.



He called for immediate action to address devotees' grievances and special attention to the safety of senior citizens, women, pregnant women, lactating mothers, children and persons with disabilities.

Officials were told to continuously monitor electrical installations, structural safety, drinking water, food quality, sanitation, queue lines, women's safety, child protection, lighting, signboards and safe routes for the movement of devotees. Any crowd congestion should be investigated immediately and remedial measures taken. Street vendors should be regulated in coordination with the police to prevent inconvenience to devotees.



NAIDU PARTICIPATES IN LAND RIGHT PROGRAMME

Kondapi: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Friday participated in 'Mee Bhumi' 'Mee Hakku' (your land, your right) programme here in Prakasam district. As part of the programme, the CM also laid the foundation stone for a few development programmes, which included the construction of a Rs 28-crore bridge in Muppalla village and others. "CM Chandrababu Naidu will distribute documents to farmers over lands whose disputes were unresolved for decades," an official press release said. Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar, Revenue Minister A Satya Prasada and others were present.

Hyderabad Aims to Become Global Confidence Centre: Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad: Telangana aims to position Hyderabad as a “Global Confidence Centre” where global companies develop solutions to global challenges, rather than merely as a destination for Global Capability Centres (GCCs), Minister for IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu said on Friday. Inaugurating the development centre of Netherlands based fintech company Backbase in Hitec City, the Minister said the State was building an ecosystem to attract global companies and help them respond to changing market requirements and technological advances.

The 30,000-square-foot facility is expected to create 300 skilled jobs and support the development of digital banking solutions and software products for banks and financial institutions worldwide. Mr. Sridhar Babu said Hyderabad had emerged as a major destination for technology, digital



banking and fintech companies. Backbase’s expansion reflected the city’s growing role in the global technology ecosystem, he added.

The government was also focusing on equipping Telangana’s youth with skills relevant to emerging opportunities in software engineering, product development, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, data analytics, cybersecurity and digital banking. He said the State was strengthening its digital infrastructure to meet the needs of global companies. Technology could also help address societal challenges, and the government would support innovators developing solutions with wider applications. Netherlands Deputy Consul General Ann Cremers, Backbase CTO Greg Fahy, Chief of Staff Reinhard Schiel and India Site Head Surabhi Sharma attended the inauguration.

TGGENCO Gets State Award For Excellence In Implementation Of RTI



Hyderabad: The Telangana Power Generation Corporation (TGGenco) has received the state award for excellence in Implementation of the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

The award was given in the category of best voluntary disclosure of information under the RTI Act. Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla presented the award to Genco chairman and managing director Dr S. Harish here on Friday.

The Telangana Information Commission appreciated the corporation for implementing the RTI Act in its true spirit. Dr Harish congratulated the RTI team and officers of TGGenco for their dedicated service. He said the award reflected the organisation’s commitment to open governance and timely dissemination of information to the public.

Gyanesh Must Quit As CEC, Demands BRS

HYDERABAD: The BRS has joined the chorus of political parties demanding the immediate resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar declaring that one man could never be greater than the rights of 1.4 billion Indians, and that no one had the right to strip Indians of their voting rights.

Party working president K.T. Rama Rao, and BRS Assembly deputy floor leader T. Harish Rao led the BRS’ demand for Gyanesh Kumar’s ouster. In a statement, Rama Rao said: “Gyanesh Kumar must go. Nothing is greater than the Constitution of India. And no Indian citizen can be stripped of the right to vote.”

“This nation has seen many individuals come and go. So why this desperation to protect one man,” Rama Rao said, hinting at efforts by the BJP to protect the Chief Election Commissioner and his job.

The time was up for Gyanesh Kumar and for any-



one trying to build a quasi-system that destroyed the soul of this great nation, he said. The BRS reiterated its demand that Supreme Court takes suo motu cognisance of the irregularities in SIR process and order an independent investigation headed by a judge, Rama Rao said.

Harish Rao said that the Election Commission of India “is the backbone of Indian democracy, not a shield for those in power. Articles 324, 325 & 326 of the Constitution, along with the Representation of the People Acts of 1950 & 1951, demand a credible, impartial and inclusive electoral system.”

Castigating the removal of voters from electoral roles in the guise of the SIR, Harish Rao said “no eligible voter can be arbitrarily denied their right to vote. Gyanesh Kumar must take responsibility. If the Election Commission cannot command public confidence, the CEC must resign. Democracy is bigger than any individual or government.”

After Kancha Gachibowli, government discreetly mortgages 817 acres of prime HMDA land

Hyderabad: Notwithstanding its national-level embarrassment over its failed attempt to mortgage the Kancha Gachibowli lands, the Telangana government has mortgaged 817.32 acres of prime government land across different locations around Hyderabad to secure a fresh loan of Rs 12,818 crore. While the land valuation was just 10 per cent of its actual market value, the government chose to mortgage double the land for a lower valuation than that of Kancha Gachibowli.

The valuation and terms emerged through transaction documents rather than a public explanation. The arrangement raises questions over the valuation of public assets, the choice of land parcels and the use of the funds raised.

A debenture trustee agreement dated February 10, 2026, lists 10 parcels in Izzatnagar, Mokila, Miyapur, Isnapur, Injapur, Chilkur, Patancheru, Gajularamaram and Jawaharnagar, belonging to the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA). Their combined extent is 817.32 acres. The document records an aggregate fair market value of Rs 12,818.63 crore as of March 20, 2026. It says only the parcels required to maintain security cover of at least 1.25 times the secured obligations would be used as security.

The choice of multiple parcels across different locations, rather than a single tract, raises questions about how the properties were selected and assessed. The agreement does not explain the rationale for selecting these particular lands or provide a parcel-wise valuation breakdown.

