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State

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Sports

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Special, as always: PM Modi shares heartwarming daily routine with ‘friends’

New Delhi, Aug 16 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday shared glimpses of his daily morning routine on social media, posting heartwarming moments of his interactions with peacocks and miniature cattle breeds at his official residence. The Prime Minister shared videos and moments from the morning of Independence Day, August 15, when the animals and birds, he said, appeared to realise that he would be leaving early to attend the celebrations at the Red Fort. They came early to meet him before he left for the national event. In the video shared by PM Modi, he can be seen feeding grains to peacocks during his morning walk and exercise routine. He was also seen feeding and gently petting native and miniature cow breeds kept at his official residence at 7 Lok Kalyan Marg. Sharing the video on Instagram, PM Modi said, “Feeding my friends every morning is a daily routine. Yesterday morning, they somehow realised I’m leaving early so they came to meet me as I was leaving for the Red Fort. Special, as always!” The peacocks have regularly been seen accompanying the Prime Minister during his early morning walks and exercise



sessions in the lawns of his residence. The Prime Minister also keeps rare, indigenous and miniature cattle breeds at his official residence. These interactions have previously attracted considerable attention from the public and have often gone viral across

social media platforms. Among the breeds highlighted in connection with PM Modi’s interactions is the miniature cattle native to the Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. The breed is recognised as one of the world’s smallest humped cattle breeds, with

the animals standing at only around 70 to 90 cm in height. The latest video once again offered a glimpse into the Prime Minister’s personal morning routine, showing his regular interaction with the animals and birds at his residence.

I am proud to be a dimagi naxal, says Chidambaram

New Delhi, Aug 16 : A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi described “dimagi Naxalism” as a challenge that continued to look for opportunities to promote violence, unrest and disorder in the country, senior Congress leader P. Chidambaram on Sunday said that he was “proud” to be called a ‘dimagi Naxal’. Reacting to the Prime Minister’s remarks, Chidambaram took to the social media platform X and posted, “I am proud to be a dimagi naxal!” PM Modi, while addressing the nation from the historic ramparts of the Red Fort on Independence Day, said that India had made significant progress in weakening armed Naxalism but cautioned that a more subtle form of the ideology, which he termed “dimagi Naxalism”, continued to pose a challenge. “We have succeeded in getting rid of armed Naxals in the jungles, but ‘dimagi Naxals’ (those with a Naxal mindset) are looking for opportunities to create violence, unrest... They want to drag society on the wrong path. These ‘dimagi Naxals’ have to be identified and isolated, and we must connect the youth with the mainstream,” PM Modi said. His remarks triggered a sharp political reaction from the Congress, which accused the Prime Minister of using increasingly provocative labels against his political opponents and said the comments reflected political desperation. Congress General



Secretary Jairam Ramesh also criticised PM Modi over his use of the term and drew a comparison with his earlier references to “urban Naxals”. In a post on X, Ramesh said, “First he called his opponents ‘urban naxals’. Now he calls them ‘dimaagi naxals’. It is a sure sign of his desperation.” The Congress leader further alleged that the Prime Minister ultimately ends up supporting or implementing several positions that he claimed were advocated by those labelled as “urban Naxals” or “dimaagi Naxals”. “It is a separate matter that he ends up doing whatever these so-called ‘urban naxals’ or now ‘dimaagi naxals’ are demanding or advocating. It is not for nothing that the PM has a MA being the Master Abuser in entire political

India embassy in Finland hosts photography competition to mark I-Day

Helsinki, : As part of the 30th Independence Day celebrations and the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, the Embassy of India in Finland organised a photography competition on the theme India through my lens. “The competition invited participants to capture and present their unique perspectives of India through the art of photography, celebrating the country’s rich cultural heritage, diverse landscapes, vibrant traditions and the spirit of its people,” the Embassy stated on X. Ambassador Hemant K. Kolwar felicitated the winners, Sudhanshu Verma, Baishali Acharaya and Karina Sorsa, during the Independence Day celebrations and presented them with awards in recognition of their outstanding entries and creative vision. The Embassy also

organised a My India Story campaign, inviting participants to share personal stories, photographs and short videos reflecting their unique connection with India. The campaign provided a platform for cherished memories and experiences, celebrating bonds with India across generations. It witnessed enthusiastic participation, with heartfelt stories and memories underscoring the deep emotional connection with India. Meanwhile, the Consulate General of India in Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions (SARs) hosted a grand flag-hoisting ceremony with enthusiastic participation by Indian community members and friends of India. “The programme commenced with a special mass singing of the national song

