

## Farm Distress Signals Rise in Telangana Even as Govt Holds 'Rythu Utsavalu' Outreach

**(Capital Information)**  
**Hyderabad** : Fresh concerns over agrarian distress are surfacing across parts of Telangana, with field reports citing erratic farm power supply, rising cultivation costs and delays in financial assistance that farmers say are

reach programme on Saturday and released the first instalment of Rythu Bharosa support, with about ₹3,590 crore credited to nearly 70 lakh farmers owning up to one acre, according to official statements.

### Power supply disruptions

Rural correspondents and farmer organisations from several districts reported unscheduled electricity interruptions and voltage fluctuations during peak irrigation periods. Farmers allege supply duration in some areas has been below expectations, forcing increased reliance on private credit and causing damage to pump sets in certain instances.

Officials note that agricultural power demand has remained elevated in recent weeks, while unseasonal weather events have also affected feeder networks in parts of the State. Structural steps, including a dedicated distribution mechanism for farm connections, are being initiated to improve reliability.



affecting irrigation schedules and crop planning ahead of the forthcoming agricultural season.

The concerns emerged even as Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy launched the 'Praja Palana Lo Rythu Utsavalu' out-



### Input availability and cost pressures

Stakeholders have also flagged sporadic shortages and delayed availability of fertilisers such as urea during peak demand phases. Coupled with higher input prices and logistical constraints in procurement at minimum support prices in certain mandals, these issues are contributing to uncertainty over farm incomes, farmer representatives said.

Agricultural groups caution that continued cost pressures and procurement delays could influence cropping decisions during the upcoming kharif season unless timely interventions are ensured.

### Welfare rollout and

of financial assistance schemes, arguing that staggered disbursements may create short-term liquidity constraints in rural households and affect timely investment in seeds, fertilisers and labour.

They have also pointed to crop losses in pockets affected by unseasonal rains, dry spells and localised flooding in recent months, calling for faster compensation and stronger field-level consultation mechanisms.

### Government response and outreach

The State government maintains that agricultural welfare initiatives are being implemented in a calibrated man-

ner to balance fiscal constraints with wider coverage. Officials say efforts are under way to strengthen rural infrastructure, streamline input supply chains and enhance monitoring systems.

The Rythu Utsavalu outreach events are being positioned as a platform to engage directly with farmers, assess local concerns and improve last-mile delivery of support measures.

### Political and policy implications

Analysts note that the divergence between official assessments and field-level perceptions could influence policy discourse, particularly as agriculture continues to underpin rural livelihoods and consumption demand in Telangana. With kharif preparations nearing and input costs remaining elevated, farm income stability and effective welfare delivery are expected to remain key governance priorities.

Amid the debate, sections of the Opposition and some political

commentators have urged senior Congress leaders to play a more active role in guiding policy execution and aligning governance with grassroots welfare concerns. They have also criticised reliance on what they describe as selective or overly positive



media narratives, including coverage from sections of Andhra-based outlets, warning that any perceived gap between official claims and ground realities could shape voter sentiment in future elections.



## AP CM CBN pitches tech-driven future at ISB summit

**(Capital Information)**  
**Hyderabad** : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday said that policy decisions taken today would shape the economic history of tomorrow, as he outlined a technology-centric development vision while participating in the "Transforming AI" session at the South Asia Learning Summit 2026 held at the Indian School of Business (ISB) in Hyderabad.

Addressing entrepreneurs, industry leaders and innovation experts, Mr. Naidu recalled that reforms introduced earlier in sectors such as information technology, pharmaceuticals and infrastructure played a key role in building Hyderabad's strong economic ecosystem and improving its global liveability. He said Andhra Pradesh is now pursuing similar long-term planning to drive growth through emerging technologies.

Highlighting key priorities, the Chief Minister said the State government was focused on rebuilding Amaravati as a smart, sustainable "blue-green" capital city and expediting completion of the Polavaram irrigation project, which is designed to withstand major flood flows in the Godavari basin. He also pointed to initiatives aimed at establishing advanced technology infrastructure, including quantum computing capabilities, data centres in Visakhapatnam and spe-



cialised innovation corridors.

Mr. Naidu stressed the importance of integrating artificial intelligence into governance and core sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, education and industry. He said large-scale youth skilling programmes, Centres of Excellence in emerging technologies and the proposed "One Family - One AI Use Case" concept were intended to accelerate digital adoption and economic transformation in the State.

The South Asia Learning Summit, held from March 20 to 22, has brought together policymakers, entrepreneurs and global experts to deliberate on future technologies, leadership and innovation-led development. Mr. Naidu's participation underscores Andhra Pradesh's push to position itself as a technology-driven growth hub.

## SPEED UP WORKS, BUILD FUTURE TEMPLES : DEPUTY CM BHATTI VIKRAMARKA



**(Capital Information)**  
**Khammam Bureau** : Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka reaffirmed that the Indramma Praja Govt is giving the highest priority to education, calling every rupee spent on education an investment in building future generations.

During his visit to Madhira constituency on Sunday, he inspected the progress of the Integrated Residential School under construction at Lakshampur village in Bonakal mandal.

The Deputy CM personally reviewed the ongoing works by visiting different sections of the campus and directed officials and contractors to accelerate the pace of construction. He emphasized that timely completion of the project is crucial to ensure quality education infrastructure for students from underprivileged back-

grounds. Bhatti Vikramarka inspected the construction of junior hostels, junior and senior academic blocks, and administrative buildings. He also reviewed the progress of specialized infrastructure including Mechanical, Science, Mathematics, and Computer laboratories, stressing the importance of modern facilities in shaping competitive and skilled students.

Warning against any compromise in quality, the Deputy CM stated that these institutions are not just buildings but "visionary temples" that will shape the future of the state. Among those present were local public representatives, senior officials from the education and engineering departments, project engineers, contractors, and village leaders.

## Telangana amends building rules to ease TDR norms, promote vertical urban growth

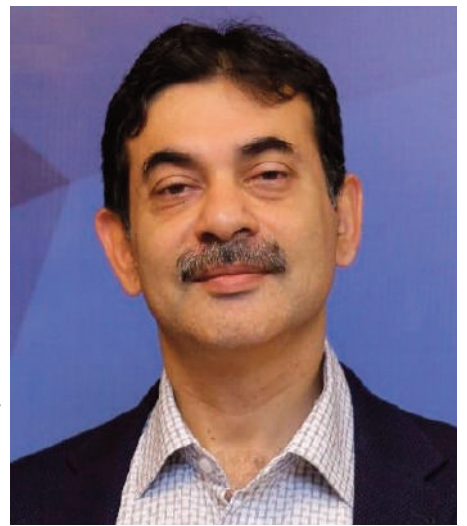
**(Capital Information)**  
**Hyderabad** : The Telangana Government has issued G.O. Ms. No. 95 introducing amendments to the Telangana Building Rules, 2012, aimed at rationalising the use of Transferable Development Rights (TDR) and making urban construction regulations more flexible and investor-friendly.

The order, issued by the Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Department, follows representations from real estate stakeholders seeking simplified procedures and greater clarity in the application of TDR provisions.

Among the key changes, buildings of 21 metres or more in height will now be classified as high-rise structures, excluding certain non-habitable components such as lift machine rooms and water tanks. The revised norms also permit the construction of additional floors through TDR utilisation, particularly on larger plots, subject to road width, parking and safety requirements.

For plots ranging between 750 sq. m and 2,000 sq. m, structures in the 18-21 metre height range will be allowed only through TDR loading. On plots exceeding 2,000 sq. m, developers may avail additional floors - generally three to five - depending on planning parameters.

The amendments further provide relaxations in setback requirements when TDR is used, while retaining minimum



clearances for fire and safety access. Provisions have also been introduced for limited additional built-up area loading in taller buildings and for payment of equivalent charges or submission of TDR in cases involving road widening or master plan modifications.

Officials said the changes are intended to enhance ease of doing business, improve the liquidity and utilisation of TDR, and encourage planned vertical expansion in urban centres such as Hyderabad.

The order, signed by Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, will come into effect upon publication in the Telangana Gazette.



## Donation of Rs.1 Crore to TTD

**(Capital Information)**  
**Tirumala** : Subbarao Apparels, a Chennai-based firm, donated ₹1 crore on Sunday to the TTD run 'Sri Balaji Arogya Varaprasadini' scheme (SVIMS).

In this regard, the donor, J. Raja Ramesh, handed over the donation cheque to the TTD Additional Executive Officer, Sri Ch. Venkiah Chowdary, at the latter's bungalow in Tirupati.

TTD Board Member Bhanu Prakash Reddy participated in this event.

## ₹3,590-crore Rythu Bharosa Aid Launched; CM Unveils ₹775-crore Development Works in Siddipet-Gajwel

**(Capital Information)**  
**Hyderabad/Siddipet** : Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday launched the first tranche of Rythu Bharosa investment support and inaugurated a series of agriculture-linked and civic infrastructure projects while attending the valedictory programme of the 'Praja Palana Lo Rythu Utsavalu' at Narmetta village in Nangunur mandal of Siddipet district.

The Chief Minister oversaw the direct transfer of ₹3,590 crore into the bank accounts of nearly 70 lakh farmers, with priority given to cultivators owning up to one acre of land. Officials said the remaining instalments - ₹2,650 crore in early April and the balance by the end of the month - would complete the ₹9,000-crore seasonal outlay under the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mechanism.

Addressing farmers and public representatives, Mr.



Reddy reaffirmed the government's commitment to strengthening agriculture through a combination of welfare support and infrastructure expansion, describing the farm sector as the backbone of Telangana's economy.

### Infrastructure push in Siddipet

During the programme, the Chief Minister inaugurated the ₹300-crore TG Oil Palm processing factory at Narmetta, aimed at promoting oil palm cultivation and value addition in the agriculture sector. He also initiated water-supply and under-

ground drainage works worth ₹141.34 crore in Siddipet municipality.

Other projects inaugurated in the constituency included a district jail building at Ensapally (₹78 crore), a 50-bed integrated AYUSH hospital (₹15 crore), a central medicine store (₹3.60 crore), a Primary Health Centre at Gatlamalyala (₹1.43 crore) and an Urban PHC at Ambedkar Nagar (₹1.43 crore).

### Development works in Gajwel

In neighbouring Gajwel constituency, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for a Young India Integrated Resi-

dential School complex at Kondapaka (₹200 crore). Additional works initiated included infrastructure development at Telangana Public School, Markook (₹16.62 crore) and integrated mandal office complexes at Markook (₹8.65 crore) and Jagdevpur (₹9.65 crore).

Officials said the projects were aimed at strengthening civic amenities, education and public service delivery in the region.

The Rythu Utsavalu programme drew large participation from farmers and local representatives, highlighting the government's focus on engaging directly with the farming community and reinforcing rural development initiatives.

Ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao, Damodar Rajanarasimha, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Ponnam Prabhakar and Vivek Venkatswamy, along with MPs, MLAs, MLCs and senior officials, attended the event.

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## BUDGET ROOTED IN WELFARE, DRIVEN BY PEOPLES' NEEDS : DEPUTY CM BHATTI VIKRAMARKA

**(Capital Information)**  
**Khammam Bureau :** Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu stated that the State Budget is a true reflection of people-centric governance, focusing on improving living standards rather than mere statistics. Speaking at a press meet held at the District Congress Office in Khammam, he said the Govt aims to ensure that every citizen—from childhood to old age—benefits from at least one welfare scheme, making life in the state secure and dignified.

He highlighted that flagship initiatives like the Indiramma Life Insurance Scheme, covering 1.15 crore families with ₹5 lakh protection, and distribution of fine rice to over 1.06 crore families demonstrate the government's commitment to social security. In education, revolutionary steps such as English-medium promotion, Young India Residential Schools, free meals, uniforms,



and books are being implemented to build strong human capital, along with nutritional programs for students.

Focusing on development and employment, Bhatti Vikramarka said schemes like Indiramma Housing, Rythu Bharosa, and Rajiv Yuva Vikasam are designed to empower farmers, youth, and the Large-scale investments in healthcare, including Aarogyasri expansion and addition of 14,000 beds, along with ₹13,500 crore for rural

roads, reflect the government's balanced approach toward welfare and infrastructure.

The press meet was attended by District Congress President, senior party leaders, public representatives, youth leaders, and party cadre in large numbers. Leaders present expressed confidence that the budget would bring inclusive growth across all sections and strengthen Telangana's progress in the coming years.