Revealing the government’s discreet actions, BRS spokesperson Manne Krishank al-



leged that the land was valued at about Rs 15 crore an acre, against a market value of around Rs 150 crore an acre. However, the agreement records a total fair market value of Rs 12,818.63 crore. The valuation methodology, individual assessments and the precise value adopted for securing the borrowing have so far remained undisclosed.

The transaction also involves Mumbai-based Beacon Trusteeship as debenture trustee. The SEBI-registered trustee was appointed to execute the transaction involving the Kancha Gachibowli land controversy, in which the Revanth Reddy government attempted to mortgage 400 acres of prime land for Rs 16,000 crore, allegedly far below its market value. The company’s role in the latest arrangement, along with the loan terms and the exact parcels ultimately placed as security, warrants clarification.

With University of Hyderabad students protesting against the proposed use of university land and the Supreme Court finding fault with the actions of the State government, including Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, the government was prompted to step back. The latest transaction again places the handling of valuable public land under scrutiny.

Questions also surround the proceeds. Krishank has cited HMDA bank account details showing a balance of about Rs 275 crore as of March 31, 2026, and deposits of around Rs 10,000 crore by June 30. He has linked the increase to the land-backed borrowing and sought an explanation of how the money was used.

Krishank also questioned activity on land at Jawaharnagar, alleging that a parcel allotted to Genpact in 2008 was being used by KLSR Infra to place containers. This land was also part of the multiple parcels mortgaged by the government, he alleged.

The government needs to publish the valuation reports, loan terms, security details and a clear account of the proceeds. Without these disclosures, the public cannot determine whether the State received borrowing on terms commensurate with the value of the land placed at risk.

Krishank demanded a response from the Chief Minister and his family on the land valuations, mortgage arrangements and KLSR Infra’s role. “We are being intimidated with arrests and even threatened with physical attacks by the Congress leaders in public for questioning the government. But the BRS would continue its efforts to protect the State’s assets,” he asserted.

One-way traffic to continue around KBR Park as old plans scrapped

Hyderabad: Amid criticism over alleged poor planning by the State government, the loss to the public exchequer and inconvenience to commuters, officials have announced the withdrawal of earlier proposals to construct separate underpasses and grade separators around KBR Park.

Officials said the existing one-way traffic system around the park would continue, while a comprehensive elevated corridor was being planned as a long-term solution to traffic congestion in the area.

The decisions were conveyed to BC Welfare Minister and Hyderabad district in-charge Ponnamp Prabhakar during his inspection of the works around KBR Park on Friday.

Defending the revised plan, officials said the integrated elevated corridor would reduce land acquisition and the need for extensive construction-related changes at ground level compared with the earlier proposals for multiple underpasses and grade separators. The revised plan is expected to reduce the acquisition of high-value private land, saving an estimated Rs 800 crore, and cut construction costs by around Rs 400 crore compared with the earlier plan.

Considering the congestion from NFCL Junction to the KBR Park entrance, the GHMC has finalised a continuous elevated corridor from Jubilee Hills Check Post Junction to NFCL Junction. The project will replace the earlier proposals for separate grade sepa-



rators and underpasses.

Construction in two packages at Rs 1,090 crore The project will be implemented in two packages under the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode. Modern steel construction technology will be used to speed up the work and minimise inconvenience to the public.

Package 1 involves a steel flyover from Jubilee Hills Check Post Junction to Mudha Junction at an estimated cost of Rs 580 crore. Package 2 covers a steel flyover from Mudha Junction to Mufakkam Jah College, along with a dedicated ramp connecting to Banjara Hills Road No. 1, at an estimated cost of Rs 510 crore.

The 4.3-km-long, six-lane elevated corridor is designed to facilitate signal-free traffic movement at five major junctions and accommodate higher volumes of vehicular traffic.

Officials said modern modular steel construction technology would help expedite the project and reduce inconvenience to commuters during construction.

India Post strengthens digital services and last-mile delivery in Telangana; expands financial inclusion



“One Postal Network, Infinite Possibilities” underscores commitment to accessible, technology-enabled services: Shri D.S.V.R. Murthy, CPMG 20 lakh Cheyutha pension beneficiaries served monthly; 263 Aadhaar Centres facilitate citizen services 1,86,202 appointment orders issued across 17 Rozgar Mela tranches; 1,272 candidates engaged in Telangana Circle

**Journalist Alleges Caste-Based Humiliation, Seeks Action Against Madhava Rao and Others
Karimnagar Journalist Rapaka Shankar Lodges Complaint with Police**

KARIMNAGAR, - Rapaka Shankar, Karimnagar bureau correspondent of *Prabhathanava Singidi daily, has lodged a complaint with the police alleging that he was publicly humiliated on the basis of his caste, causing damage to his personal reputation and social dignity.

In his complaint submitted to Rural ACP Vijay Kumar, Shankar sought registration of a case against Devaraneni Madhava Rao and others under the relevant provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, and other applicable laws.

According to the complaint, Madhava Rao, associated with the Godavarikhani Press Club, along with some others, approached the Ramagundam Police Commissionerate over two news reports published by Shankar's newspaper on October 5 and 6. Shankar alleged that during a subsequent meeting held on the Commissionerate premises, he and his newspaper were allegedly referred to as “criminals,” “disruptive forces” and “exploiters” in the presence of media cameras.

The journalist alleged that the remarks were intended to humiliate him with reference to his Scheduled Caste identity, despite the individuals concerned being aware of his caste background. He further stated that the incident was recorded on video and circulated on social media, adversely affecting his personal reputation and social standing.

Shankar urged the police to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the incident and examine the video footage, social media posts and statements of eyewitnesses. He also sought the recording of statements from police personnel, media representatives and others who were present during the media interaction, besides preservation of relevant digital evidence.

Seeking protection against any future threats, harassment or retaliatory actions against him and his family members, Shankar requested the police to take appropriate action on his complaint and communicate the action taken to him in writing.