Teachers recruited through DSC hold rally in Vijayawada to counter allegations



Vijayawada, Aug 16 : Amid the raging controversy over alleged irregularities in Mega DSC-2025 recruitment for 16,347 teaching posts in Andhra Pradesh, selected candidates on Sunday organised a rally in Vijayawada, condemning the allegations. The newly recruited teachers from erstwhile West Godavari, Krishna, and Prakasam districts participated in the rally from the Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium to the Ambedkar Smriti Vanam. The participants alleged that they were being insulted by the allegations and demanded opposition YSR Congress Party stop its ‘vicious’ campaign. The teachers claimed that they were selected on the basis of merit and, following their hard work, they alleged that they were being humiliated with “baseless” allegations. Holding placards raising slogans, about 5,000 participants took part in the rally. At Ambedkar Smriti Vanam, they kept a representation at Ambedkar’s statue, praying to him to give wisdom to YSR Congress Party leaders.

‘People won’t forget the sin you have committed’, HM Shah hits out at Congress over Vande Mataram row

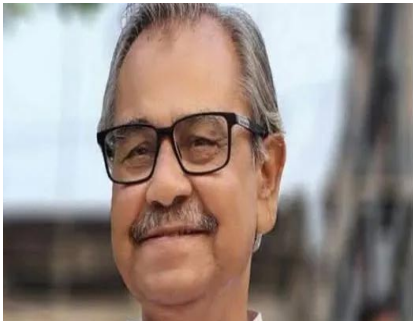
Chittorgarh, Aug 16 : Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday came down heavily on Congress and demanded an apology for “disrespecting” the national song Vande Mataram during Independence Day celebrations at the party headquarters. He stated the country would not forgive the Congress party for “committing the sin” of “stopping” the national song midway. Addressing a gathering in Rajasthan’s Chittorgarh, HM Shah mentioned the Independence Day celebrations of the Congress party at their headquarters, where the senior party leaders were seen interacting even as ‘Vande Mataram’ was being played and criticised the party for “disrespecting” the national song. The BJP has claimed that Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi was objecting to the full version of Vande Mataram being played and stated that Gandhi had gestured to stop the national song. The Home Minister said that after 80 years of Independence, the full version of Vande Mataram was played across all the events on August 15. Slamming the Congress, Amit Shah said, “Congress forgot Vande Mataram... Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay’s im-



mortal creation -- those two words of the song, Vande Mataram, meaning ‘I bow to thee, Mother India’ -- while chanting these words, thousands and lakhs of freedom fighters went to the gallows, faced bullets and lathis, and spent years in prison. However, for its vote bank politics, Congress forgot the Vande Mataram.” “Look at their (Congress’) shamefulness. While Vande Mataram was being played at Congress headquarters, their leader, Sonia ji, asked the Congress President to stop the song. We all saw it on TV. After 80 years, when Bankim Babu’s immortal song is being accorded respect, Sonia ji is not finding it to her liking. Sonia ji, 140 crore people are watching you. The people of this country will never forgive

this sin you have committed,” he said. The Home Minister said that Congress should be “ashamed” for this act. “How could anyone even think of leaving the singing of ‘Vande Mataram’ incomplete? If there is even a shred of shame left, one should fold one’s hands and apologise to the immortal soul of Bankim Babu and to the people,” he added. He made these remarks during the inauguration and foundation-laying ceremony of various development projects in Rajasthan’s Chittorgarh district. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma welcomed him by presenting a traditional turban (safa) at the event. The Home Minister also unveiled a statue of former Prime Minister late Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Ex-Deputy Speaker of Bengal Assembly found dead at home office; suicide note recovered



Kolkata, Aug 16 : Former Deputy Speaker of the West Bengal Assembly and ex-Trinamool Congress MLA Asish Banerjee was found dead in a room at his Rampurhat residence that served as his party’s office on Sunday. His body was found hanging in the office, said police, adding that a suicide note was recovered from the spot. Banerjee was a former Trinamool Congress legislator from Rampurhat Assembly constituency in Birbhum district. In the one-page hand-

written suicide note in Bengali, he wrote that he made a mistake by entering the area of politics and that never in his political career had he got involved in any corrupt activity. The development has created ripples in the political circles, with questions being raised on why he took such an extreme step. Questions are being raised on whether he committed suicide due to political pressure or whether there was some other reason behind it. The police have started investigating the incident, and the body has been sent for post-mortem. The police are trying to verify whether the suicide note was actually written by him. A five-time Trinamool Congress legislator from Rampurhat Assembly constituency, Ashish Banerjee, was also a member of the previous Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress cabinet in West Bengal, besides being a former deputy speaker of the Assembly. “I have been involved in politics