## BJP flays 'forcible' land acquisition in Kohed; Eatata joins farmers' protest

**(Capital Information)**  
**Kohed/Rangareddy :** Senior BJP leader and Malkajgiri MP Eatata Rajender on Saturday joined a dharna by farmers in Kohed village, alleging that poor families from Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Backward Class communities were facing forcible acquisition of their agricultural lands.

Addressing protesters under the banner of the Kohed Bhū Bhādhitula Sangham (Kohed Land Victims Association), Mr. Rajender said 159 families had been cultivating about 239 acres in the village for several generations and depended entirely on the land for their livelihood.

He claimed that pattas had been issued for the land after due enquiries by previous governments and that the farmers had been sustaining themselves through cultivation for more than a decade.



Accusing the State government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of adopting "exploitative tactics", the BJP leader alleged that the proposed land acquisition in Kohed resembled

earlier land-pooling policies that, he said, had left many farmers dissatisfied. He contended that while private holdings were being targeted, government land in the vicinity remained un-

touched. Mr. Rajender demanded an immediate halt to what he termed coercive acquisition measures and police action against protesting farmers. He also called for compensation to be offered on par with rates and terms applicable to lands near Shaavukaru Gutta, and urged officials to initiate direct negotiations with the affected families.

He appealed to the district administration, including the Collector, to visit the site and resolve the issue transparently. The BJP leader cautioned that the party would intensify its agitation if the farmers' concerns were not addressed.

The protest, attended by local residents and activists, remained peaceful through the day, with demonstrators reiterating their demand for protection of what they described as their primary source of livelihood.

## Caring for the Differently-abled is Everyone's Responsibility : Dr. B. Dola Susmitha

**(Capital Information)**  
**Nellore :** Renowned dental specialist Dr. B. Dola Susmitha stated that it is the responsibility of every individual to care for the differently-abled, orphans, the underprivileged, and the homeless.

Speaking at a program held on Sunday at the District PMP office in Bujubanjelluru—where essential commodities were distributed—she remarked that while celebrating birthdays and wedding anniversaries grandly may bring us personal satisfaction, celebrating them in the company of the differently-abled brings true joy.

She noted that observing such auspicious occasions with orphans is a truly gratifying experience. She expressed



deep concern that the spirit of compassion and care within society has currently diminished, as people are increasingly pre-occupied with seeking ways to merely enhance their personal income.

District PMP President Shakavarapu Venugopal mentioned that, for a long time now, he has made it a tradition to celebrate his birthday—as well as organize

other events—specifically in the company of the needy and underprivileged.

Speaking on this occasion, District PMP President Shakavarapu Venugopal expressed his happiness in being able to provide essential commodities to the 'Nakshatra Differently-abled Service Society' (Nakshatra Vikalaangula Seva Samithi) located in the Kallurupalli

Housing Board Colony, in observance of his 58th birthday today. He appealed to everyone to come forward and extend their support to those in need. On this occasion, essential commodities were distributed to the visually impaired.

IJU Council Member Anumula Jayaprakash, SC/ST/BC/Minority Cell State President Kudumulu Subbarao, ROADS Charitable Trust Chairman Sheikh Rasool, retired ASI Mahaboob Basha, and District PHP leaders Gorantla Seshayya, Devarakonda Srinivasulu, B. Shankar Rao, K. Rama Raghavayya, Mahabharat Satyam, S. Madhusudan Rao, S. Nagaraju, Mahesh Sai, Ravi, Karuna, and others participated in this program.

## Grand Celebration of Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna Swamy Kalyana Mahotsavam

**(Capital Information)**  
**Sangareddy :** The Kalyana Mahotsavam of Sri Bhramaramba Sametha Mallikarjuna Swamy was celebrated with great grandeur on Sunday in Chidrupa village of Kandi Mandal, Sangareddy District. The event was organized under the leadership of village Sarpanch Koduri Srisailem and the Kuruma community.

As part of the celebrations, special rituals like Agnigundalu (fire rituals) were performed for the deity. In the evening, women collectively celebrated the Bonalu festival in a grand manner.

Speaking on the occasion, Sarpanch Koduri Srisailem said that the temple festivities are being conducted magnificently in the



village and expressed his (happiness), stating that it was his good fortune to participate in these celebrations for the first time after being elected as Sarpanch.

The event was attended by Block President Raghu, Kuruma Association President Muttangi Nagesh, former president Bhadrappa, community elders Chenna-

galla Sanjeev, Mokila Laxman, Muttangi Durgayya, Mekala Veeresham, Nagesh, Poshamm, Patti Ailayya, Devender, Pedda Kuruma Koduri Prakash, Chennagalla Muthyalu, members of the Kuruma community, villagers, relatives, devotees, Congress party leaders, and many others.

## BJP to stage 'Chalo Assembly' protest

**(Capital Information)**  
**Hyderabad :** The Telangana unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has announced that it will organise a State-wide protest programme, "Chalo Assembly" (Assembly siege), on March 23 in Hyderabad to highlight what it described as the failures of the Congress government.

State BJP president N. Ramchander Rao said party leaders, workers and supporters would gather near the Telangana Legislative Assembly at Nampally from 10 a.m. to demand accountability on issues such as the implementation of election promises, employment generation and welfare measures.

The party alleged that the ruling dispensation had not fulfilled key assurances made to farmers, women, youth and government employees, and accused it of misgovernance and lack of transparency.

The BJP said the demonstration would be peaceful and aimed at drawing public attention to governance issues. Party leaders have called upon supporters from across the State to participate in the programme.



## BIKE THIEF ARRESTED; TWO BIKES SEIZED : CI MAHESH KUMAR

**(Capital Information)**  
**Medak :** Medak Town CI Mahesh Kumar said that the person who stole the motorcycle bikes was caught and two bikes were seized from him and he was remanded. According to his story, a man was caught wandering around suspiciously while operating a vehicle at Ramdas Chowrasta in Medak town.

The CI said that when he was interrogated, he confessed to stealing two bikes from the church compound in the month of January. He said that there is a case of theft of two bikes in the church compound.

Caught him to sell those bikes. Vallepu Gopal (29), a laborer from Vaddera Colony in his Medak town, said he was identified. In the past, there were many cases of theft against him. 2 bikes were confiscated from him.

Town Mahesh kumar said that there were cases against him in Medak, Shankarampet (A) and Kamareddy districts and after his arrest he was brought to court and sent to remand.

## Blood Donation Camp Held on Bhagat Singh Martyrdom Day at PJR Stadium

**(Capital Information)**  
**Serilingampally :** A blood donation camp was organized at PJR Stadium on the occasion of the martyrdom day of Bhagat Singh, drawing participation from several volunteers and local leaders.

The camp was conducted under the leadership of associates of Stephen, with active involvement from the community. BJP State Spokesperson and Serilingampally Assembly In-charge Ravikumar Yadav attended the event and participated in the initiative.

Speaking on the occasion, Ravikumar Yadav praised the organizers for conducting the blood donation camp in memory of Bhagat Singh. He said that commemorating the martyr-

dom of such a great freedom fighter in a meaningful way is a matter of pride for all citizens.



He emphasized that the sacrifices made by leaders like Bhagat Singh are the foundation of the freedom the nation enjoys today. He added that Bhagat Singh's life continues to inspire many leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, as well as countless others across the country.

Encouraging people to contribute to society, he urged citizens to donate blood at least once or twice

a year, stating that it not only helps save lives but also promotes better health by stimulating the production of new blood.

Senior leaders Arjun, Stephen, Prabhakar, Shiva, Bunty, along with their associates and supporters, actively participated in the camp.

## Save Water Rally Witnesses Strong Participation in Miyapur

**(Capital Information)**  
**Serilingampally :** A large-scale "Save Water" rally organized on the occasion of World Water Day received an overwhelming response in Krushi Nagar Colony under Miyapur Division.



The rally was conducted with the support of the WaterAid organization and active participation of local residents.

Former Corporator Upalapati Srikanth attended the event as the chief guest and took part in the awareness rally held across the

colony streets.

Speaking on the occasion, Srikanth emphasized the importance of water conservation, stating that "Water is life - Save Water, Save Future." He warned that rapid urbanization and

climate change could lead to severe water scarcity in the coming years if preventive measures are not taken.

He urged citizens to use water responsibly, reduce wastage at household levels, and adopt rainwater harvesting methods to con-

serve groundwater. He further added that collective community efforts are essential to effectively tackle water-related challenges and that such awareness programs help instill a sense of responsibility among the public.

Srikanth also highlighted the need to monitor water usage at the colony level and stressed the importance of protecting lakes and other water resources.

WaterAid representatives, senior leaders Bandaru Mohan Mudiraj, Supraja, Bhagat Mudiraj, Giri, Krishna, Jyothi, and several colony residents including Vamsi Krishna Reddy, Papi Reddy, Kamalakar Reddy, Lakshmi Kant Reddy, Srinivas, Singarao, Ajay Kumar Rambhupal Reddy, Raju, Janardhan Reddy, Mahesh, Prasad, and children actively participated in the rally.



## Minister Emphasizes Quality in Government Projects

**(Capital Information)**  
**Jagtial/Dharmapuri :** State Minister for Social Welfare, Adhuri Lakshman Kumar, stressed the importance of quality in government construction projects. He inaugurated various development projects in Buggaram mandal, including a CC road and a VO building for women's associations.

The Minister emphasized that contractors should not compromise on quality and instructed officials to ensure high standards in construction projects. He also announced plans to construct VO buildings for women's associations as a pilot project.

Minister Lakshman Kumar inaugurated an Indiramma house for a beneficiary and assured that the government would fulfill the dreams of the underprivileged. He also interacted with a differently-abled person, promising to provide a new tricycle and ensuring his pension is sanctioned. In this program Congress party leaders Subhash, Narsagoud, beneficiary, officers and others.



As part of Telangana State's Democracy-Progress Plan program, as part of the Ritu Utsav which has been going on for the past 4 days, the Chief Minister Revanth Reddy started an oil farm in Medak district today.

On the occasion of the release of Rythu Bharosa funds to 70 lakh farmers across the state, Peberu Market Committee Vice Chairman Eddula Vijaya Vardhan Reddy, local Sarpanch Mrs. Aruna Jaipal Reddy, district youth leaders Ranjith Kumar, leaders Jagadishwar Reddy, Arjun participated in a special broadcast organized by the Department of Agriculture in Kanchirao Palli Cluster. Yadav, Megha Reddy, Janardhan Reddy, AO Munna Basha, AEOs Rajitha, Anjaneyulu, Prashanth, Jayashree, Chakraborty, Pushpalatha and others participated.

- K.Rajesh, pebbair.



### Billtrust sets up AI-focused Global Capability Centre in Hyderabad

**(Capital Information)**  
**Hyderabad :** US-based fintech firm Billtrust has announced the establishment of an artificial intelligence-focused Global Capability Centre (GCC) in Hyderabad, marking a strategic expansion of its global operations.

The centre, located in HITEC City, will focus on product engineering, cybersecurity and AI-driven customer enablement. Company officials said the facility would support Billtrust's broader strategy of strengthening automation solutions across the business-to-business accounts receivable ecosystem.

Chief Executive Officer Grant Halloran said Hyderabad's growing pool of fintech and AI talent made it an attractive destination for innovation-led investments. The centre will initially operate from an existing office space, with plans to move to a larger facility later this year.

Billtrust, headquartered in New Jersey, serves more than 2,000 clients worldwide. The company's platform helps enterprises streamline order-to-cash processes, including digital invoicing, payment processing and collections.



### NEW DIGITAL PRESS SHOP INAUGURATED AT CHANDANAGAR

**(Capital Information)**  
**Serilingampally :** A newly established "Om Digi Press" shop was inaugurated at KKR Dolphin Towers, located on the main road of Chandanagar in Serilingampally constituency.

The shop was formally inaugurated by former Ramachandrapuram Division Corporator, Burugadda Pushpa Nagesh, who attended the event as the chief guest.

Local residents and well-wishers were present on the occasion and extended their support to the new venture.

### APWJF Tirupati district executive committee elected

**(Capital Information)**  
**Tirupati :** The first district conference of the Andhra Pradesh Working Journalists Federation (APWJF) was held on Sunday at private kalyanamandapam in Tirupati. During this convention, the new executive committee for the Tirupati district was elected unanimously, with senior journalist Adimola Sekhar serving as the election officer.