Students Celebrate Bathukamma with Traditional Fervour

Nagarkurnool : Bathukamma celebrations were held grandly at the Government Science Degree College in the district headquarters, Principal Madan Mohan said.

Organised under the aegis of the Women Empowerment Cell, the programme was attended by Sakhi Coordinator Sunitha and Fourth Ward Councillor Vasantha as chief guests. Students dressed in traditional attire, arranged colourful Bathukamma floral stacks and offered prayers to Goddess Gauramma. They enthusiastically participated in traditional Bathukamma songs and dances.

Bathukamma competitions were organised, and prizes were distributed to the winners. Later, the Bathukammas were immersed in the Tank Bund. Faculty members Anjaiah, Vanitha, Umadevi, Kodanda Ramulu, Ramakrishna, Dasaratham, Shobharani, Pooja, Muzaffar, Naresh and others participated in the celebrations.



SEINOR CIVIL JUDGE cum SECRETARY DLSA A SRIDEVI AS CHIEF GUEST ON INTERNATIONAL GIRL DAY

AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF Grand Celebration of International Day of the Girl Child – 2026 at Vaidehi Ashram

Hyderabad: A special event marking International Day of the Girl Child – 2026 was grandly organized at Vaidehi Ashram under the aegis of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Sessions Division, Nampally, Hyderabad. Smt. A. Sridevi, Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, attended the event as the chief guest. Girls from various girls' care homes across Hyderabad district participated in the program. The primary objective of the event was to create awareness regarding girls' rights, safety, education, equal opportunities, empowerment, and holistic development.

Speaking on the occasion, Smt. A. Sridevi stated that girls are an invaluable asset to society and emphasized that it is everyone's responsibility to ensure they receive quality education, equal opportunities, protection, and a life of dignity. She encouraged the girls to recognize their innate talents and strive to achieve their goals with self-confidence. She urged them to attain self-reliance through education and play a pivotal role in the development of society.

Awareness was raised regarding the rights guaranteed to girls by the Indian Constitution, laws concerning child protection, the prevention of child marriage, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the safeguarding of child rights, and the procedures for availing free legal aid. She advised them to contact the concerned authorities without fear if they face any harassment, injustice, or violation of rights, and noted that free legal aid is available through the District Legal Services Authority when needed.

She emphasized the importance of prioritizing the safety, health, mental well-being, and emotional development of girls. She stated that fostering a safe, loving, and encouraging environment in girls' care homes helps build their



self-confidence, self-esteem, and sense of social responsibility. She also urged that girls be provided with equal opportunities and encouraged to excel in education, sports, culture, and other fields.

As part of the celebrations, girls from various care homes in Hyderabad district presented cultural programs. They showcased their talents through dances, songs, and other cultural performances, which became a highlight of the event. The chief guest, Smt. A. Sridevi, appreciated the girls' performances and encouraged them to nurture their talents in arts and culture alongside their education. She remarked that such events contribute to fostering self-confidence, creativity, unity, and leadership qualities among the girls. As part of the event, an interactive session was held with the girls to raise awareness about their rights, responsibilities, and future goals. The need for coordinated efforts among government departments, care homes, and relevant organizations to ensure the protection, welfare, and empowerment of girls

was highlighted. Emphasis was placed on providing every girl with a safe environment, quality education, and adequate opportunities to showcase her talents.

The event was attended by Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) Mr. Srinivas, Mr. Vijaya Bhaskar, Mr. Surender Reddy (President of Vaidehi Ashram), the Chairperson of the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), representatives from various girls' care homes in Hyderabad district, Mr. Keshav Reddy (staff from the District Legal Services Authority), and other dignitaries.

The International Day of the Girl Child – 2026 celebrations fostered awareness regarding the protection of girls' rights, education, safety, empowerment, and holistic development; they underscored the necessity for society to work collectively to ensure a bright future for every girl, characterized by safety and equal opportunities.

Indiramma Houses Bring New Hope and Happiness to Poor Families!

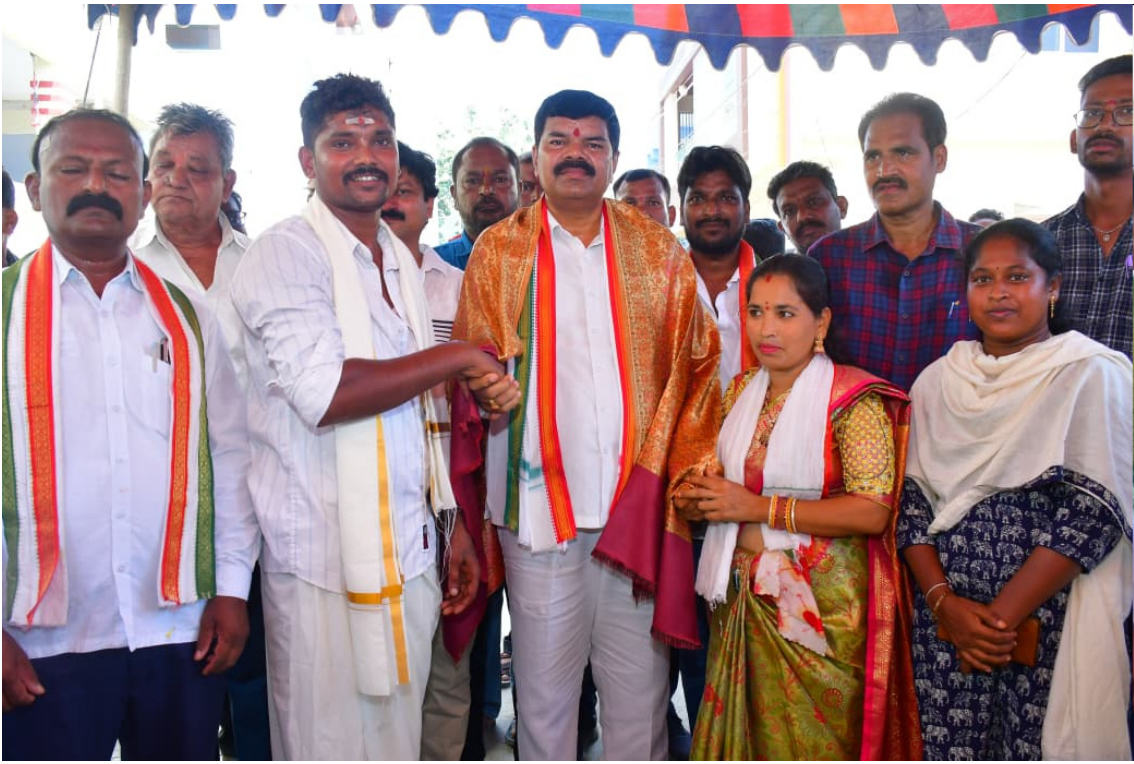
MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu Attends Housewarming Ceremony of Tejavath Sona's New Indiramma House