VIJAY ANNOUNCES RS 30 LAKH AID TO FAMILY OF CONSTABLE WHO DIED DURING INDEPENDENCE DAY DUTY

Chennai, Aug 16 : Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay on Sunday announced financial assistance of Rs 30 lakh to the family of a police constable who died after collapsing while on duty during the Independence Day parade at Fort St George. The deceased was identified as A. Dharmaraj, 56, a Grade-I Police Constable serving with the band unit of the Tamil Nadu Special Police Regimental Centre in Avadi. Dharmaraj was deployed for ceremonial duty at the Independence Day celebrations held at



Fort St George and reportedly collapsed suddenly while participating in the parade, prompting police personnel and officials at the venue to rush to his assistance. He was immediately taken to the Rajiv

Gandhi Government General Hospital in Chennai for emergency medical care. Doctors attempted to stabilise his condition and continued treatment, but he failed to respond and subsequently died at the

‘His entire life is living example of ‘nation first’ spirit’: CM Yogi pays tribute to Atal



New Delhi, Aug 16 : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday paid tribute to former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna awardee Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his death anniversary, recalling his contribution to Indian democracy, politics and national service. “On the death anniversary of the pinnacle figure of nationalism, democratic values, and ideal politics, former Prime Minister, ‘Bharat Ratna’ recipient, the revered Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji, humble tribute,” Yogi Adityanath posted on X. “Atal Ji established high ideals of integrity in Indian democracy, ethics in politics, and selfless national service through his luminous thoughts, dignified conduct, and dedicated life.

EDITORIAL

In the space of just a few days

In the space of just a few days, Yemen appeared to be slipping out of its fragile de-escalation and back into the heart of regional tensions. The incident involving the Iranian aircraft that entered Yemeni airspace was not merely a dispute over a flight. It exposed the extent to which the war in Yemen has become intertwined with the confrontation between the United States and Iran, and raised an old question in a new form: Can Yemen remain outside any broader regional escalation?

list of 4 items

list 1 of 4 50 Houthi fighters killed in renewed clashes in Yemen

list 2 of 4 Somalia warns Israel against meddling in Somaliland

list 3 of 4 What is going on in Yemen?

list 4 of 4 Yemen's Houthis threaten Saudi Arabia after alleged airspace intrusion

end of list The Iranian aircraft's attempt to land in Sanaa, the subsequent targeting of the airport runway to prevent it from doing so and its eventual landing in Hodeidah opened a dispute that extends far beyond civil aviation. The internationally recognised Yemeni government and Saudi Arabia treated the flight as a test of sovereignty and of Iran's ability to establish a direct link with Houthi-controlled areas. The Houthis and Tehran, meanwhile, presented it as an attempt to break the restrictions imposed on Sanaa. The Houthis' response against Saudi Arabia was therefore not entirely unexpected. Their targeting of Abha airport in retaliation for the strike on Sanaa airport that prevented the aircraft from landing marked the first Houthi-claimed attack on Saudi Arabia since the informal truce began in March 2022. So far, however, the attack has remained limited, and Saudi Arabia has not responded with a full-scale military campaign. This suggests that, despite the heightened escalation, both sides are still proceeding with careful calculations.

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It was in this context that the US Department of State responded to a question from a television channel about reports that President Donald Trump had given Saudi Arabia the green light to act against the Houthis. Washington did not explicitly confirm those reports. It said it was monitoring them, before firmly affirming its support for Saudi Arabia in confronting what it described as Iranian aggression, including attacks by the Iran-backed Houthis. More importantly, the State Department directly linked Houthi attacks and the threats the group has issued to core US interests in the region, foremost among them freedom of navigation in the Red Sea and preventing the export of terrorism. This language does not mean that a decision to go to war has been made. But it does indicate that the Houthis' place in US calculations has changed. Get instant alerts and updates based on your interests. Be the first to know when big stories happen. Yes, keep me updated

The group is no longer viewed solely as a Yemeni actor, but as part of Iran's network of influence, capable of threatening both Saudi Arabia and the Red Sea. Against this backdrop, Saudi Chief of the General Staff General Fayyad al-Ruwaili met Lieutenant-General Patrick Frank,

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JOURNALISTS HOISTED THE TIRANGA, PLEDGED TO UPHOLD THE UNITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE COUNTRY AND FREEDOM OF JOURNALISM.

Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh. On the auspicious occasion of Independence Day 2026, a grand flag-hoisting ceremony was organized under the aegis of the Indian Journalist Association on Saturday, August 15th, at 8:30 a.m. at the Media Center, Ghazi Rauza Tiraha, Dr. Aziz Ahmad Road, Gorakhpur. Journalists enthusiastically participated in the ceremony, saluted the national flag, and pledged to protect the nation’s unity, integrity, democratic values, and freedom of journalism. The chief guest, Mrs. Vandana Chauhan, Editor-in-Chief of the Hindi daily newspaper “Parivartan Uday,” was welcomed with a garland, badge, and tricolor sash. Senior guest, Mr. R.K. Chauhan, was welcomed and felicitated by National Organization Secretary Akhileshwar Dhar Dwivedi with a garland, badge, and tricolor sash. Following this, Chief Guest Mrs. Vandana Chauhan hoisted the national flag. After the national anthem, tiranga balloons were released to convey the message of unity, peace, and brotherhood. Chief Guest Mrs. Vandana Chauhan, while congratulating the journalists present on Independence Day, said that independence is not just a historic achievement, but a continuous responsibility for the rights and duties of every citizen of the country. Journalism is an important pillar of democracy, and it is the responsibility of journalists to present the truth to society and the nation with courage, impartiality, and responsibility. She emphasized that national interest, public interest, and social concerns should be paramount in journalism. She stated that journalism currently faces numerous challenges. In such a time, journalists should positively use the power of their pen to promote brotherhood, harmony, and awareness in society. She called upon journalists to make truth, facts, and responsibility the foundation of their journalism.



Very Important Guest and National President of the Indian Journalist Association, Seraj Ahmad Quraishi, while congratulating the journalists on Independence Day, said that the country’s independence is the result of the sacrifice, struggle, and dedication of countless freedom fighters. Protecting freedom is not only the responsibility of the soldiers deployed on the border, but also the duty of every citizen of the country. Journalists play a crucial role in strengthening democracy, conveying the voice of society to the government and administration. He stated that the Indian Journalist Association will continue to fight for the respect, security, rights, and interests of journalists. Journalists should unite and raise their voices in a democratic and constitutional manner. He stated that true independent journalism is practicing journalism in the public interest, free from fear, pressure, and bias. It is also the responsibility of every journalist to strengthen the nation’s unity, integrity, social harmony, and mutual brotherhood. Special Guest , Senior Journalist Mr. R.K. Chauhan, said that Independence Day reminds us of our rights as well as our duties. Journalists are the guardians of democracy and must fulfill their responsibilities with complete honesty. The purpose of journalism is not only to publish news, but also to highlight society’s

problems and be the voice of the needy. He stated that with the growing influence of social media and digital media, the responsibility of journalists has increased even more. Disseminating information without verifying its veracity can create confusion in society. Therefore, journalists should base their journalism on credibility, facts, and responsibility. Remembering the sacrifices of freedom fighters, the journalists present at the event pledged to maintain the unity and integrity of the nation. The event was filled with patriotic slogans and a spirit of patriotism. At the end, all those present wished each other a Happy Independence Day and pledged to work together for journalist unity, social harmony, and national interest. On this occasion, a large number of journalists were present, including Mohammad Irfanullah Khan, National General Secretary, Akhileshwar Dhar Dwivedi, National Organization Secretary, Naved Alam, State Treasurer, Rafi Ahmed Ansari, Zonal President, Gorakhpur, Dr. Atiq Ahmed and Satish Chandra, Divisional Secretaries, Mohammad Azam, District Spokesperson, Anshul Verma, City President, Ramashankar Gupta, Zuber Alam, Shравan Kumar Gupta, Ajmer Khan, Seraj Ahmed, Mohammad Rafiq Ahmed, Meraj Ahmad, Mohammad Mohtasim, Lalit Singh, Mohammad Zeeshan, and others.