#### New executive leadership

Gajula Chengalrayulu (Gandhi) from Manam Daily was elected as the APWJF Tirupati district president, while Valigalam Gopi from Prajasakti Daily took charge as the general

secretary. K Srinivas from Manam was elected as the treasurer. The committee

Rajareddy, Jayakumar, CR Srinivasan, and Rajareddy as joint secretaries. T Thulasiram was appointed as the executive secretary, and P Sudhir was named the media coordinator.

#### Executive members and commitment

The executive body includes members P Munibhaskar Reddy, K Hari Babu, Gandham Chandrasekhar, K Nagaraja, Radhasuresh, A Prakash, K Sudhakar, P Yasin, G Chandrasekhar, and R Bhaktavatsala Reddy. The newly elected representatives pledged to remain committed to the welfare of journalists and the protection of their rights within the district.



also appointed P Chengalrayulu, Mallela Vani, Nandakumar, K Ravi, D Dhanasekhar, and Ghattamaneni Srinivas as vice presidents.

#### Appointed secretaries and executive body

The conference elected M Suresh Raja, DV Rao, P

### Tirupati TDP Saalivaahana Parliament President Amudala Tulasi Das seeks government support for Saalivaahana Emperor statues

**(Capital Information)**  
**Tirupati :** Celebrating the legacy of Saalivaahana Emperor, who defeated

stalled not only across the state but in every constituency throughout the country. He explained that

government to respect the heritage and establish the fame of the Saalivaahana lineage. Amudala Tulasi



Emperor Vikramaditya and established a new era in Indian history, Tirupati Telugu Desam Party, Saalivaahana Parliament President Amudala Tulasi Das stated that it is everyone's responsibility to protect the identity of such a great soul. He noted that the current era we follow is the Saalivaahana Shaka, and his glory must be showcased to the world.

#### Statue installation in every constituency

Amudala Tulasi Das urges that statues of Saalivaahana Emperor be in-

installing these statues is a crucial step in passing down the history of Saalivaahana, regarded as the origin of creation, to future generations.

#### Responsibility of governments

It is the fundamental responsibility of every state

Das clarified that he would bring this matter to the government's attention to expedite the process of installing these statues and prioritize the cause.

#### Appeal to the Chief Minister

Respecting the sentiments of the Saalivaahana community, Amudala Tulasi Das appealed to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu to facilitate the installation of the statues. He emphasized that by honoring the founder of the Shaka era, we preserve our cultural heritage.

### Medak Additional SP Mahender visited and offered prayers at Sri Ketaki Sangameshwara Swamy temple

**(Capital Information)**  
**Sangareddy/Zaheerabad :** Mandal headquarters in Sangareddy District, Medak Additional SP Mahender had darshan of Sri Ketaki Sangameshwara Swamy and performed special (rituals).



Temple committee members felicitated the Additional SP and presented him with theertha prasadam.

Endowment Board Member Laxman Yadav and others were also present at the event.



### Ragam Nagender Yadav Participates in Bonalu Festival Celebrations

**(Capital Information)**  
**Serilingampally :** The annual Bonalu Mahotsavam of Goddess Sri Sri Vijayadurga Bhavani was celebrated with religious fervour at Adarsh Nagar in Serilingampally Division.

Former Corporator Ragam Nagender Yadav attended the celebration as the chief guest. He was accorded a warm welcome by the temple committee members upon his arrival.

On the occasion, the former corporator took part in the special pooja rituals conducted at the temple. The priests offered Vedic blessings and presented him with the sacred prasadam of the Goddess.

Speaking on the occasion, Ragam Nagender Yadav expressed his prayers for the well-being, happiness, and good health of all people, seeking the divine blessings of Goddess Vijayadurga Bhavani.

Senior leaders including Miriyala Raghava Rao, Ashok, Karna, Srinivas, Babu, Sudhakar Reddy, Renu, Ramesh, Ravinder, Praveen, Praneesh, Raghu, Tirumalesh, Gopal, Mallesh, Suresh, along with temple committee members and others, were present at the event.

### Malkajgiri Traffic Police conducted a special drunk & drive

**(Capital Information)**  
**Hyderabad :** Malkajgiri Traffic Police conducted a special drunk driving enforcement drive over the weekend, resulting in the apprehension of 214 offenders.

The vehicle-wise breakdown of the cases is as follows:

Two wheelers: 187  
 Three wheelers: 5  
 Four wheelers: 21  
 Heavy Vehicles: 1  
 Offenders were categorized based on their Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) levels:214

(189) offenders had BAC levels ranging from 36 mg/100 ml to 200 mg/100 ml

(15) offenders had BAC levels ranging from 201 mg/100 ml to 300 mg/100 ml

(10) offenders had BAC levels ranging from 301 mg/100 ml to 550 mg/100 ml

Sl. No.	VIOLATION	CHARGED OFFENDERS	Sl. No.	VIOLATION	CHARGED OFFENDERS
1	Cell phone driving	1226	1	Begunni T.P.S	5
2	Traffic rule violation	1000	2	Tirumaluru T.P.S	44
3	Over speed	1000	3	Gandapet T.P.S	21
4	Signal violation	1076	4	Aluri T.P.S	11
5	Wrong side	7862	5	Malkajgiri T.P.S	88
6	Obstruction of carriage way	10051	6	Jandamallapally T.P.S	38
			7	Uppal T.P.S	38
			8	Kothapalle T.P.S	17
			9	Chilakalur T.P.S	13
			10	LB Nagar T.P.S	31
			11	Venkatapuram T.P.S	18
				TOTAL	214

All the offenders will be produced before the Court.

Malkajgiri Police reiterate that driving under the influence of alcohol is a serious

offense. If anyone is found to be driving in an inebriated condition and causes a fatal accident, such individuals will be booked under Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Culpable Homicide Not Amounting to Murder). The maximum punishment under this section is 10 years of imprisonment along with a fine.

In the last Week (15.03.2026 to 21.03.2026)

Total 128 DD cases were disposed in the courts, in which

(00) person got \_Fine + Jail, (08) persons got \_Fine+ social service,

(120) persons got Fine only.

### Any position..friendship is unforgettable Childhood for Municipal Chairman - Great honor of friends

**(K.Rajesh)**  
**(Capital Information)**

**Pebbar :** Municipal Chairman Akki Srinivas Goud said, "Position is temporary, childhood friendship is eternal."Local Vallapu Reddy on Sunday

In the function hall [ ssc 1986 - 87] batch childhood friends conducted a grand felicitation program for municipal chairman Akki Srinivas Goud.

On this occasion, all the friends honored the couple with Gajamala shawl and gave me a memento.

In the meeting held afterwards, the friends expressed their happiness that one of them is taking up the responsible position of municipal chairman.

Akki Srinivas Goud displayed leadership qualities during her school days and it



is commendable that she has risen to the level of serving the public with the same tenacity today.

Municipal Chairman Akki Srinivas Goud, the recipient of the award, said... he was

emotional that he would never forget his friends who supported him in his growth. He promised that he would work to make the town ideal, with the aim of solving public problems. He said that de-

spite being very busy, coming here on the call of friends gave me great happiness.

All the friends participated in this program in large numbers and had fun reminiscing the old memories.



### World Poetry Day Celebrated with Great Fervor

**(Capital Information)**  
**Nellore :** Under the aegis of the Pinakini Youth Welfare Association, a poets' meet was held on Saturday evening at the B.C. Praja Chaitanya Samakhya in Gandhi Nagar, Proddatur, to mark the occasion of World Poetry Day.

Speaking as the chief guest at the event, renowned poet Jinka Subrahmanyam stated that the primary objective of this day is to showcase linguistic diversity through poetry and to revitalize languages that are on the verge of extinction by popularizing them among the public.

K. Muralimohan Raju, President of the Pinakini Youth Welfare Association—who had traveled from Nellore for the event—explained that literature is that which seeks the welfare of society, and poets are the ones who provide such literature. He further elaborated that poets, with their foresight, play a pivotal role in the development of society.

Poets Kothapalli Srinu, Borra Ramanjaneyulu, Palla Ramarao, Kasivarapu Venkatasubbayya, and Kambham Pamileti, along with various writers and others, participated in this program.

### Massive Black Jaggery Seizure in Devarakonda: 3 Arrested, ₹10 Lakh Property Confiscated

**(Capital Information)**  
**Devarakonda:** Acting on the orders of Nalgonda Assistant Commissioner (Enforcement) B. Santhosh and under the supervision

cases have been registered, and three individuals have been arrested. Arrests and Seizures The raids resulted in the following actions

varakonda and Angoth Tarun from Kondamallepally were arrested.

Authorities recovered 900 kg of black jaggery, 20 kg of alum, 10 liters of illicit liquor (Natu Sara), two Vivo mobile phones, a Maruti 800 car (AP 10AJ 1159), and a Maruti Alto car (AP 28BB 4312).

Total Recovered Items (Estimated Value: ₹10 Lakh)

Black Jaggery: 1,800 kg Alum (Phitkari): 70 kg Illicit

Liquor: 10 liters Vehicles: 3 (Bolero, Maruti 800, and Alto)

The raid was carried out by Excise Inspector S. Srinivas, along with Constables Shekar Reddy, Nagaraju, and Anil. Officials stated that the arrested suspects and the seized property have been handed over to the Devarakonda SHO for further legal proceedings.



of AES A. Kishan, Excise officials conducted surprise raids early Sunday morning near Padamati-palli Cross Road in Devarakonda Mandal. During these operations, a massive quantity of illegally transported black jaggery and alum (phitkari) was seized. Two separate

against the accused: Sampangi Ramulu from Kondamallepally was arrested. Officials seized 900 kg of black jaggery (30 bags), 50 kg of alum, a Motorola mobile phone, and a Mahindra Bolero Maxx truck (TG OST 9996) used for transportation. Pathlavath Lalu from De-



### Grandeur of Bharat Ratna Statues... Statue unveiling on the 29th of this month at Parvathapur in Kondurgu Mandal : Organizers invite journalist KP

**(Special Correspondent)**  
**Shadnagar :** Honoring the great leaders who have remained eternal in the hearts of people—as Bharat Ratnas, as beacons of hope for the Dalit community, and as symbols of pride for the marginalized sections—statues of the personalities Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar are set to be installed.

The statue installation ceremony will be held on the 29th of this month at 3:00 PM in Parvathapur village of Kondurgu Mandal, as informed by the Statue Committee President Midikeri Radhakrishna, Vice President Nitya Ellaraju, and General Secretary Cherukupalli Amarendar.

On Sunday, under the leadership of former MPTC Mallesh, the organizers invited journalist KP to attend the grand event.

On this occasion, they appealed to village residents, elders, leaders, and media representatives to participate in large numbers and make the program a success.

# Editorial Adopt Simplicity and Balance for True Happiness

The Vice-President of India, C. P. Radhakrishnan, addressed the 81st Foundation Day celebrations of Nisargopachar Ashram at Uruli Kanchan, Pune today. Addressing the gathering, the Vice-President noted that both Mahatma Gandhi, who conceptualised the Ashram, and the farmer who donated land for this noble cause deserve the nation's gratitude. He described the Ashram as not merely an institution, but a movement, a philosophy, and a way of life inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's vision of sim-

ple, disciplined living in harmony with nature. The Vice-President said that Gandhiji believed nature to be the greatest healer and emphasised that true health lies in simplicity, discipline, and living in harmony with nature. Highlighting the growing burden of lifestyle diseases, the Vice-President said that the message of the Ashram is more relevant today than ever before. He emphasised that health is not merely the absence of disease, but a state of complete physical,

mental, and spiritual well-being. He called upon people to adopt balanced nutrition, regular physical activity, mental peace, and a lifestyle in tune with nature. Recalling his tenure as the Governor of Jharkhand and Maharashtra, the Vice-President said that he had the opportunity to closely observe the rich tradition of indigenous and natural healing practices among tribal communities. He noted that these time-tested practices, rooted in nature and traditional knowledge, reflect

India's deep civilisational wisdom in holistic healthcare. The Vice-President noted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's traditional systems of medicine have gained renewed global recognition, with AYUSH institutions playing an important role in preventive and holistic healthcare and contributing to the growth of medical and wellness tourism in the country. He emphasised that Yoga and naturopathy are not alterna-

tives but powerful complements to modern medicine, and described India's traditional wellness systems as invaluable gifts to the world. The Vice-President said that in today's fast-paced world, people often search for happiness in material success, but true fulfilment comes from peace, balance, and harmony in life. He added that when individuals are healthy, families become strong; when families are strong, society prospers; and when society prospers, the nation rises.