Sarapaka, October 9: : Pinapaka MLA and Telangana Legislative Assembly ST Welfare Committee Chairman Payam Venkateshwarlu stated that the people's government is committed to fulfilling the dream of owning a house for every eligible poor family through the Indiramma Housing Scheme.

The MLA attended the housewarming ceremony of the newly constructed Indiramma house of Tejavath Sona at Thallagommuru village, under Sarapaka Gram Panchayat in Burgampahad Mandal of Bhadradri Kothagudem district. On the occasion, he visited the new house and extended his heartfelt congratulations to Sona and her family members.

Indiramma Housing Scheme Brings Security to Poor Families

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu said that the people's government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, is giving top priority to the welfare of poor families. He stated that the government is implementing the prestigious Indiramma Housing Scheme with the objective of turning the dream of owning a house into reality for eligible beneficiaries. He observed that owning a



house is a long-cherished dream for every poor family and that moving into a new home brings immense happiness, dignity and security. He expressed happiness over Tejavath Sona's family entering their newly constructed home.

Government Committed to Delivering Welfare Benefits to Every Eligible Family The MLA stated that, with the support of State Minister for Revenue, Housing and Information and Public Relations Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, the government is making efforts to ensure that housing scheme benefits reach eligible beneficiaries.

He emphasized that the government's objective is not merely to provide houses but also to ensure security, stability and a dignified life for poor families.

He further stated that the government is prioritizing public welfare and rural development. He assured that he would continue working to ensure that eligible poor families in the Pinapaka constituency benefit from the Indiramma Housing Scheme.

MLA Extends Best Wishes to Tejavath Sona's Family MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu said that the Indiramma Housing Scheme is bringing new hope to poor families and helping them achieve a secure future through home ownership.

He wished Tejavath Sona and her family a life filled with happiness, good health, peace and prosperity in their new home.

The programme was attended by the Mandal Parishad Development Officer (MPDO), Housing Assistant Engineer, Mandal-level leaders, district leaders, Sarpanches, Deputy Sarpanches, ward members, Congress Party leaders, women leaders, party workers and concerned officials, among others.

Jagga Reddy Launches ‘Save Our Votes’ Campaign in Sangareddy in Support of Rahul Gandhi

Demands Resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar



SANGAREDDY, : October 9,2026: TPCC Working President Jagga Reddy organised an innovative ‘Save Our Votes’ campaign in Sangareddy in support of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi’s fight to protect voting rights. As part of the initiative, a specially designed ballot box was set up to collect messages from citizens expressing solidarity with the campaign to safeguard democracy and the right to vote.

People wrote their names and polling booth numbers on messages and submitted them in the ballot box, urging that their votes be protected. Jagga Reddy said the collected messages and voter cards would be sent to the President of India as a mark of support for Rahul Gandhi’s efforts to protect electoral rights.

Speaking on the occasion, Jagga Reddy said the right to vote was the voice of every citizen and protecting it was essential to safeguarding democracy. He said the initiative aimed to mobilise public support at the grassroots level and demonstrate that the fight to protect voting rights was not merely a political struggle but a collective effort to defend the democratic rights of every citizen.

Alleging large-scale irregularities in the electoral process, Jagga Reddy claimed that 73 lakh votes had been deleted and notices issued to 92 lakh voters during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process in Telangana. He alleged that the BJP was benefiting from vote theft and accused the BJP-led Union government of conspiring to manipulate elections in various states.

He further alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar were responsible for undermining voters’ rights and demanded the latter’s resignation. Jagga Reddy said Rahul Gandhi was fighting to protect the voting rights of citizens and had taken up the issue with the President of India.

Stating that Rahul Gandhi had vowed not to give up the struggle until Gyanesh Kumar resigned, Jagga Reddy said protests in support of the campaign would continue in Sangareddy. He reiterated the demand for the protection of every eligible citizen’s vote and called for accountability in the electoral system.

Gyanesh Kumar must resign, and the voting rights of the people must be protected, Jagga Reddy demanded.

Better Medical Education Must Be Provided to Students at Government Medical College: Collector Bhavesh Mishra

Nirmal: District Collector Bhavesh Mishra has directed officials to ensure quality medical education for students at the Government Medical College in Nirmal.

On Friday, the Collector held a review meeting at the Government Medical College in Nirmal town to discuss the quality of education being provided to students, the availability of infrastructure, and the facilities required at the Government General Hospital.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector emphasized that providing adequate practical training to medical students would enhance their skills and help them develop into competent doctors. He instructed officials to take necessary measures to ensure that students receive quality education and effective training.

He also reviewed the total number of students enrolled in the medical college and discussed academic matters with the faculty members. He directed the faculty to conduct examinations regularly as scheduled and take appropriate steps to improve students’ academic performance. He further stressed the importance of ensuring the safety and security of students.