Eligible Families to Receive Smart Ration Cards, Says Minister Ponnam Prabhakar

Kothapalli : The Telangana government will provide ration cards to every eligible family and there is no need for anyone to feel disappointed or anxious, said Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Saturday. The Minister distributed smart ration cards to beneficiaries at the Vysya Convention Hall in Siddipet in the presence of District Collector K. Haimavathi. The programme was held as part of the State-wide launch of smart ration cards to mark Independence Day. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Prabhakar said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had formally launched the smart ration card distribution programme at Sangareddy. The programme was also being formally launched in Siddipet, he said. The government had already distributed 16 lakh new ration cards across the State, the Minister said. In Siddipet district, 78 beneficiaries—three from each of the 26 mandals—received smart ration cards from the Minister. He said distribution of ration cards was a continuous process and would continue throughout the year. Referring to difficulties faced by newly married couples in obtaining ration cards in the past, Mr. Prabhakar said the government was committed to ensuring that eligible families were not deprived of the benefit. The State has about 1.06 crore ration cards covering nearly 3.60 crore beneficiaries, he said. In addition to ration cards, the government was supplying six kg of fine-quality rice per person, he added. The Minister asked officials and sarpanches to organise smart ration card distribution programmes in villages and mandals in a festive manner. He said several newly enrolled families had expressed happiness after receiving ration cards following years of waiting. Mr. Prabhakar also announced the commencement of the process for sanctioning new pensions from



Saturday. About 2.5 lakh new pensions would be sanctioned across the State, benefiting persons with disabilities, widows and other eligible beneficiaries, he said. District Collector K. Haimavathi said the government had introduced several welfare and development programmes for the poor and vulnerable sections. These included Gruha Jyothi, Indiramma Indlu, Rythu Bharosa, free bus travel and subsidised LPG under the six guarantees, besides the distribution of Indiramma sarees and ration cards. The 99-day action programme had helped the administration move closer to the people, she said. Ms. Haimavathi thanked Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy for introducing smart ration cards aimed at

improving transparency in the public distribution system. Several newly enrolled beneficiaries said they had waited for ration cards for nearly a decade. They expressed happiness that they had received the cards after the Congress government came to power and said they were now receiving six kg of fine rice per person through the public distribution system. Additional Collector Lakshmi Kiran, Telangana Padmashali Corporation Chairman Guduri Srinivas, District Library Chairman Dharipalli Chandra, Telangana SC Commission Chairman Bakki Venkataiah, RDOs of Siddipet, Gajwel and Husnabad, RTA member Surya Varma, market and Atma committee chairpersons, sarpanches, ration dealers and beneficiaries were among those present.

People Must Unite to Protect Democracy – Kamanuru Srinivasulu Reddy

Kadapa: CPM District Committee member Kamanuru Srinivasulu Reddy stated that every citizen bears the responsibility of safeguarding the nation’s independence, the spirit of the Constitution, and democratic values. He called upon the people to unitedly confront forces of religious fanaticism, separatism, and violence that threaten the country’s unity. He urged everyone to remain vigilant against forces that seek political gain by sowing discord among the people based on religion, caste, or region. On the occasion of the 80th Independence Day, celebrations were grandly organized by Jamiyat-ul-Ulama-e-Hind at the ‘7 Roads Junction’ in Kadapa city on Saturday. Kamanuru Srinivasulu Reddy, attending as the chief guest, hoisted the national flag. Mufti Rahmatullah Khan, President of Jamiyat-ul-Ulama-e-Hind, presided over the event. Attacks on the Constitution Must Be Repelled: Speaking on the occasion, Kamanuru Srinivasulu Reddy remarked that the liberty, equality, secularism, and social justice enshrined in the Constitution are the rights of the people. He urged all proponents of democracy to unitedly thwart any attempts to undermine these values. He warned that the rise of religious fanaticism would lead to increased hatred and conflict in society, causing severe damage to the nation’s progress. They stated that to realize the dreams of freedom fighters,



people must stand united, transcending differences of caste, religion, and region. They emphasized that the unity of democratic forces is the answer to those attempting to fragment the nation. *Strengthening Goodwill* Mufti Rahmatullah Khan, President of Jamiyat-ul-Ulama-e-Hind, expressed the hope that brotherhood, mutual respect, and peaceful coexistence among various religions, communities, and social groups would be further strengthened. He called for the strengthening of platforms that foster goodwill, ensuring there is no room for hatred in society. *Protecting Youth from Social Ills* Shaik Kaleem, City President of the All India Lawyers Union, stated that there is a need to raise awareness about moral values and a

humanitarian outlook to curb the rising social ills among the youth. He urged the public, alongside the government, to step forward with a sense of social responsibility to eradicate issues such as poverty and illiteracy. *Large-scale Participation by Representatives of People’s Organizations* Representatives of people’s organizations participated in large numbers in the independence celebrations. Attendees included KVPS President and Secretary C.P. Ramana and Narasimha; Jamaat-e-Islami Hind representative Kamuruddin; as well as representatives from various other organizations, city activists, and local residents. After hoisting the national flag, the leaders pledged to work towards national unity, the protection of democracy, and social harmony.