The Vice-President emphasised that as India moves towards the vision of Viksit Bharat, the goal must also be to build a Swasth Bharat, and institutions like Nisargopachar Ashram will play a significant role in achieving this objective. The Vice-President also paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Manibhai Desai at the Ashram and released the book 'Secrets of our Happiness', authored by Dr. Narayan Hegde, Managing Trustee, Nisargopachar Ashram, on the occasion.

## PM to review energy, fertiliser supply amid West Asia tensions

(Capital Information)

New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair a high-level meeting on Sunday to review the status of India's petroleum, crude oil, power and fertiliser sectors in view of the evolving security situation in West Asia and its impact on global supply chains.

According to an official statement, the meeting will focus on ensuring uninterrupted availability of essential energy products and fertilisers, maintaining stable logistics and distribution networks, and protecting consumers from external market volatility.

The government said India has strengthened its energy security in recent years through diversification of crude import sources, expansion of strategic petroleum reserves at locations including Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru and Padur, and efforts to enhance domestic production and buffer stocks.

Officials noted that priority allocation of natural gas to fertiliser plants has also been undertaken to support agricultural requirements. The Centre said it is closely monitoring global developments and will take necessary steps to safeguard supplies and price stability.

The outcome of the meeting is expected to be announced later.



## National DMF Summit to focus on better use of mineral funds in mining districts

(Capital Information)

New Delhi : The Ministry of Mines will organise the National District Mineral Foundation (DMF) Summit 2026 on March 23-24 at the SCOPE Convention Centre in the national capital, with an emphasis on improving the utilisation of DMF resources in mining-affected regions.

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy is scheduled to inaugurate the summit in the presence of Minister of State Satish Chandra Dubey and senior officials, including Mines Secretary Piyush Goyal. The theme of the two-day event is effective deployment of DMF funds in areas covered under the Aspira-

tional District Programme and Aspirational Block Programme.

The summit is expected

on governance reforms, transparency, monitoring mechanisms and convergence with national development initiatives.

Officials said the discussions would also examine best practices, impact assessment strategies and data-driven planning for sustainable development in mining regions. A dedicated exhibition will showcase successful DMF-funded projects in sectors such as health, education, drinking water, skill development and infrastructure.

The Ministry hopes the summit will help build consensus on policy priorities and strengthen outcome-oriented utilisation of DMF funds to benefit communities in mineral-rich districts.



to bring together representatives from Central Ministries, State Governments, district administrations, NITI Aayog and other stakeholders to deliberate

## IJU Condemns Sealing of UNI Office

(Capital Information)

New Delhi/Chandigarh : The Indian Journalists Union (IJU) has strongly condemned the forcible sealing and takeover of the office of United News of India (UNI) at 9, Rafi Marg, New Delhi, in the evening hours of March 20, 2026, reportedly under the cover of a High Court order.

In a statement, IJU President K. Sreenivas Reddy and Secretary General Balwinder Singh Jammu expressed serious concern over the manner in which the action was carried out by the Delhi Police and the Land and Development Office. They termed it a grave assault on press freedom and the institutional integrity of journalism in India.

The IJU leaders said they were deeply alarmed that the eviction was carried out without notice to the staff and without allowing journalists and employees to collect their personal belongings. They criticized the operation for resembling a police raid rather than a routine administrative procedure.

They also expressed concern over reports and visuals suggesting that women journalists were physically manhandled during the operation. The IJU demanded a thorough investigation into the conduct of the police personnel, stating that such actions may amount to serious violations of the dignity and safety of working journalists.

Highlighting the significance of UNI, the IJU noted that it is one of the oldest and most respected news agencies in the country, and that its central Delhi office has functioned as an active newsroom for decades. Sealing an operational newsroom in the dead of night, disrupting live newsgathering and transmission, and placing the premises under official control sends a chilling message to the entire journalistic community, the statement added.

## Unanimous Election of Telangana State Committee under National Ex-Servicemen Coordination Committee (NEXCC)

(Special Correspondent)

Hyderabad : The Telangana State Committee was unanimously elected under the aegis of the National Ex-Servicemen Coordination Committee (NEXCC) during an executive meeting held on Sunday at the Veterans Air Warrior Welfare Association building in Bollaram. The meeting was presided over by Committee President Sarvar Ali.

At the outset, members observed a two-minute silence in memory of the late NEXCC Veteran Chairman Lingala Jagan Reddy, praying for the peace of his soul.

Addressing the gathering, President Sarvar Ali highlighted several key issues concerning the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families. He emphasized the need to expand internal medical facilities for ex-servicemen, increase the number of hospital beds, and improve the alloca-



tion of special rooms.

He also urged the government to enhance reservation quotas through MCOs, regulate liquor prices in the state, and increase liquor quotas during festival seasons.

On the occasion, General Secretary Jagannatham presented the annual report. Subsequently, elections for the Telangana State Committee were conducted, in which Sarvar Ali was unanimously

elected as President. P.L. Ravinder Naidu, Vice President of the National Human Rights and Social Justice Commission, was elected as Vice President. Jagannatham was elected as General Secretary, Shivakumar as Treasurer, and S. Prabhakar along with P. Bhagavanth Rao as Organizing Secretaries. The election committee officially announced the results.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice President P.L. Ravinder Naidu stated that a comprehensive action plan would be prepared for the welfare of ex-servicemen. He assured that the issues faced by veterans across the state would be identified and addressed in coordination with the government. He further added that special focus would be given to health, employment, housing, and pension-related matters, and reaffirmed commitment to protecting the rights of members.

A large number of veterans, including ex-servicemen and Air Force personnel from various districts of the state, attended the meeting.

Participants expressed that the meeting was conducted in a dignified and orderly manner, providing clear direction for future activities. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Shivakumar, followed by the National Anthem.

## Journalists Call 'Chalo Hyderabad' Protest on March 25 Against Govt Apathy

(Capital Information)

Hyderabad : Alleging continued neglect and discriminatory treatment by the state government, the Telangana Working Journalists Federation (TWJF) has called for a statewide protest titled "Chalo Hyderabad - I&PR Office" on March 25.

TWJF founder-president and state convenor Mamidi Somayya announced that journalists from across the state would participate in large numbers to protest what he described as the government's indifferent attitude towards media professionals.

He criticised the Congress government for "completely ignoring" journalists over the past two years, stating that the recently presented state budget made no mention of journalist welfare. "There was not even a single word about journalists' welfare in the budget, which clearly reflects

the government's apathy," he said.

Somayya further pointed out that despite being in power for two years, the gov-

ernment has failed to issue new accreditation cards and health cards to journalists. He also alleged that there has been no progress on providing house sites, with the government citing Supreme Court rulings as an excuse to avoid implementation.

He added that the Media Academy governing council has not been constituted and noted that while several states provide pensions to retired journalists, no such benefit is being extended in Telangana. Raising concerns over the survival of small and medium publications, Somayya accused the government of suppressing them by not clearing advertisement bills for the past two years. He also alleged that many publications registered with RNI and PRGI have not been empanelled, and their journalists are being denied accreditation.

He further claimed that none of the promises made to journalists by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy during the elections have been fulfilled. Calling for unity, Somayya urged journalists across Telangana to participate in the March 25 protest in large numbers and make it a success.



## H-1B Visa Crisis Deepens: No Interview Slots in India, Appointments Pushed to 2027

(Dr. M.Suresh Babu)

(Capital Information)

Hyderabad : A severe shortage of H-1B visa stamping appointments across U.S. consulates in India has triggered widespread concern among professionals, with applicants facing unprecedented delays, travel risks, and uncertainty. As of early 2026, U.S. consulates in New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, and Hyderabad are showing virtually zero availability for visa interviews, with many slots already pushed into 2027.

**Zero Availability and Mounting Backlogs**

According to the U.S. Department of State visa scheduling portal, interview appointments for key non-immigrant visa categories—including H-1B, L, O, P, and Q—are currently marked as "not available" for the remainder of 2026. The situation re-

fects a growing backlog, leaving thousands of applicants in limbo.

**Causes Behind the Crisis**

Experts attribute the crisis to multiple factors, including a sharp rise in demand, reduced daily processing capacity at consulates, and stricter screening measures. Notably, enhanced social media vetting introduced in December 2025 has added to processing timelines. Additionally, policy changes such as the end of third-country visa stamping and tighter eligibility scrutiny have compounded delays.

**Travel Risks and Advisory**

Immigration attorneys are advising H-1B visa holders to avoid international travel, particularly to India for visa stamping, as they risk being stranded for extended periods. The uncertainty is especially critical for professionals needing urgent travel for per-

**H-1B VISA APPOINTMENTS IN INDIA**  
NO SLOTS UNTIL 2027

H-1B VISA APPOINTMENT CANCELLED  
Next Available: 2027

- NO APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
- HUGE BACKLOGS REPORTED
- TECH WORKERS STRANDED

infocys Wipro Cognizant Accenture

TRAVEL RISK FOR H-1B WORKERS

sonal or medical reasons.

One such case involves an H-1B holder currently in India whose emergency inter-

view request was approved due to a child's medical needs in the United States. Despite this, no interview slots are

available, highlighting the severity of the crisis even for priority cases.

**Impact on Workforce and**

**Industry**

The crisis has significantly impacted Indian tech professionals, many of whom are unable to return to their jobs in the U.S. Some have reportedly faced job losses due to prolonged delays. The issue is also affecting major IT firms such as Infosys, Wipro, Cognizant, Capgemini, and Accenture, which rely heavily on H-1B visa holders for their U.S. operations.

Industry sources indicate growing concern over rising rejection rates of H-1B petitions in 2026, with IT service-based companies particularly affected due to increased scrutiny and additional documentation requirements.

**Official Response and Applicant Guidance**

The U.S. Department of State has reiterated its commitment to maintaining national security and public safety through its visa

processes. It has advised applicants to regularly monitor the visa scheduling portal, as new appointment slots are released periodically.

However, officials caution that published wait times are only estimates and do not guarantee appointment availability within a specific timeframe. Applicants are encouraged to reschedule if earlier slots become available and to stay updated through official embassy channels.

**Growing Uncertainty**

With the annual H-1B visa cap for FY2027 remaining unchanged at 85,000, but with stricter rules and processing delays, the crisis shows no immediate signs of easing. For thousands of Indian professionals, even routine travel has now become a high-risk decision, underscoring the deepening challenges in the global mobility of skilled workers.



**Our Goal Is to Keep Everyone Healthy**  
(Capital Information)

**Nalgonda :** Palla Jyothika Raviteja said the main aim is to ensure everyone stays healthy. She inaugurated a free medical camp in Gandhi Nagar on Sunday and said such camps were being organized to make healthcare accessible to poor families.

She said winning hearts is greater than winning votes and assured people that she would continue to serve them. At the camp, doctors examined around 300 people and distributed medicines.



**Encouraging Clashes in Chandur Municipality Will Not Be Tolerated: BJP**  
(Capital Information)

**Chandur :** BJP leaders on Sunday condemned the recent clash in Chandur Municipality and accused Congress leaders of provoking tensions for political gain.

At a press conference held at the municipal guest house, BJP OBC Morcha state spokesperson Komati Veeresham rejected Congress allegations about the party's poor performance in the municipal elections and said the BJP was steadily growing in Chandur.

Leaders alleged that BJP workers were attacked as part of a planned conspiracy and warned that attempts to encourage rowdiness and violence would not be tolerated. They also denied allegations made against BJP leaders Dr. Gangidi Manohar Reddy and Dr. Nagam Varshit Reddy.

Former town president Anneparthi Yadagiri and district leader Boda Anjaneyulu condemned the attack and accused Congress leaders of making false allegations against BJP workers.

Several BJP leaders and workers attended the press meet.

**WEEKEND DRUNK-DRIVE CRACKDOWN: 173 OFFENDERS APPREHENDED IN CYBERABAD**

(Capital Information) **Serilingampally :** In a special weekend enforcement drive, the Cyberabad Traffic Police (CTP) apprehended 173 individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol, intensifying efforts to curb road accidents and ensure public safety.

According to DCP Traffic-I, Ranjan Ratan Kumar, the cases were registered across various categories of vehicles. Two-wheelers accounted for the majority with 138 cases, followed by three-wheelers (10), four-wheelers (22), and heavy vehicles (3).