The Collector instructed officials to identify and procure the medical equipment required for various departments of the Government General Hospital on a priority basis to ensure the effective delivery of healthcare services to patients.

DMHO Rajender, Medical College Principal Sharada, Government General Hospital Superintendent Gopal Singh, DCHHO Kashinath, along with other officials, faculty members, and staff, attended the meeting.



Re-Survey to Identify Revenue and Forest Land Boundaries

Illegal Transportation of Sand Must Be Completely Prevented: Collector Bhavesh Mishra

Nirmal District: District Collector Bhavesh Mishra stated that the re-survey of lands would greatly help resolve disputes concerning revenue and forest lands in the district.

On Friday, the Collector conducted a review meeting with officials of the concerned departments at the meeting hall of the Integrated Collectorate on land re-survey, forest and revenue land disputes, prevention of illegal sand transportation, and other related issues.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector instructed officials of the concerned departments to continuously monitor the re-survey process, set daily targets, and complete the work within the stipulated time. He explained that the re-survey would help clearly identify the boundaries of government lands belonging to various departments, including the Forest, Revenue, and Irrigation Departments, thereby facilitating the resolution of land disputes.

He directed the officials to carry out the re-



survey process in a transparent and speedy manner.

The Collector also instructed officials of the concerned departments to work in coordination to completely curb the illegal transportation of sand in the district.

In-charge Additional Collector (Revenue) Rathod Ramesh, District Forest Officer Sushanth Sukhdev Bobade, RDO Devidas, Assistant Director of Land Survey and Records Vitthal, and officials and staff from various departments attended the meeting.

Public Government Stands by Poor Families: Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak Cheques Distributed to 70 Beneficiaries

MLA Payam Venkateswarlu Distributes Cheques Worth ₹70.08 Lakh at Burgampahad

Burgampahad, October 9, 2026.* Pinapaka MLA and ST Welfare Committee Chairman Payam Venkateswarlu stated that the public government is extending financial support to poor families to help them celebrate their daughters’ marriages with dignity. He participated in the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak cheque distribution programme held at the Rythu Vedika in Burgampahad Mandal, Bhadradri Kothagudem district.

During the programme, the MLA distributed cheques to *70 beneficiaries, with each beneficiary receiving ₹1,00,116, amounting to a total of ₹70,08,120.*

Financial Support for Poor Families

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu said that the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes were designed to reduce the financial burden on poor families during their daughters’ marriages.

He stated that these welfare schemes provide crucial financial assistance to economically disadvantaged families and help them conduct marriage ceremonies with dignity and without excessive financial hardship.

Welfare of the Poor Is the Government’s Priority

The MLA said that the public government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, was giving priority to the welfare of poor and deserving families. He added that the government was making efforts to ensure that eligible beneficiaries received the benefits of various welfare schemes.

He further stated that the government was moving forward by balancing welfare and development while addressing the needs of the people. He urged all eligible beneficiaries to make effective use of the welfare schemes being implemented for the upliftment of poor families.



Payam Venkateswarlu assured the public that he would remain accessible to the people and continue working towards resolving their problems.

The programme was attended by MPDO Jamula Reddy, MPO Ramakrishna, Deputy Tahsildar Dhaniyala Venkateswarlu, Panchayat Raj AE Chari, Mandal Housing AE Uday Kiran, Congress Party District Official Spokesperson Pothireddy Venkateswara Reddy, Mandal President Poolapalli Sudhakar Reddy, District Party Secretary Varala Venu, local Sarpanch Manda Nagaraju and Deputy Sarpanch Gunde Venkanna.

Other participants included Party Constituency E-Block Women’s President Barla Nagamani; Sarpanches Badam Venkateswara Reddy, Poonem Surrender, Banoth Padma, Borra Subhadra, Tati Vani, Tati Lakshmi, Bolli Nirosha and Sharpa Nagamani; former MPP Kaipu Rosireddy; former Deputy Sarpanch Pothireddy Venkateswara Reddy; youth leaders Bhajana Prasad, Challa Venkata Narayana, Badam Ramesh Reddy and Inguva Ramesh; Mandal Youth President Harish; Constituency Youth Wing Vice President Rahim Khan; Mandal Youth Wing Vice President Sushanth Reddy; Kaipu Srinivasa Reddy, Dasari Samba, Chippa Raju and Katam Venkatarami Reddy, among others.

Officials from various departments, Congress Party leaders, party workers and beneficiaries also attended the programme.

Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak: Extending a Helping Hand to Poor Families and Supporting Daughters’ Marriages with Dignity.

Pre-Bathukamma celebrations held grandly at Kids Convent High School

Vemulawada , October 9: Pre-Bathukamma celebrations were held grandly at Kids Convent High School in Vemulawada.

On this occasion, girl students attended the school in traditional attire and beautifully arranged Bathukammas with colorful flowers. Bathukammas were set up in the school premises and students and teachers together participated in the celebrations by singing Bathukamma songs and dancing enthusiastically. The uniqueness of Telangana culture and traditions was explained to the students and the importance of Bathukamma festival was highlighted. On this occasion, School Correspondent Narala Devender, Director Hasan



Fasi Ullah and Principal Darakshan Vasfiya said that Bathukamma celebrations were organized in the school with the intention of introducing Telangana culture and traditions to the future generations.

The students said, "We love Bathukamma festival very much. It is a great joy to arrange Bathukamma with colorful flowers and play Bathukamma together. Bathukamma is a great tradition that respects nature and flowers. We are proud to know about our Telangana culture and traditions."With the enthusiastic participation of the students, the school premises wore a festive look.