LET’S PROTECT THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM.. LET’S PROTECT DEMOCRACY!: VIKAS KUMAR

New Delhi: On the occasion of the 80th Independence Day of our country, All India Sonia Gandhi Sangh National President Vikas Kumar extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to all the people of the country, their family members and friends. India’s independence is not a gift given by someone. It is a great victory achieved by many great people risking their lives and shedding blood. He stated that we are living in a free India today as a result of the sacrifices, struggles and public movements made by the revolutionaries, Congress party leaders and activists who fought

against the British rule. He said that forgetting the sacrifices of the freedom fighters is an insult to the history that laid the foundation of our freedom. He said that every Indian has the responsibility to carry forward the spirit of their sacrifices. He made it clear that the responsibility does not end with the country’s political independence, but that it is the duty of every Indian to protect democracy, uphold constitutional values, and uphold the rights of citizens. He warned that if democracy weakens, the freedom, rights, and dignity of the people will be at risk. That is why on the

occasion of Independence Day, he called on every citizen to make the resolution of “We will work for the country.. We will protect democracy.. We will respect the Constitution.. We will stand for the rights of the people.” He urged us to contribute to the development of the country with our body, mind, and wealth, and to strengthen equality, brotherhood, justice, and freedom in society. Independence is our right.. Democracy is our strength.. The Constitution is our shield. He called on every Indian to move forward unitedly to protect these three values.

Vemulawada Press Club celebrates Independence Day with patriotic fervour



Karimnagar Joint Karimnagar District. Siricilla/Vemulawada , : The 80th Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic fervour at the Vemulawada Press Club on Saturday under the leadership of Telangana Union of Working Journalists (TUWJ) H-143 State Vice-President and Rajanna Sircilla district president Syed Layak Pasha and Press Club president Kolipaka Narsaiah, Press Club president Narsaiah unfurled the national flag, following which journalists present sang the national anthem. Raising slogans such as “Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan”, “Vande Mataram” and “Bharat Mata Ki Jai”, the participants expressed their patriotic spirit. The journalists later paid floral tributes to the portraits of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr B.R. Ambedkar and Bhagat Singh, Speaking on the

occasion, TUWJ district president Syed Laik Pasha and Press Club president Kolipaka Narsaiah said the freedom enjoyed by the people today was the result of the sacrifices and struggles of countless freedom fighters. They recalled the invaluable contributions of Mahatma Gandhi, Bhagat Singh, Dr B.R. Ambedkar and several other national leaders who fought for the country’s freedom without caring for their lives. They said remembering the sacrifices of the lakhs of freedom fighters who laid down their lives for the nation was the responsibility of every citizen. They called upon people to work towards establishing the egalitarian society envisioned by the national leaders and to uphold the values of social justice, equality and fraternity. Highlighting the crucial role of journalists in a

democracy, they said the media acts as a bridge between the government and the people by bringing public issues to the attention of the authorities. Journalists should continue to discharge their responsibilities effectively in the larger interests of national development, public welfare and protection of democratic values, they said. Press Club general secretary Syed Ali, chief advisers Kotwal Srinivas, Jitender Rao and Nerella Kamalakar, vice-presidents C.H. Devaraju and V.Vishnu, treasurer P. Nagaraju, senior journalists J.Ramesh and K. Vijay, secretary Fahad, organising secretary J. Sridhar, D.Praveen, S.Venu, S.Rajender, R. Gangadhar, Shabbir, P.Swamy, Asim, Lakshman, Venu, B.Harish, Imran, Soheli, Azaruddin , Shiva, B.Kiran and others participated

EVEN IF YOU OFFER DIAMONDS AND JEWELS, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO FIND A PUBLIC LEADER LIKE JAGGAREDDY, WHO IS NUMBER ONE AMONG THE PEOPLE,” SAID THE CHIEF MINISTER. RATION CARD IS NOT JUST A PIECE OF PAPER, BUT A SYMBOL OF SELF-RESPECT: REVANTH REDDY

Hyderabad, August 16 (Khaja Moinuddin): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said that a ration card is not merely a piece of paper but a symbol of the self-respect of poor families and an assurance that their hunger will be addressed. He was speaking at the distribution programme of new smart ration cards in Sangareddy on Saturday. The Chief Minister said the credit for introducing ration shops to supply essential commodities to the poor goes to the Congress party. He said the objective of the people's government was to ensure that no poor person goes hungry in the “Indiramma Rajyam”. Revanth Reddy said some leaders were now speaking about fine rice, others about Indiramma houses and yet others about Aarogyasri. He alleged that the BJP and BRS were not different from each other and were like two sides of the same coin.