And also stated that offenders were categorized based on their Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) levels. A total of 145 offenders recorded BAC levels between 36 mg/100 ml and

200 mg/100 ml, while 15 individuals fell within the 201 mg/100 ml to 300 mg/100 ml range. Alarming, 13 offenders were found with BAC levels ranging from

301 mg/100 ml to 550 mg/100 ml. All the accused will be produced before the Hon'ble Court. Police officials reiterated that drunk driving is a serious offence and warned of stringent legal action. In cases where intoxicated driving leads to fatal accidents, offenders will be charged under Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023,

which pertains to culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The offence carries a maximum punishment of 10 years imprisonment along with a fine. Cyberabad Police have once again urged citizens to act responsibly and avoid driving under the influence, emphasizing that safety on roads is a shared responsibility.

**"Details of last week's drunk driving cases"** Meanwhile, during the past week (March 16 to March 21, 2026), a total of 358 drunk driving cases were disposed of in courts. Among them, no individual received a jail sentence along with a fine, two offenders were awarded fine along with social service, and 356 cases resulted in fines only.

- SALVADER TILLU



**Alphores E-Techno School's "Festa" Celebrations Inspire Students**

(Capital Information) **Jagtial :** Alphores E-Techno School, Shivavedi, Jagtial, celebrated its annual Festyact with great enthusiasm.

The event was attended by Dr. M. Sanjay Kumar, MLA, Jagtial, and Dr. V. Narender Reddy, founder of Alphores Educational Institutions. Dr. Sanjay Kumar emphasized the importance of cultural activities in reducing stress and boosting confidence among students. He praised

the school's efforts in imparting moral values and



discipline to students.

Dr. Narender Reddy highlighted the school's plans to focus on holistic development, including academic and cultural pursuits. He encouraged students to strive for excellence and make their parents proud.

The event featured impressive cultural performances, including skits and dances, which left the audience spellbound. The school's principal, teachers, parents, and students participated in the celebrations.



**Call to Strengthen Youth Congress : Leaders**  
(Capital Information)

**Kodad :** Youth Congress constituency president Shaik Abdul Azeem called upon party workers to work for strengthening the Youth Congress.

He was speaking on Sunday after Shaik Saida was appointed as the Youth President of Matha Nagar 27th Ward in the presence of councillor Shabuddin. Azeem urged the youth to actively participate in politics and contribute to strengthening the party.

He said Youth Congress leaders should work like soldiers at the ward level to resolve public issues and take Congress welfare schemes door to door. Several leaders congratulated the newly appointed Saida.

Among those present were Jamal, Harif, Qasim, Munna, Babbu, Rahim, Sai, Srinu, Jalal, Umar, Hanif and Imran.



**Former Upasarpnach Kasala Janardhan Reddy pays tribute to Mariamma**  
(Capital Information)

**Chandur :** The mother of former Sarpanch Teegala Subhash of Gundrapally village in Chandur mandal of Nalgonda district, Mariamma, passed away untimely.

Upon learning of this, former Upasarpnach Kasala Janardhan Reddy of that village along with Congress party ranks visited Subhash's family on Sunday and paid tribute to Mariamma.

Later, he provided financial assistance of Rs. 10,000. Panchayat members and Congress party ranks participated in this program.

**We are moving forward with the utmost respect for the courts and with the firm resolve to ensure that no injustice is done to anyone : MLA Megha Reddy**

(Capital Information)

**Wanaparthy :** Wanaparthy MLA Thudi Megha Reddy remarked that throughout the history of Wanaparthy—from the era of Suravaram right up to Chinnareddy—all legislators were revered like sacred Tulasi plants; however, the one and only individual who subjected the region to a decade of dictatorial rule turned out to be a noxious "marijuana plant." He noted that during the 2023 elections, when he appealed to the public to "uproot and discard this toxic plant" in order to "save and transform Wanaparthy," the people responded by doing exactly that—uprooting him and casting him aside.

MLA Megha Reddy made these observations while addressing a press conference held on Sunday at the Wanaparthy District Congress Party office.

He leveled sharp criticism against his predecessor, stating that despite being born and raised elsewhere—and despite being entrusted with power for the past five years—he acted like a "thieving cat guarding a pot of milk," systematically looting the entire wealth and resources of the constituency.

Megha Reddy further asserted that the Congress Party achieved a resounding majority in the recently held elections for MLAs, MPs, Village Sarpanches, and Municipal Councillors. He remarked that, perhaps having "lost their minds" in the wake of these results, certain "scoundrels" are now spouting incoherent nonsense; he warned them that he, too, is capable of using such language—reminding them that "we, too, are Telangana natives."

The MLA asserted that they were born and raised on the very soil of Wanaparthy. He stated that even during the days of dictatorial rule, they never once flinched in fear; he recalled openly declaring—and subsequently acting upon the promise—that "if you prick me with a pin, I will strike you back with a crowbar."

He affirmed that he continues to stand by that very same stance to this day.

He remarked that while they have never intentionally spoken in a manner disrespectful to anyone, it appears that certain "fools" only understand when addressed in their own crude language—hence, he finds himself compelled to speak in this manner today. He acknowledged that

he himself served as the legal counsel representing the priests regarding the market site in Pebbair. He noted that it is common knowledge that this land has been Inam (endowment) land belonging to the Venugopala Swamy Temple for over a century, and that the market has operated peacefully on this site from that time until the present day. He explained that in 1973, an official proceeding was issued allocating a total of 30 acres and 19 guntas of land—specifically 15 acres under Survey No. 392 and 15 acres under Survey No. 405—to the deity Venugopala Swamy, designated for the purpose of covering the expenses for the temple's daily rituals (Dhupa Deepa Naivedyam). He added that this allocation was intended to enable the priests to sustain their livelihoods through the income generated by the temple. Subsequently, he pointed out that in the Kharsa Pahani (land records) associated with the Venugopala Swamy Temple, the deity Venugopala Swamy was deceitfully recorded as a human individual named Venugopala Swamy; he remarked that the public can easily discern who was responsible for perpetrating this act. He criticized the legal counsel representing the priests, stating that the lawyer was fully aware of these facts. He further noted that, regarding this land dispute, even the Revenue Divisional Officers (RDOs) of Mahabubnagar and Gadwal had issued official government proceedings affirming that the land in question belongs exclusively to the Venugopala Swamy Temple. In this context, over the past 30...

The MLA stated that the Pebbair market, which had operated peacefully for 40 years, continued to do so until 2014. He alleged that this market site—which had remained tranquil for a century—was turned into a center of controversy the moment this "marijuana plant" (referring to his opponent) assumed the position of Vice Chairman of the Planning Board. He remarked that the people of Pebbair are well aware of the various actions taken by this individual during his tenure—such as the sudden emergence of claimants to the land, and the moves to surrender the property to the Endowments Department—all executed entirely at his own whim. He further alleged that a calculated strategy was de-



vised to usurp the land: the plan involved claiming, "As the advocate for the temple priests, I will resolve this issue myself," and proposing that while 12 to 15 acres would suffice for the market, the remaining land should be registered in the names of the priests.

In this process, had a registration been executed under a Gift Deed, it ought to have been registered in the name of the Pebbair Municipality; however, he failed to do so. Instead—operating under the assumption that he would win the next election and could then easily misappropriate the land—he had the property registered in the name of the Pebbair MRO. In this context, the objective was to identify and propose a suitable alternative plot of land—equivalent in value—anywhere within the Mandal limits, to be allotted to the priests under a "Gift Deed" arrangement. However, it is truly bizarre that this individual—who was already in office at the time, with seven months remaining in his tenure, and who boasted of being the "Number Four" figure in the state administration—could not find the time to identify this alternative land for them. Far from doing so, he not only exerted his authority over high-ranking officials—specifically the District Collector—to halt the process, but also achieved the dubious distinction of orchestrating the Collector's transfer overnight; a feat the MLA mocked with sarcasm. The MLA further alleged that, by handing over the posts of Additional Collector to officials who were amenable to their interests, they managed to procure the official proceedings related to the land allotment. He asserted that they possess all the necessary evidence to substantiate these claims.

The MLA affirmed that they remain committed to the promise they made during the elections. He noted that, regarding the land designated for the weekly market (Santhai), the Endowments Department has been engaged in litigation for the past 30 years, and the dispute between the department and other parties involved continues to persist to this day. The MLA proudly stated that it is to their credit—his administration's—that they successfully safeguarded the market land, ensuring that no unauthorized party has encroached upon it to this very day. The MLA then posed a direct challenge: "You claim to be the legal counsel representing the priests, and you assert that the Court has ruled in their favor regarding the land allotment; that is indeed the case, then why have you not proceeded to take physical possession of the property?" The MLA further recounted that, after assuming office as the MLA, he wrote a letter to the Chief Minister in 2024, requesting that the land in question be officially designated and allotted for the weekly market. He added that, in response to this request, the Minister for Revenue had subsequently issued directives to the District Collector regarding the matter. He explained that, within this framework, instructions were issued to the District Collector to engage in dialogue with the priests and facilitate a resolution to the ongoing dispute, provided that the priests were indeed the ones currently in physical possession of the land. Amidst these developments, he noted that he, in his capacity as the MLA, decided to personally approach the priests in an effort to mediate and resolve the issue amicably.

During the course of these events, the individual—who hap-

pens to be the advocate representing the priest—made disparaging remarks about a "wretch" who had allegedly sent messages urging people not to cooperate with the MLA, labeling such behavior as shameful. The MLA issued a challenge in response: if the advocate denied sending those messages, he should enter the Venugopala Swamy temple while still in his wet clothes and take an oath to that effect, adding that he himself would be present to witness it. The MLA further stated that six months after this incident, the individuals claiming to be the owners of the land wrote a letter requesting that, in exchange for these 15 acres, an alternative plot be allocated to them anywhere in the outskirts of Hyderabad.

The MLA then questioned the advocate: "Since you are the one who accepted the Vakalat (power of attorney) to represent them, why was it necessary for them to write that letter?" The MLA explained that, relying solely on the letter written by the landowners, he subsequently utilized his official letterhead to bring the matter to the attention of the Chief Minister. Consequently, the MLA noted that the current District Collector is actively searching for a suitable plot within the Pebbair jurisdiction to allocate as a land grant, in accordance with the terms of the Gift Deed.

The MLA also mentioned that a new dilemma has arisen regarding the monetary value of the remaining land—estimated at 22 crore rupees—specifically concerning to whom these funds should be disbursed once they are released by the government. Finally, the MLA stated that it was decided that once the ongoing litigation in court is resolved, the monetary compensation would be handed over to whichever

party is ultimately awarded the land. He stated that the final decision—reached after consultations with higher officials—was his own.

He questioned the identity of the individual who smashed the phone used to send messages and subsequently threw it into a tank. He remarked that it is typically only those engaged in illicit activities who discard their SIM cards. The MLA firmly asserted that, even at this stage, there is absolutely no question of reversing the decision.

He noted that a legal battle regarding the Pebbair market site is currently underway in the Supreme Court under the aegis of the Pebbair Market Protection Committee, and he vowed to ensure that, until the very end, the land in question remains with the Pebbair market.

He pointed out that this individual recently visited the site designated for the medical college and is now hypocritically preaching that an integrated school should not be constructed there.

He challenged his opponent, asking: "Are you not the very leader who gratuitously handed over 20 acres of land at this location to farmers who had lost their property during the construction of the Karivena Reservoir?" The MLA issued a challenge, daring him to reclaim the 20 acres of land currently held in the names of his "benamis" (proxies).

He demanded an explanation as to how he could forcibly evict farmers who had been cultivating that land for years, only to sell the site to his benamis; he challenged him to retrieve that land so that the medical college could be built there instead. He lashed out at his opponent, condemning it as a shameless act to drag the Chief Minister's brother into this controversy. He demanded to know the identity of the scoundrel who swindled public funds under the guise of constructing "mini-tanks." He demanded that the land-grabber who encroached upon property along the Krishna River be identified; the MLA asserted that it is utterly shameful for a wretched individual—who illegally appropriated two acres of land for his own benefit—to now preach morality to others. He further questioned the identity of the scoundrel who swindled subsidies by registering them in the name of his "adopted son."

He accused his opponent of

being the one who swindled funds intended for groundnut research activities at Veerayapalli. The MLA leveled sharp criticism, asking, "Is it not true?" He questioned, "When the unemployed youth were told to take up manual labor—a remark that caused them all to revolt—who was the fool who subsequently offered an apology?" He continued, "Look at you—you are leading a shameless, dissolute existence. You walk around without any sense of shame, despite having once declared that you would slap with a slipper anyone who dared to address the daughter of the great leader Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy as a 'sister-in-law.' Look at you living without shame, despite KCR's daughter warning you—Niranjan Reddy—that she would make you wet your pants in fear; that is what a truly shameless existence looks like." The MLA asserted that it is inappropriate for such a person to speak on the budget. He highlighted the Congress party's achievement in providing insurance coverage worth ₹5 lakhs to every single ration cardholder across the state of Telangana—benefiting a total of 1.07 crore people—and noted that the government is also providing mid-day meals to intermediate students.