Telangana steps up efforts to attract EV and automotive investments, strengthen manufacturing ecosystem: Nikhil Chakravarthi

ASSOCHAM's MobilityNext 2047 – EV Awareness Conference in Hyderabad brings together policymakers, industry leaders and academia to discuss EV adoption, manufacturing opportunities, charging infrastructure and battery technology.

Hyderabad, October 9, 2026: Telangana is stepping up efforts to strengthen its electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem through targeted incentives, manufacturing infrastructure and industry-led investments, Shri Nikhil Chakravarthi, IAS, Commissioner and Director of Industries, Government of Telangana, said at the MobilityNext 2047 – EV Awareness Conference, organised by ASSOCHAM in Hyderabad today.

Addressing industry stakeholders, Shri Chakravarthi highlighted the state's focus on attracting investments across the automotive value chain, including EV manufacturing, batteries and charging infrastructure. He emphasised the importance of building on Telangana's industrial strengths, improving ease of doing business and creating stronger linkages between industry, academia and skill development to support the next phase of mobility.

The conference brought together representatives from government, industry and academia to discuss the transition towards cleaner mobility and the ecosystem required to support wider EV adoption. Discussions focused on policy and market readiness, charging infrastructure and grid preparedness, and developments across battery sourcing, manufacturing, technology and recycling.

Mr Rambabu Boorugu, Co-Chair, ASSOCHAM Telangana State Development Council and Executive Director and CTO, Pranava Group, highlighted that the transition to electric mobility extends beyond transportation and has implications for energy security, economic competitiveness, sustainability, technological innovation and inclusive growth. He



stressed the need for a holistic ecosystem connecting vehicle manufacturing, battery technologies, charging infrastructure, power distribution, financing, urban planning, public transport and recycling. He also underlined the importance of greater awareness and collaboration across policy, governance and industry to strengthen India's global competitiveness.

Prof. Rajkiran V Bilolikar, Director, Centre for Energy Studies, Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), highlighted the importance of collaboration across departments, industry and academia in advancing the EV transition. He noted the growth in EV adoption in Telangana and outlined the role of research and stakeholder consultations in supporting policy measures, including incentives for electric auto-rickshaw retrofitting and measures to improve the viability

of public charging infrastructure. He also pointed to opportunities in software, electronics, artificial intelligence and EV components, where Hyderabad's technology and talent base could support the development of a stronger mobility ecosystem.

Mr Harsh Vardhan, Chair, ASSOCHAM Telangana State Innovation and Manufacturing Council and Global Head of Digital Innovation, Apollo Tyres Ltd, said the future of mobility extends beyond vehicle electrification to connected mobility, smart manufacturing, software-defined vehicles and cleaner supply chains. He highlighted the need for reliable energy and charging infrastructure, circular approaches to materials and batteries, and continued investment in talent and innovation. He also emphasised the potential for collaboration among industry,

academia and startups to develop indigenous capabilities in artificial intelligence, robotics and digital technologies for the mobility sector.

The conference highlighted the need for co-ordinated action among policymakers, manufacturers, technology providers, infrastructure developers and research institutions to address the challenges and opportunities associated with EV adoption. Strengthening the manufacturing base, expanding charging networks, improving grid readiness and advancing battery technologies will be important to building a resilient and competitive electric mobility ecosystem in Telangana.

Delivering the vote of thanks, Mr Macha Dinesh Kumar, Regional Director, ASSOCHAM, expressed gratitude to the Department of Industries, Government of Telangana, for its continued support and encouragement for ASSOCHAM's programmes in the state. He also acknowledged the contribution of the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) in designing and developing the conference, along with the support of sponsors Catalyst Data Centers, Apollo Innovation, Apollo TAGS and EVC. Thanking the speakers, panellists and moderators for their contributions, he emphasised that the transition to electric mobility goes beyond a shift from internal combustion engines to electric powertrains, representing a broader transformation spanning technology, energy, infrastructure, manufacturing, finance, innovation, skills, sustainability and public policy.

ASSOCHAM continues to facilitate dialogue between government and industry to support policy development, encourage investment and advance sustainable industrial growth across sectors.

KONE Inaugurates India's First Digital Experience Centre in Pune to Advance Digital Innovation

New Centre showcases how AI, connectivity, data and digital solutions are transforming customer experiences and enabling smarter, more connected buildings

Hyderabad, October 09, 2026: KONE, a global leader in the elevator and escalator industry, today inaugurated India's first KONE Digital Experience Centre (DEC) in Pune, marking an important milestone in its digital transformation journey and commitment to creating exceptional customer experiences through technology, data and innovation. The Centre was jointly inaugurated by Jussi Herlin, Executive Vice Chair, KONE Corporation ; Philippe Delorme, President and CEO, KONE along with Nandan Nilekani, Co-founder and Chairman of the Board, Infosys.

The KONE Digital Experience Centre is an immersive customer environment where customers can see, experience and engage with digital capabilities shaping the future of People Flow™ and smart buildings. It brings together KONE's business, technology and engineering expertise to demonstrate how digitalization, connectivity, AI and data-driven insights can create value across the building lifecycle.

Built around the customer journey, the Centre brings together interactive experiences spanning design and configuration, product experiences and digital interfaces, customer lifecycle vis-

ibility and real-time service insights. Customers can explore how digital technologies can support better decision-making, more transparency and proactive service management across different stages of a building's lifecycle.

At the heart of the experience, KONE Studio enables customers to explore and configure elevator solutions digitally, while MyKONE provides visibility across projects, equipment and services throughout the customer lifecycle. E-Link offers real-time visibility into equipment status and operations, supporting proactive management, and a customer centric Ser-



vice Dashboard brings together key service and operational insights to give customers a consolidated view of equipment performance. Together, these experiences demonstrate how digi-

tal solutions can create a more connected and responsive customer experience, from design to decision-making.