He asked BJP and BRS leaders whether they had ever thought of providing fine rice to poor families and filling their stomachs. He said the Congress government had the credit of supplying fine rice to every poor household. The Chief Minister recalled that the opposition had claimed that there would be no electricity if the Congress came to power. He asked whether electricity had gone off even for a moment during the last 32 months and said farmers in every village were being provided 24-hour free power. Revanth Reddy said the opposition had earlier warned farmers against cultivating paddy, but his government was now providing a ₹500 bonus for fine paddy. He said the government had increased Rythu Bharosa assistance and was providing ₹12,000 annually, while ₹36,000 crore had been deposited into farmers' accounts

under the scheme. Issuing a challenge to former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, Revanth Reddy said, “Come to the Assembly and let us discuss what we have done for farmers and what injustice you did to them.” He said the government had implemented a farm loan waiver of up to ₹2 lakh by spending ₹21,000 crore, describing it as an initiative unmatched elsewhere in the country. He questioned BJP leaders over reports stating that there were farmers in Telangana who were free from agricultural debt. Revanth Reddy said that during the last 32 months, ₹90,000 crore had been transferred into farmers' accounts for the paddy procured from them. He proudly stated that ₹1.70 lakh crore had been spent on farmers during the past two-and-a-half years and said the government respected farmers as kings. On hous-

ing, Revanth Reddy questioned whether those who had promised double-bedroom houses had actually provided them to anyone. He said that, as a brother of the people, he had sanctioned seven lakh houses in two years. Construction of Indiramma houses was taking place in every village, he said, adding that there was no village in Telangana without an Indiramma house and there would not be one in the future. He said the government would take responsibility for providing pensions to all eligible single women and would also provide pensions to handloom and toddy workers. He appealed to all eligible people to apply for the pensions and assured them that the government would take responsibility for providing the benefits. The Chief Minister said 72,000 government jobs had been filled during the last two-and-a-half years

and notifications had been issued for another 10,000 posts. He appealed to unemployed youth not to fall into the trap of those making false promises and assured them that vacant government posts would be filled every six months. “Congress leadership is one that stands by its word until the very end,” Revanth Reddy said, assuring the youth that the government would take responsibility for providing employment opportunities. He alleged that some people were conspiring for political power and urged unemployed youth not to be misled but to concentrate on preparing for competitive examinations. “We will not deny your rights or take away your opportunities,” he said. Revanth Reddy said the government was taking Telangana, which had suffered destruction, towards development and appealed to the people to continue

extending their support until 2034. Referring to allegations of occult rituals against the government, the Chief Minister alleged that some people were performing “aghora poojas” and black magic against the government. “Will anyone perform black magic against the people?” he questioned. He alleged that notices were being issued to TPCC leaders for speaking the truth and questioned why certain leaders' visits to temples in Tamil Nadu were kept secret. He said that irrespective of the number of occult rituals performed, the blessings of God were with the Congress government. He attributed the filling of Ellampalli reservoir even during El Niño-related drought conditions to divine blessings and sought both God's blessings and the continued support of the people. Speaking about TPCC Working President T. Jagga



Reddy, Revanth Reddy said that the decision on whether Jagga Reddy should contest from Sangareddy was not entirely in his hands and that it rested with Rahul Gandhi. “If Rahul Gandhi is like Lord Rama, Jagga Anna is like Hanuman. Hanuman will never disobey the word of Lord Rama,” he said. The Chief Minister said that leaders like Jagga Red-

dy could not be found even by spending ₹100 crore. He praised Jagga Reddy for remaining with the people and continuing his public service even after losing elections. Revanth Reddy said there was no leader like Jagga Reddy in Telangana and appealed to the people to support such leaders and ensure that they remained active in public life.