The MLA further stated that the Congress government is in the process of sanctioning 2 lakh new pensions. He affirmed that they would uphold the promise made by their Chief Minister—that even in 2029, they would sweep aside the opposition and form the government once again. The MLA issued a stern warning: he possesses evidence of everything—dating back to the day someone pleaded with him, saying, "Megha Reddy, I don't even have money for diesel; please give me some"—and if such non-sensical blathering continues, he will be compelled to expose every single detail publicly. Participating in this event were State Sports Authority Chairman Shivsen Reddy, Agricultural Market Yard Chairman Srinivas Goud, Municipal Chairperson Madhavi Ramesh, Vice-Chairman Madhusudan Goud, TPCC General Secretary Nandimalla Yadaiah, Tirupathiah, PCC members Shankar Prasad and Satya Sheela Reddy, along with various municipal councillors. Former councillors, Congress Party leaders, activists, and others participated.

## Mini Saras Mela from March 23 at Mahabubnagar

**(Capital Information)**  
**Mahabubnagar** : A week-long Mini Saras Mela will be inaugurated at Shilparamam, Mini Tank Bund in Mahabubnagar district headquarters from March 23 to 29, District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) Project Director Narsimha said in a press release.



The mela will be inaugurated on March 23 at 11 am by the District Collector and public representatives. The exhibition is being organized under the aegis of DRDA with support from NABARD, showcasing products made by DWCRA women groups from the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district.

Around 50 special stalls have been, featuring a wide range of items including handicrafts, handloom textiles, tasty traditional snacks, artificial jewellery, herbal products, jute bags, and various household items. A live food court will also be a major attraction for visitors.

The initiative aims to promote rural women entrepreneurs and strengthen their economic sustainability. Visitors are encouraged to support and appreciate the talent of women self-help groups.

Extensive publicity has already been carried out through social media and local campaigns, including announcements via auto-rickshaws across the town.

Products from various women's groups across the district have been readied and displayed at the venue. Arrangements have been made to ensure all basic facilities for visitors. Cultural programmes by local artists will be held from 5:30 pm, and a pleasant atmosphere has been created especially for families and children.

Entry to the mela is free, and the public has been invited in large numbers to visit and make the event a grand success.

## 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge' crosses Rs. 500 crore in three days, sets new box office benchmark

**(Capital Information)**  
**Mumbai** : The Hindi action thriller Dhurandhar: The Revenge, directed by Aditya Dhar and headlined by Ranveer Singh, has emerged as a major box office success, becoming the fastest Indian film to cross ₹500 crore worldwide within three days of its release, according to trade estimates.



Released on March 19, the film opened to strong advance bookings and high occupancy across domestic and overseas markets. Industry trackers reported that the film benefitted from a festive release window coinciding with Gudi Padwa, Ugadi and Eid, contributing to robust footfall in the theatres.

Trade data indicate that the film recorded ₹43 crore in paid previews on March 18, followed by an opening day collection of ₹102.55 crore net in India - among the highest single-day figures for a Hindi film. Within two days, the film is estimated to have

collected around ₹226 crore (net) domestically, with gross earnings nearing ₹270 crore.

Internationally, the film has posted strong numbers, particularly in North America, where it grossed over \$7.6 million (approximately ₹71 crore) within the first few days. Additional contributions from markets such as Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia have further strengthened its global tally, pushing the worldwide gross past ₹500 crore in just three days.

A sequel to the 2025 film Dhurandhar, the latest

instalment features an ensemble cast including Sanjay Dutt, Arjun Rampal and R. Madhavan. The film's narrative, centred on espionage and cross-border conflict, has been noted for its scale and action sequences, with performances drawing attention from audiences.

Producers attributed the film's performance to strong audience reception and wide release, while trade analysts pointed to sustained momentum over the opening weekend. With theatres reporting high occupancy levels, the film is expected to continue its strong run in the coming days.

The film is currently screening in cinemas across India and in key international territories.

## BRS leaders criticise State Budget at press meet in Dharmapuri

**(Capital Information)**  
**Jagityal/Dharmapuri** : Leaders of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Saturday held a press conference in Dharmapuri town, criticising the Telangana Government's Budget and alleging that it had failed to address the needs of various sections of society.



Former DCMS chairman Ellala Srikanth Reddy and mandal convenor Ayyori Rajesh Kumar said the ruling Congress had not fulfilled its electoral assurances, including the implementation of the "Six Guarantees", even after more than two years in power. They alleged that farmers, tenant cultivators, women, students, senior citizens and other vulnerable groups were disappointed with the allocations in the latest Budget.

The leaders claimed that successive Budgets had not provided adequate financial backing for promised welfare measures. They called upon the government to prioritise the concerns of all sections

and ensure effective implementation of schemes. Former municipal chairperson Sangi Sattemma, town convenor Bandari Ranjith, senior leaders including Odnala Mallesh, Sangi

Shekhar and Chiliveri Shyamsundar, minority leaders Asif and Rauf, and representatives from various mandals of the constituency were present at the programme.

## Weekend cultural splendor: Kolar artists perform Bharatanatyam at Tirupati Shilparamam

**(Capital Information)**  
**Tiruchanur** : As part of the weekend cultural programs at Tirupati Shilparamam, students of the Tandava Dance Institute from Kolar delivered a captivating Bharatanatyam performance on Sunday.



Under the guidance of Guru Priyanka PR, the artists showcased their talent through various classical dance sequences, drawing appreciation from the visiting tourists and local art enthusiasts.

**Highlighting cultural performances**  
 The cultural evening featured 14 traditional items, including Ekadantaya Vakratundaya, Pushpanjali, Shiva Tan-

davam, and Aigiri Nandini. The performers

also brought spiritual themes to life with

dances set to Om Namo Venkatesaya, Lakshmi Baramma, and Bho Shambo, reflecting the rich heritage of classical Indian dance.

**Participation of officials and organizers**

Shilparamam In-charge Administrative Officer Surya Teja and Cultural Programs In-charge Khadir Vali participated in the event and encouraged the visiting artists. Other members present included Radha Krishna, Puppy, and Venkateswara Reddy. The organizers urged the public to continue supporting such cultural initiatives that provide a platform for artists from distant regions.



## SEMINAR ON SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT HELD IN HYDERABAD AHEAD OF IJU NATIONAL PLENARY

Jointly Organized by TUWJ & MEFI

**(Capital Information)**  
**Serilingampally** : A seminar on the theme "Impact of Social Media - Good and Bad" was held in Hyderabad on Sunday, ahead of the Indian Journalists Union (IJU) National Plenary scheduled to take place in Vijayawada from March 27 to 29.

Prominent journalist and Founding Editor of The Wire, M.K. Venu, attended the seminar as the keynote speaker and addressed the gathering, highlighting both the positive and negative influence of social media on society and journalism.

The seminar was jointly organized by the Telangana State Union of Working Journalists and the Media Education Foundation India.

Senior journalist Somashekar presided over the event, while MEFI Managing Trustee and former IJU President D. Amar delivered the welcome address.

Among those present were TUWJ State President K. Virahat Ali, General Secretary K. Ramnarayana, IJU Steering Committee Member M.A. Majid, National Secretary Y. Narendra Reddy, State Secretaries K. Srikanth Reddy and V. Yadagiri, along with several journalists and social activists.

## Courage of the Weaker Sections : Veerlapalli Shankar

### Shadnagar Municipal Vice Chairman Ande Mohan Congratulations on the occasion of taking oath as TPCC OBC Cell Chairman

**(Special Correspondent)**  
**Shadnagar** : Shadnagar Municipal Vice Chairman Ande Mohan stated that the political journey of MLA Veerlapalli Shankar is like an open book and described him as a beacon of hope and a source of courage for the weaker sections of society.



He expressed happiness over the appointment of Shadnagar MLA and Chairman of Public Sector Undertakings, Veerlapalli Shankar, as the Telangana Congress Party OBC Cell Chairman. He said it is a matter of great pride that Shankar will take oath as the OBC Chairman tomorrow at Gandhi Bhavan.

Ande Mohan praised that despite facing many

challenges in his political journey, Veerlapalli Shankar has risen from a

Veerlapalli Shankar joined the Congress Party in 1992 out of interest in politics and served as a Sarpanch from 1995 to 2002. From 2004, he worked as the Kothur Mandal Congress President for ten years. He also played a key role in the victory of Chowllapalli Pratap Reddy in the 2009 elections.

In the 2023 Assembly elections, he secured the Shadnagar constituency ticket and won his first term as an MLA on November 30, defeating his nearest rival, BRS candidate Anjaiah Yadav, with a majority of over 7,000 votes. He was later appointed as the Head of the Public Undertakings Committee on September 13, 2024, and subsequently as the TPCC OBC Cell Chairman, Ande Mohan added.

Highlighting his political career, he mentioned that

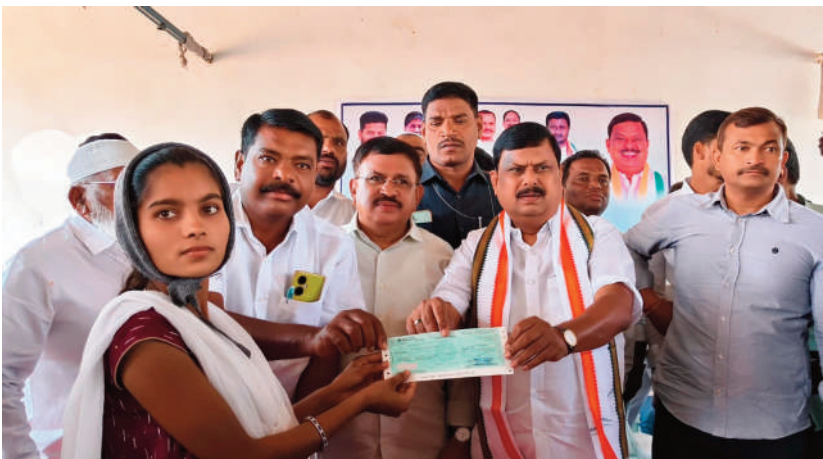
humble beginning to a significant position today. He also noted that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy personally took the initiative in appointing Shankar as the Telangana Congress OBC Cell Chairman.

Highlighting his political career, he mentioned that regardless of social differences, regardless of social class, rich or poor. Breakfast Scheme for Students 2026 -27 He said that from the academic year, a new breakfast scheme will be started in the state with quality nutrients for students from pre-primary to intermediate.

Former PACS Chairman Dr. Venudhar Reddy, Konda Mallepally mandal party presidents Ootkuri Veman Reddy, Angirekula Nagabhushan, Kothi Yugandhar Reddy, Lokasani Krishna ex, MPP Bikku Naik, Lalu Naik, Gaddam Venkataiah, Baddela Srinu, Lacchiram Naik, Babu Ram, Sevy Naik, Rangaiah goud Tahsildar Hanuman Srinivas Goud, Prashanth, Abdulla and others participated.

## 5 lakh life insurance for every family in the state under Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme : MLA Nenavath Balunaik

**(Capital Information)**  
**Devarakonda** : MLA Nenavath Balunaik said that the state government will provide a life insurance scheme of 5 lakhs to every family with a white ration card in the state.



Shadi Mubarak, Kalyana Lakshmi and distributed checks sanctioned from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to the beneficiaries at the agricultural market yard of the MLA's residence in Devarakonda town on Sunday.

Earlier, 926100 checks were distributed to 251 people through the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. Later, checks related to Kalyana Lakshmi and Shadi Mubarak were issued to 11 beneficiaries of Kondamalle mandal 1101276 and 25 checks to 2502900 beneficiaries of Chintapalli mandal

and 4304988 checks to 43 beneficiaries of Chandampet mandal and 20 checks to beneficiaries of Dindi mandal. A total of 2002320 checks were distributed to 99 beneficiaries worth Rs.9911848 lakhs. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said that De-

varakonda Constituency has given 16 crore rupees through checks to 3526 people sanctioned under Chief Minister's Relief Fund in two years.

He also said that 293 people have been given around Rs 9 crore to Nims Hospital for better treatment

through LoC. He said that the CM's relief fund plays an important role in providing financial assistance to poor families in emergency situations.

He said that the government will implement Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes to help poor families financially for girl child marriages.