Philippe Delorme, President and CEO, KONE Corporation, said "It is great to see the Digital Experience Centre come to life in India. Being the first of its kind in the elevator and escalator industry in the country, the Cen-

tre gives our customers an opportunity to experience how digitalization, connectivity and AI are shaping the future of People Flow. India is an important market for KONE, and this Centre brings innovation closer to our customers."

Amit Gossain, Managing Director, KONE India, said, "Today's inauguration of KONE's Digital Experience Centre in India marks an important milestone in our digital transformation journey and our commitment to creating exceptional customer experiences through technology, data and innovation. The Centre gives customers a first-hand view of how digital

technologies can create value across the building lifecycle. We are very pleased to have Jussi Herlin, Philippe Delorme and Nandan Nilekani with us today as we mark this important milestone for KONE . As buildings become increasingly connected, we are focused on using data, AI and digital innovation to make them more responsive, efficient and sustainable."

The Digital Experience Centre brings KONE's digital vision to life, giving customers a first-hand view of how technology, data and AI are shaping the future of connected buildings and People Flow™

Notification Released to Fill 3 Medical Officer Posts in Bhadradri Kothagudem District

Monthly Salary of 42,000 | Walk-in Interview on October 15

Kothagudem, October 9:: Good news for medical professionals seeking job opportunities in Telangana. The District Medical and Health Department of Bhadradri Kothagudem district has released a notification to fill three vacant Medical Officer posts in Basthi Dawakhana. Eligible candidates will be selected through a walk-in interview.

Three Vacancies on Contract Basis

According to the notification, a total of three Medical Officer posts are available in the district's Basthi Dawakhana. The appointments will be made on a contract basis, with a monthly salary of ₹42,000 for selected candidates.

Eligibility Criteria

Candidates who have completed an MBBS degree and are registered with the Telangana State Medical Council are eligible to attend the interview. Applicants must carry the necessary educational and registration certificates.

Walk-in Interview Details



- *Date:* October 15, 2026
 - *Time:* 10:30 AM to 5:00 PM
 - *Venue:* Office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem district
 - *Number of Vacancies:* 3 Medical Officer posts
 - *Monthly Salary:* ₹42,000
 - *Selection Process:* Walk-in interview
 - *Job Type:* Contract basis
- Candidates Advised to Attend with Required Documents
- Eligible candidates are advised to attend the walk-in interview on the scheduled date and time with all the necessary certificates and supporting documents.
- For further details, candidates can visit the official district website:
Official Website: <https://kothagudem.telangana.gov.in/>
- Interested and eligible medical professionals are encouraged to review the notification and make use of this employment opportunity in Bhadradri Kothagudem district.

Mamitha Baiju in Talks for ‘Jai Hanuman’?

The chartbuster Kurchi Madathapetti from Superstar Mahesh Babu’s film Guntur Kaaram has etched its name into the history by surpassing 600 million views on YouTube. With this feat, it becomes only the third Telugu song to cross this landmark, joining the ranks of Butta Bomma and Ramulo Ramula from Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo.

What makes this achievement even more impressive is the pace at which it was accomplished. According to reports, Kurchi Madathapetti hit the 600 million mark in just 425 days, making it the fastest Telugu song ever to reach

this number.

The song’s phenomenal popularity can be attributed to several key factors: the infectious, high-energy composition by music director Thaman S, the electrifying dance performances by Mahesh Babu and Sree Leela, and its viral appeal across social media platforms. From Instagram reels to fan edits on YouTube Shorts, Kurchi Madathapetti has inspired a wave of user-generated content, further propelling its reach and engagement.

Interestingly, despite Guntur Kaaram underperforming at the box office, its music has emerged as a standout success. This contrast underscores the power of music in transcending a film’s commercial fate. The song has resonated with fans across Telugu-speaking states and garnered a nationwide audience, making it one of the most recognizable Telugu tracks in recent times.

For Thaman, Kurchi Madathapetti is a career milestone and a testament to his consistent ability to create chart-topping numbers. With its momentum still strong, the song is now eyeing the 700 million mark, a feat that looks well within reach in the coming months.

While the Mahesh Babu–Trivikram Srinivas collaboration in Guntur Kaaram may not have met expectations at the box office, Kurchi Madathapetti stands as a shining example of how a powerful soundtrack can leave a lasting legacy, long after the curtains fall on the film.

Do Really Telugu Audiences Prefer Only Commercial Movies?



Telugu cinema has always been known for big commercial entertainers. Songs, fights, comedy, emotions and a strong hero character have been an important part of many successful Telugu films. But are Telugu audiences interested only in commercial movies? This question has now become a topic of discussion after actor Sri Vishnu’s recent comments.

Sri Vishnu has been actively promoting his upcoming film Comrade Kalyan. As usual, he has been entertaining audiences with his natural humour and funny answers during interviews. During one of the promotions, he was asked about the film and what kind of movie it would be.

Sri Vishnu jokingly said that Comrade Kalyan is a proper comedy film. He also said that if the film had too many emotions or a serious message, it should probably have been made in Malayalam first and then wrongly remade in Telugu. His comment was said in a humorous way but some people took it negatively.

The comment soon went viral on social media. Some viewers felt that Sri Vishnu was saying that Telugu audiences do not accept emotional films. Because of this, Sri Vishnu has been asked about the same comment in several interviews. In a recent interview, he explained what he actually meant.