MULUGU TO EMERGE AS MODEL TRIBAL DISTRICT: REVANTH REDDY

Mulugu, 16 August : Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Sunday said the state government was committed to the comprehensive development of Mulugu district, with special emphasis on tribal welfare, women's empowerment, youth employment, education, healthcare and infrastructure. Addressing a public meeting organised after inaugurating the Mulugu Integrated District Offices Complex and launching various development projects, the Chief Minister said the government was taking up development programmes based on the needs of the people. Medaram temple to get major facelift Revanth Reddy said the government would develop the Sammakka-Saralamma temple at Medaram on the lines of the historic Ramappa and Thousand Pillar temples. Special funds would soon be sanctioned for the development of the Malluru Narasimhaswamy Temple, he said. He also assured that Jampanna Vagu would be developed comprehensively by constructing check dams and bathing ghats to improve facilities for devotees and support irrigation needs. Focus on women's welfare The Chief Minister said women's welfare remained a key priority of his government. Quality sarees were being provided in connection with the Sammakka-Saralamma festival, while green sarees would be distributed to ‘Akkachelemmas’ in December, he announced. Foreign language training for youth The government would provide free training in German, Japanese and Korean to unemployed youth in Mulugu to help them access employment opportunities abroad



Revanth Reddy said. He said the government was also focusing on quality education and English-language teaching from nursery to Class XII. Young India Integrated Residential Schools and Advanced Technology Centres would help impart modern technical skills to youth and prepare them for global competition, he added. Recalling his padyatra from Mulugu, the Chief Minister said the district was created with the objective of taking administration closer to the people. The new Collectorate complex would make it easier for people to access government services, he said, adding that the SP office and court buildings would also be completed soon. ₹200 crore irrigation projects Minister for Tribal and Women and Child Welfare D Anasuya Seethakka said the government was working to transform Mulugu into a model district. She said 5,000 houses had been allocated to Mulugu constituency, reflecting the government's commitment to housing for the poor. The government had earmarked ₹200 crore for the Potlunalli Lift

Irrigation and Ramappa-Laknavaram connectivity works. Once completed, the projects would improve irrigation facilities and benefit farmers, she said. Education, healthcare and tourism Seethakka said the government was strengthening education and healthcare infrastructure in Mulugu. Funds were being sanctioned for nursing colleges and expansion of medical education facilities. She said improved infrastructure, education and healthcare would not only benefit local residents but also create employment opportunities and promote tourism. Seethakka hits out at ‘false propaganda’ The Minister alleged that previous governments had laid foundation stones for projects during elections but failed to release funds, leaving several works incomplete. After coming to power, the public government had released funds and revived stalled projects, she said. She urged people to verify facts before believing what she described as false propaganda about government development programmes.

HEARTFELT INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS TO MY FELLOW COUNTRYMEN : MIR FIRASATH ALI, BAQRI

Hyderabad - BJP senior leader Telangana Mir Firasath Ali Baqri along with G Hanmanth Rao, Mahmood Ali , Hashim Hussain &, Hoisted the National Flag at Mandi Mir Alam under the charminar Assembly Constituency and offered tributes to the immortal heroes whose sacrifices and courage gave us the proud privilege of breathing the air of a free India. May their inspiring stories of valour, patriotism, and selfless service forever guide generations to come. Baqri said today, let us also renew our resolve to contribute towards building a stronger, more prosperous, Atmanirbhar, and Viksit Bharat.



MERA KHOON DESH KE NAAM”: MARWARI YUVA MANCH HOSTS 100 BLOOD DONATION CAMPS ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

HYDERABAD — Marking India's Independence Day with a strong message of social responsibility, the Marwari Yuva Manch successfully organized a massive blood donation drive across the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad on Saturday. “Mera Khoon Desh Ke Naam” (My Blood for the Nation) Operating under this powerful patriotic slogan, the community-driven initiative set an ambitious target of hosting 100 blood donation camps in a single day. The large-scale drive was a joint effort by the Greater Hyderabad, Uday Golden, and Secunderabad branches of the Marwari Yuva Manch. The campaign aimed to encourage voluntary donation and address the critical need for adequate blood supplies for emergency care, surgeries, and ongoing medical treatments in local hospitals. Citizens, local volunteers, social institutions, and community groups turned out in large numbers to support the humanitarian cause. Eligible donors were encouraged to dedicate their life-saving



contributions to the nation as a unique way of celebrating the holiday. By bringing together various community groups to facilitate the camps across multiple locations, the Marwari Yuva Manch expanded the campaign's reach and operated on an unprecedented scale. The initiative successfully infused the national holiday with a deep sense of community service, ensuring that patients in need receive crucial, life-saving support.