He said that from June 2, 2026-27, the government will provide Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme, which will provide Rs 5 lakh life insurance to one crore 15 lakh families in the state, re-



## National BC Janasena expresses happiness over the selection of MLA Veerlapalli Shankar as OBC State President...

**(Special Correspondent)**  
**Shadnagar** : Leaders of the National BC Janasena expressed their happiness (happiness) over the selection of MLA Veerlapalli Shankar as the OBC State President. They stated that as an MLA, he has been bringing development to all mandals in the Assembly constituency and is lighting the path of progress.

On this occasion, they conveyed their gratitude to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. They also extended their congratulations to MLA Veerlapalli Shankar on the occasion of his oath-taking ceremony to be held tomorrow at Gandhi Bhavan.

They expressed hope that he would attain many more prestigious positions in the future.



## Helping and financial support for children!

**(Capital Information)**  
**Devarakonda** : Bhavana Chinnari, daughter of Duva Praveen Kumar of Chandranna Colony, Devarakonda town, had an appendix operation 15 days ago.

Bhavana's father, Duva Praveen Kumar, who was struggling for money for the operation, was given 10,000 rupees as financial assistance for the medical expenses by the members of Helping and Association of Devarakonda town on Sunday.

Seventh Ward Councillor Hanumantu Sai Chandra Goud, Anvesh Reddy, Rishi, Anji, Kishan, Korra Suman, Masna Manideep, Hanumantu and others participated in this program.

Ambedkar Community Hall Revival Gains Momentum



(Capital Information) Kothagudem, March 22 : CPI District Secretary Sk Sabir Pasha said MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao is making continuous efforts for the revival of the Ambedkar Community Hall. Attending the first meeting of the new committee, he stated that Rs 15 lakh has already been sanctioned for development works and assured further support. He reiterated CPI's commitment to the welfare of SC, ST, BC, and minority communities and called for unity in achieving Ambedkar's ideals. Mayor Mood Ganesh, President Manda Hanumanthu, leaders Kusapati Srinivas, Maddela Shiva Kumar, Saliganti Srinivas, Corporator Dasari Srinivas, former councillors Dharmaraju, Kancharla Jamaliah, members Madhusudhan, Chinni, Peeka Krishna, Gunda Ramesh, Paul, Bhupesh, Kanukuntla Ramulamma, Karisha Ratna Kumari, Manda Nirmala and others were participated the program.

Former ZPTC K.Venkat Reddy Slams Congress Budget



(Capital Information) Chandrugonda, March 22 : Former ZPTC member Konagalla Venkata Reddy strongly criticized the budget presented by the Congress government, stating that it has failed to deliver on the promised six guarantees. He alleged that the government has not allocated clear funds in the budget to implement these assurances, thereby disappointing the people. He said the budget has fallen short of the expectations of farmers, unemployed youth, and women. He further stated that the Congress government has misled the public by not fulfilling its commitments. Venkata Reddy pointed out that canal excavation works were carried out during the previous KCR government and expressed concern that even ruling party members are now opposing such projects. He demanded that the Sitarama project canal should be completed in a way that benefits farmers and the public, and strongly condemned what he termed as the "unscientific policies" of the Congress government.

"PADMASHALIS URGED TO ACHIEVE ALL-ROUND PROGRESS"

- MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao



(Capital Information) Khammam Bureau, March 20 : Telangana Padmashali Sangham State President Kamartapu Murali called for unity and development of the community in education, health-care, employment, and politics. He spoke at the 4th annual celebrations of the Padmashali Retired Employees Association held at IMA Hall, Dussa Satyanarayana, Chilakamarri Srinivas Babu, Pillala Marri Kondal Rao, Pendum Janardhan, Bandar Seenu, Sampath, Veerabhadram, Gadda Sunitha, Vijayalakshmi, Kandula Ramadevi, Kandula Satyanarayana, Nageswara Rao, Appa Rao, Parupalli Satyanarayana, Devarashetty Satyanarayana, Musunuru Rama Rao, Venkateswarlu, Srinivasa Rao, Ramesh Babu and others were attended the program.

ZERO TOLERANCE FOR NEGLIGENCE

- Dist Collector Anudeep Durishetti



(Capital information) Madhira, March 22 : District Collector Anudeep Durishetti made it clear that negligence in duties will not be tolerated under any circumstances and warned of stringent action against erring staff. He conducted a surprise inspection at the Madhira Govt Area Hospital on Sunday and reviewed the functioning of key departments. During the visit, he inspected the Casualty, LDR Room, Dialysis Centre, Labour Room, Emergency Ward, Radiology Block, and OP rooms. Interacting directly with patients, he gathered feedback on the quality of medical services. He also reviewed daily case records, important registers, monthly reports, availability of



medicines, and overall sanitation in the hospital. The Collector ordered immediate issuance of show-cause notices to doctors and staff absent from duty and directed that regular attendance reports be submitted to him. He stressed that timely availability of doctors and quality healthcare services would strengthen public trust in government hospitals. He further instructed doctors to promote normal deliveries and avoid unnecessary C-section surgeries. The Collector examined case sheets in the emergency ward and enquired about patient care and food quality. Madhira Tahsildar Rambabu, along with concerned officials and medical staff, were present during the inspection.

DEVAKI VASUDEVA RAO LEADS BJP CHARGE ON VELUGUMATLA LAND ISSUE

- Slams Congress Over Demolition of Houses, Vows Relentless Fight



(Capital information) Khammam Bureau, March 22 : Taking a strong stand on the Velugumatla Bhoodan land issue, BJP State Treasurer Devaki Vasudeva Rao asserted that the party will intensify its agitation until justice is delivered to the affected families. Speaking at a meeting held at his residence, Devaki Vasudeva Rao assured the victims that their fight will be taken forward with full force. Devaki Vasudeva Rao strongly condemned the demolition of houses belonging to the poor, alleging that only a select few were allotted houses while many eligible families were ignored. He demanded that houses be rebuilt at the same place where they were demolished and accused the Congress government of acting against the interests of the poor. Raising serious



concerns over alleged land encroachments, Devaki Vasudeva Rao stated that influential people were occupying valuable lands while harsh action was being taken against the poor. He termed the issue as a major public concern and made it clear that the BJP would continue its protest through all possible means. Reaffirming his commitment, Devaki Vasudeva Rao said there would be no compromise in ensuring justice. He added that details of all affected families would be compiled and legal options would be pursued if necessary. District President Nelluri Koteswara Rao, State Leader Sanne Uday Pratap, Advocate Nerella Srinivas, District Vice President Nakirikanthi Veerabhadram, along with senior leaders and party members, were present at the meeting.

KHAMMAM BRS SLAMS CONGRESS BUDGET

- 'RISING DEBT, ZERO DEVELOPMENT'

(Capital information) Khammam Bureau, March 22 : MLC and BRS Khammam District President Thatha Madhusudhan strongly criticized the Telangana State Budget 2026-27, calling it a "misleading and directionless document" that has failed to meet people's expectations. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, BRS district office in Khammam, he alleged that the Congress govt has focused more on political narratives than on real development, leaving the public disappointed. He pointed out that the state has been pushed into a debt burden of Rs 3.75 lakh crore within just two and a half years, without creating visible assets or infrastructure. Out of Rs 60,438 crore allocated to the finance department, 99.6% is being spent on debt servicing and salaries, leaving negligible funds for new development. He termed this as a clear indication of poor financial management and lack of long-term planning. Thatha Madhusudhan further expressed concern over severe cuts in welfare allocations, stating that SC and ST sectors have witnessed drastic reductions, while BC communities received only 3.86% allocation despite major promises. He also criticized the government



for failing to implement key schemes like Rythu Bharosa, unemployment allowance, and financial support for auto workers, and questioned the neglect of important projects like the Sitarama project. The meeting was attended by Mandal Party Presidents Bellam Venugopal, Pagadala Nagaraju, Vunnam Brahmaiah, Vemula Veeriah, senior leaders Bommera Ramamurthy, Bichala Tirumala Rao, Minority President Tajuddin, leaders Banka Mallaiah, Gundlappalli Seshagiri Rao, Balusu Murali Krishna, Mohammed Rafi, Buran, along with several party activists and workers.

NAGA SEETHARAMULU GRACES UGADI FESTIVITIES

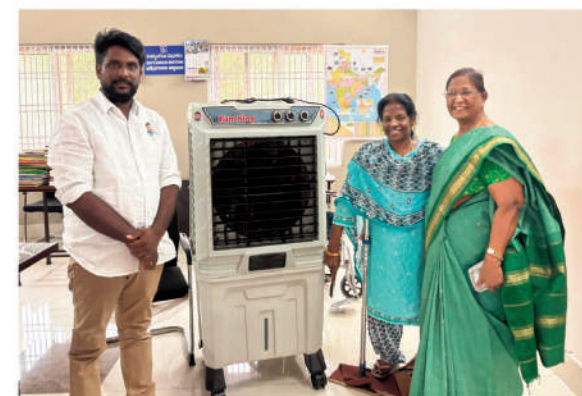


(Capital information) Palvancha, March 22 : TPCC General Secretary Naga Seetharamulu attended the Ugadi celebrations of Sri Parabhava Nama Telugu Year - 2026 held at Venugopal Theatre premises under the aegis of Palvancha Kala Parishat. Speaking on the occasion, he appreciated the organizers for bringing together poets and artists from across

the state and conducting the event successfully, promoting Telugu culture and traditions. CPI District Secretary Sk Sabir Pasha, Congress leaders Koneru Chinni (Satyanarayana) and Muthyala Viswanatham also participated. On the occasion, corporators were felicitated and artists were honoured with awards. The organizers also felicitated Naga Seetharamulu with a shawl and memento. Kala Parishad Honorary President Dr. Bikkasani Sudhakar, President Mantapuri Raju Goud, General Secretary Vemula Kondala Rao, Dr. Bucchaiah, Lingamurthy, Naidu, Ramesh, Elareddy, anchor Narasimha Kumar, corporators and several dignitaries attended the event.

Philanthropic Gesture supports Students at Dist Library

- MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao



(Capital Information) Kothagudem, March 22 : Recognizing the hardships faced by students studying in the heat at the District Central Library, noted psychiatrist Dr. K.K. Vardhana Rao and his wife Smt. Sushila Devi, an Economics lecturer at a women's college, donated an air cooler worth Rs 9,000 to the library. Their generous contribution aims to provide relief to students who are preparing for exams under challenging conditions. Library Chairman Pasupuleti Veerababu appreciated their noble gesture, stating that such acts of kindness encourage poor and middle-class students to continue their education and achieve higher goals. He expressed gratitude to the donors and acknowledged the efforts of Librarian G. Manimrudula. He further noted that support from donors plays a vital role in strengthening educational facilities and motivating students.

EDUCATION FAIR BOOSTS STUDENTS' CAREER AWARENESS



(Capital Information) Khammam Bureau, March 22 : An Education Fair organized at SBIT College on Sunday received an overwhelming response from students and parents. SBIT College Secretary and Correspondent Gundala Dhatri and Principal Raj Kumar, who attended as chief guests, stated that such fairs play a crucial role in guiding students toward a better future. They emphasized that education fairs help students and parents make informed decisions by providing direct exposure to various colleges, courses, facilities, and career opportunities. They noted that students can gain clarity about their academic paths and set clear goals, ultimately helping them achieve greater success in life. The programme was attended by SBIT College Vice President Sri Chaitanya, Directors A.V.V. Shiva Prasad, Gundala Praveen Kumar, Gandham Srinivasa Rao, along with representatives from various colleges and faculty members.

BSFI BACKS RELAY HUNGER STRIKE



(Capital Information) Khammam Bureau, March 22 : The Bahujan Student Federation of India (BSFI) extended its solidarity to the ongoing relay hunger strike by senior journalist Korakoppula Rambabu at the Khammam Press Club, demanding house sites for journalists. District President Dasari Rajashekar said governments over the years have repeatedly promised house sites but failed to deliver, leaving journalists disappointed despite their vital role in society. He also pointed out issues related to delays in accreditation cards and poor implementation of health schemes. He urged the government to immediately allot the already sanctioned 23.02 acres of land to journalists and provide accreditation cards to all eligible media professionals, including those in digital and electronic platforms. He called upon journalists and associations to unite and intensify the movement to secure their rights. BSFI members Chilumula Ajay, Boddur Ashok and others were present the program.