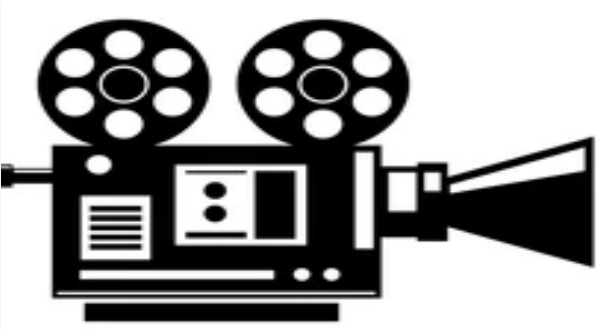
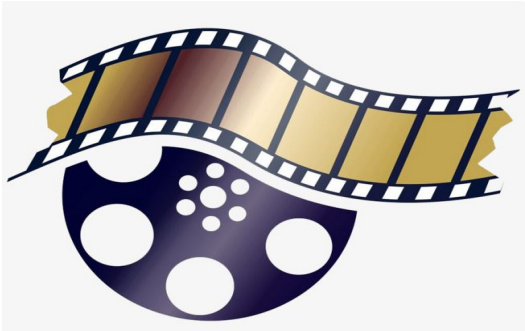
Sri Vishnu said that his statement was misunderstood. He said that a large section of Telugu audiences traditionally enjoys commercial cinema. At the same time, Malayalam cinema has a long history of making strong family dramas, realistic stories and emotional films.

He explained that Malayalam audiences have been exposed to different kinds of cinema for many years. Even before the popularity of stars like Mohanlal and Mammootty, Malayalam cinema had many emotional and story driven films. Films where the hero had less importance or even died were also accepted by the audience.

Sri Vishnu said that Telugu cinema has different roots. Commercial elements have traditionally played a major role here, especially when a big star is involved. Fans usually expect the hero to have a powerful role.

Sree Vishnu is definitely acceptable. But things are slowly changing. Today, many young and middle-range Telugu heroes are choosing different scripts. They are giving more importance to stories, emotions and unique characters instead of depending only on commercial formulas.

Only in Star hero movies even now directors are struggling to inject commercial elements. But coming to small heroes, they are changing the Tollywood trend by concentrating more on story rather than commercial elements.



CINEMA

Yellow Chunni From Itlu Arjuna Is Full Of Feel-Good Vibes

Young actor Aniesh is making his entry into Telugu cinema with Itlu Arjuna, and the film is slowly creating interest among movie lovers. The upcoming film is directed by Mahesh Uppala, who is making his debut as a director. Popular filmmaker Venky Kudumula is producing the movie under the What Next Entertainments banner. Actress Anaswara Rajan is playing the female lead opposite Aniesh.

The movie is said to be a musical romantic thriller. The makers have already released a couple of songs, and now they have come up with the third single, Yellow Chunni. The song has received attention for its fresh sound, youthful mood and easy-going feel.

The song focuses on the relationship between the lead characters. In the video, the girl is upset and is in a bad mood. The boy tries different ways to make her happy and convince her to smile again. This simple situation gives the song a cute and playful feel. It also shows the fun side of the relationship between the two characters.

Music director S Thaman has created the song with modern sounds and energetic beats. The composition is designed to appeal to young listeners. Singer Vishal Mishra gives the song a smooth and pleasant feel with his voice. Thaman also joins him as a singer, bringing additional energy to the track.

The lyrics by Sreejo are another attraction. The words are written in a modern style and connect well with the way young people express love and emotions today. At the same time, the lyrics show the boy’s care and affection towards the girl.

The choreography is handled by Suneel Sunnapu and Phalguni Bangera. The dance moves are colourful, simple and energetic. A particular hookstep in the song could become popular among youngsters and may also find its way into social media reels and short videos.

Aniesh and Anaswara Rajan look comfortable together on screen. Their expressions, chemistry and dance moves add more charm to the song. Their combination gives the video a fresh and youthful appearance.

Cinematography for Itlu Arjuna is handled by Raja Mahadehav, while Raam Kumar A is taking care of the



production design. Koti K is the editor. Popular action choreographer Dileep Subbarayan is designing the action sequences.

Itlu Arjuna is scheduled to hit theatres on October 30. Same as the song, we have to wait and see how the movie is going to attract an audience.

Ranabaali Trailer Review: Is This Avatar Going to Be the Highlight of Film?

These days almost over violence has become a common part of many Telugu movies.

Vijay Deverakonda’s upcoming movie Ranabaali is creating a lot of interest among movie lovers. The trailer was released on October 8 and has already started many discussions on social media. Vijay looks completely different in the movie, and one particular avatar shown at the end of the trailer is getting special attention.

Ranabaali is directed by Rahul Sankrityan who scored a super hit with Shyam Singh Roy and is set during the British period. The story is connected to an artificial famine in South India and the problems faced by common people during that time. Vijay plays a rebellious character who stands against the British officers.

The trailer has many powerful moments. Vijay’s dialogues, action scenes and the background music give the film a strong mass feel. One dialogue, where Vijay says “Puttaparthi daggara narukuta,” has also caught the attention of fans.

But the biggest surprise comes towards the end of the trailer. In the final portion, Vijay appears in a raw and rugged mass avatar. The look is very different from what we see in most of the trailer. The makers have not completely revealed this look. They have shown only a small glimpse which has made fans more curious.

This is now making many people wonder whether this avatar will become one of the biggest highlights of Ranabaali. The makers may have deliberately kept the complete look away from the trailer. If the full avatar is shown only



in the movie then it could create a big response in theatres.

The character also seems to have a strong connection with the story. So, this may not be just a look created for a mass elevation. It could be an important part of Vijay’s character and the film’s story.

Another major attraction is Hollywood actor Arnold Vosloo, who plays the main villain. His scenes with Vijay are expected to be interesting. Rashmika Mandanna is playing Jayamma, Vijay’s wife, and their combination is also one of the major reasons for the film’s expectations.

The trailer has already given fans several mass moments. But the final avatar has created a different kind of curiosity because the makers have not shown it clearly.

Vijay has tried different looks and characters in his career. If this new avatar is connected strongly to the main story, it could become one of the most memorable parts of Ranabaali.

The movie is arriving in theatres on October 16. With such a powerful packed trailer, it looks like Vijay and Rashmika is going to bag first block-buster after their marriage.