## Senior Congress Leader T. Jeevan Reddy to Resign from Party ? ; Meeting with Supporters on March 25

(Capital Information)

**Jagtial :** Former Minister and senior Congress leader T. Jeevan Reddy announced that he has decided to resign from the Congress party, stating that there is no longer a conducive environment for him to continue in the organisation.

Addressing a press conference at Indira Bhavan in Jagtial, Mr. Jeevan Reddy said he would formally step down from the party membership on March 25 after holding consultations with his supporters, well-wishers and political associates at a meeting scheduled at Bandari Garden in the town.

He described the decision to end his four-decade association with the Congress as "painful," but said he had reached the conclusion after nearly 20 months of developments in Jagtial that left him feeling sidelined and without resolution to his concerns. He alleged that internal party af-



fairs were increasingly influenced by leaders who had defected from other parties.

Recalling his political journey, Jeevan Reddy said he had always stood on the side of the people and fought for public issues even while holding positions of power. He cited his past agitations as Minister and later as MLC on issues such as incentives for farmers who repaid loans on

time and withdrawal of additional electricity charges.

He also expressed concern over delays in the proposed Tummati Hatti barrage project on the Pranahita river, warning that continued inaction could adversely affect drinking water, irrigation and industrial needs in northern Telangana.

Jeevan Reddy said political life was rooted in self-respect

and public service, and that continuing in the party without recognition or resolution of grievances would serve no purpose. He added that his emotional and political bond with Jagtial would remain intact "till his last breath."

Further details on his future political course are expected to emerge after the March 25 meeting with supporters.

## JUSTICE FOR FIRE-AFFECTED FARMERS: DEPUTY CM BHATTI VIKRAMARKA

(Capital Information)

**Khammam Bureau :**

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka assured justice to farmers who suffered losses in the recent fire accident and directed officials to ensure compensation through insurance companies. During his whirlwind visit to Madhira constituency on Sunday, he inspected the fire-affected Sri Sai Balaji Cold Storage at Atkur village in Madhira mandal.

District Collector Anudeep Durishetty, Khammam Police Commissioner Sunil Dutt, former MLA Kondabala Koteswara Rao, District Congress President Nuthi Satyanarayana, former DCC President Puvvula Durga Prasad, former Khammam City Congress President Mohammed Javed and other officials accompanied him.



During the inspection, the Deputy CM reviewed the situation and took details from officials regarding the steps taken to control the fire. He interacted with chilli farmers who incurred losses in the incident and assured them of support. Bhatti Vikramarka instructed officials to ensure that farmers whose produce was recorded in the cold storage receive compensation as per norms through insur-

ance coverage.

He also directed authorities to take necessary precautions to prevent recurrence of fire incidents and emphasized that chilli trade in Madhira market should be strengthened on the lines of Khammam market. Reiterating the government's commitment, he said all possible measures would be taken to support affected farmers and ensure they do not face financial distress.

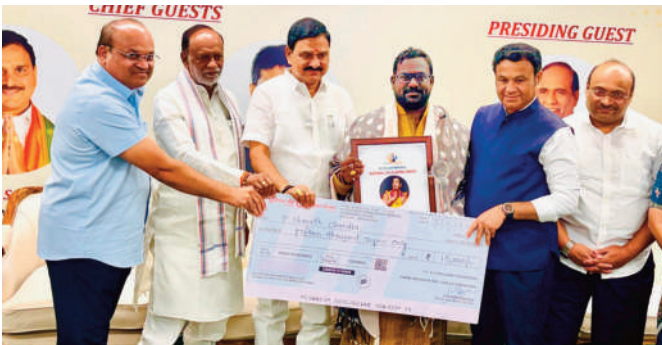
## KC Pullaiah National Foundation honors Bharatnatyam expert Sharath Chandra with Kala Ratna Award

(Capital Information)

**Tirupati/Hyderabad :** Following the long-standing tradition of honoring excellence in education, sports, culture, and agriculture on the death anniversary of KC Pullaiah, the KC Pullaiah National Foundation has announced its annual awards. This year, the prestigious KC Pullaiah National Kala Ratna Award in the field of culture was conferred upon Tirupati-based Bharatnatyam expert Doctor P Sharath Chandra.

**Award presentation by Union and State Ministers**

Union Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Steel Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma, Telangana IT, Industries, and Legislative



Affairs Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, and MP Doctor K Laxman presented the award to Sharath Chandra. The ceremony highlighted the dancer's significant contributions to the field of Bharatnatyam and his commitment to the classical arts. **Recognition of cultural excellence**

The KC Pullaiah National Foundation continues its legacy of identifying and encouraging talent across various sectors. The recognition of a Tirupati-based artist at the national level has been met with widespread appreciation from the cultural community and art enthusiasts in the region.

## Salakatta Vasanthotsavam in Tirumala on March 30, 31 and April 01

(Capital Information)

**Tirumala :** Salakatta Vasanthotsavam in Tirumala will be observed from March 30 to April 01.

Vasanthotsavam is a three-day annual spring festival, usually held in March or April (Chaitra month) to welcome Spring season and is performed in Tirumala on the auspicious days of Trayodasi, Chaturdasi and Pournami every year.

According to the temple Legend, the Vasanthotsavam were introduced during the period of King Achyutaraya in 1460's.

The processional deities are given aromatic bath on these three days which is believed to give a soothing relief to the deities from the scorching Sun in the spring season.



This three-day festival starts with ankurarpanam (sowing the nine kinds of seeds) ceremony conducted on the day of Uttarabhadra star, one day before the commencement of Vasanthotsavam festival.

Punyahavachanam, (purification rites), Vasthu Santhi (worship of deity and lord of nature and their elements and

natural forces) and samprokshanam (sprinkling of holy water as a symbolic representation of purification) rituals are performed by the temple priests. Access to these rituals is not open to public.

On all these three days, Sri Malayappa Swamy and his consorts are brought to beautifully decorated Vasanta Mandapam.

In Vasanta Mandapam, Abhisekham which means Snapana Tirumanjanam (Holy Bath with aromatic ingredients) is performed to the processional deity of Sri Malayappa Swamy and His consorts on first two days.

On the morning of the sec-

ond day, the utsava deities parade on Swarna Ratham along four main streets to bless devotees.

On the third day, Sri Rama with Sita, Lakshmana and Anjaneya and Sri Krishna with Rukmini and Satyabhama are also taken out in procession along with Malayappa Swamy and His consorts Sridevi and Bhudevi.

At the end of procession, all Utsava murthies are brought to Vasanta Mandapam where Snapana Tirumanjanam is performed with religious fervour.

TTD has cancelled Kalyanotsavam, Unjal Seva, Arjita Brahmotsavam and Sahasra Deepalakara Sevam on these three days besides Atadala Padmapadmaradhana on March 31.

## Activists seek urgent steps to address schooling gaps in Jawahar Nagar

(Capital Information)

**Hyderabad :** Civil society groups and education experts have urged the Telangana Government to take immediate measures to address what they describe as a serious shortage of educational infrastructure in Jawahar Nagar, an area on the city's outskirts associated with large landfill operations.

The appeal follows a recent ground report highlighting the challenges faced by children living in migrant settlements around the dump yard. Activists and academics, including social commentator Prof. Chakrapani Ghanta, said the area lacked adequate government



schools and basic facilities, leaving many children at risk of dropping out or being denied admission due to documentation issues.

Among the key demands is the declaration of Jawahar Nagar as a "special notified

zone" to enable coordinated action by municipal, revenue and education departments.

The groups have also sought the establishment of an integrated model school complex catering to students from primary to higher secondary lev-

els, and the conduct of enrolment drives to ensure that no child is denied education for want of identity proofs.

They pointed out that the migrant population in the region often faces long commutes to schools and exposure to unsafe environmental conditions. While welcoming recent State initiatives to upgrade public schooling, the activists stressed the need for targeted interventions in Jawahar Nagar to bridge existing gaps.

The groups said they were willing to collaborate with the government to support measures aimed at ensuring access to education for vulnerable children.

## High Court stays road expansion works on Banjara Hills-Jubilee Hills stretch

(Capital Information)

**Hyderabad :** The Telangana High Court has directed the State Government and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) to halt road expansion and land acquisition activities on the stretch between Virinchi Hospital in Banjara Hills and the Jubilee Hills Check Post.

Passing an interim order on March 17, Justice N.V. Shrivani Kumar restrained authorities from taking further coercive steps, including demolition or dis-possession, until valid notices are issued in

accordance with statutory provisions governing land acquisition. The stay applies to the properties of the peti-



tioners who approached the court.

Residents and property owners in the area have raised concerns over alleged procedural lapses,

lack of transparency and issues related to compensation in connection with the proposed widening works.

Similar disputes over road expansion in parts of the Banjara Hills-Jubilee Hills corridor have been the subject of litigation in recent months.

While welcoming the court's intervention, affected residents said they were willing to cooperate with authorities provided due process, fair valuation and rehabilitation measures were ensured in accordance with the law. Further hearing in the matter is expected in due course.

## World Water Day celebrated at ICAR-CRIDA

(Capital Information)

**Hyderabad :** World Water Day was celebrated on 22 March 2026 under the theme "Water and Gender Equality" at ICAR-CRIDA Hyderabad in collaboration with Watershed Organisation (WOTR) and Indian Society of Dryland Agriculture (ISDA) and Indian society of Agricultural Engineers (ISAE-Telangana Chapter).

WOTR is a prominent Indian non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to transforming the lives of rural communities by restoring ecosystem and strengthening their resilience to climate change. Where as the Indian Society of Dryland Agriculture (ISDA) is a professional organization dedicated to promoting research, development and adoption of improved technologies in the rainfed and regions of India.

World Water Day is observed every year on March 22 to highlight the importance of freshwater and promote the sustainable management of water resources for various

purposes. This year World Water Day was celebrated under the theme "Water and Gender Equality, which highlights the strong connection between water access and gender equality. Around the world when safe water, sanitation and hygiene are not easily available, women and girls face the greatest challenge.

It is essential to place women and girls at the center of water solutions not only as users of water services. So 2026 is celebrating world water day under the theme where water flows, equality grows'.

Sri. M. Kodanda Reddy, Chairman, Telangana Agriculture Farmers Welfare Commission is the chief guest of the programme.

Dr. Arun Tiwari, Retired Scientist, DRDO is the guest of honour.

On the occasion of World Water Day, a Farmers' Rally was organized at ICAR-



CRIDA, Hyderabad, to create awareness about the importance of water conservation and efficient water management in agriculture. The rally witnessed active participation from farmers, women farmers, scientists, staff, and students.

In the beginning of the programme Dr. KV. Rao, Head (DRM) welcomed the guests and explained about importance of world water day

Shri. Eswar Kale, Research Head, WOTR briefed how they worked in the villages for water saving using different

water saving technologies. He also explained about water budgeting which helped the farmers in the village's in getting better benefits.

Director VK. Singh briefed about world water day and explained the technologies developed by CRIDA like form ponds usages in saving the water and better utilization of water. He suggested to use solar energy and micro irrigation technologies to minimize the waste of water and to use efficiency methods to utilize the water efficiently.

Dr. SS. Vittala, Sotheren

Region CGWP briefed about importance of resource mapping to improve ground water and briefed about the work done in different parts of the country. He also briefed about recharging techniques to improve the ground water.

Dr. Arun Tiwari Retired scientist DRDO suggested to focus on strengthening Watershed development, Groundwater Recharge, Surface water conservation, and Climate-Resilient water management practices.

Sri. M. Kodanda Reddy, Chairman, Telangana Agricul-

ture Farmers Welfare Commission is the chief guest of the programme. He particularly acknowledged the role of ICAR-CRIDA in disseminating location-specific technologies, weather-based advisories, and resource conservation practices that have empowered farmers to make informed decisions.

He told the Telangana government is supporting the farmers in promoting sustainable agricultural practices. He appreciated the concept FPO which is benefiting the farmers. He appreciated the

efforts of farmers in successfully coping with extreme weather events and achieving commendable crop yields.

He highlighted that judicious use of water resources is essential for sustaining agricultural productivity under dryland conditions. Sri Kodanda Reddy further underscored the significant role of women farmers in ensuring water use efficiency at the farm level.

As part of the celebrations of World Water Day, prizes were distributed to recognize outstanding contributions in water conservation and sustainable agricultural practices. Awards were presented to the best performing villages and progressive farmers who have demonstrated exemplary efforts in efficient water utilization and climate-resilient farming. The prizes also given to the students participated in different competitions to create awareness on water utilization efficiently.

Approximately 300 farmers are expected to participate in the program.

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