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Revanth Targets KCR Family in Land Grab

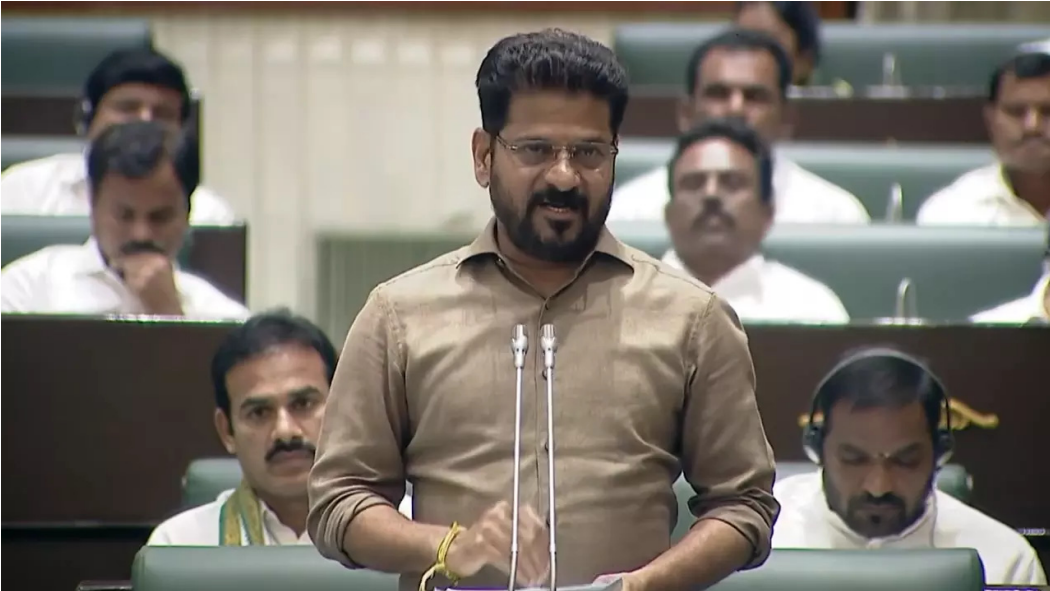
Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday accused former chief minister and BRS chief K. Chandrashekhar Rao of encroaching 388 acres of government land at his nearly 700-acre farmhouse at Erravalli and announced the formation of a high-powered fact-finding committee to probe the land encroachment within 30 days.

Giving a detailed three-and-a-half-hour reply to a debate on prohibited lands under Section 22A in the state Assembly, Revanth Reddy alleged that Chandrashekhar Rao and his family members had amassed assets worth thousands of crores of rupees and acquired hundreds of acres of government, Bhoodan and assigned land under the cover of Dharani.

Revanth Reddy asked how the government lost 388 acres of land when Chandrashekhar Rao and his family had purchased only 295 acres. He also promised to distribute 388 acres of the alleged government land to 800 Dalit families, whom he said, were insulted in the past.

The Chief Minister asked local officials at Erravalli, local minister and the minister in charge to uncover the facts behind the land encroachment within 30 days. If they fail to meet the deadline, Revanth Reddy warned action would be taken against them.

He called Chandrashekhar Rao a



“fake and pseudo Telangana freedom fighter”, contrasted him with renowned revolutionary freedom fighters, from Che Guevara to local hero Komaram Bheem, who, Revanth Reddy said, had sacrificed everything in their lives.

The Chief Minister also alleged that the Chandrashekhar Rao family had illegally amassed 440 acres of government land across 31 villages in 24 mandals of nine districts in the state, in violation of the Agriculture Land Ceiling Act and the Urban

Land Ceiling Act. He said Chandrashekhar Rao and his wife Shobha owned 67.5 acres of wetland, against the ceiling of 27 acres mandated under the Agriculture Land Ceiling Act.

Similarly, Revanth Reddy alleged BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, his wife Shailima and their unmarried children Alekhyia and Himanshu Rao owned 123.26 acres of wetland.

“Former BRS minister Harish Rao and his wife Srinitha owned 30.5 acres, while Kavita and her husband held 37.26 acres,” he alleged.

The Chief Minister said former Rajya Sabha MP Joginipally Santosh Kumar, his wife Rohini and his father Ravinder Rao owned 79.2 acres of land in the state. Similarly, other close family members such as Naveen Rao owned 53.21 acres and Kondal Rao 48.38 acres, he alleged.

Stating that he was not providing details of land allegedly acquired by Chandrashekhar Rao's family members in the names of benamis, Revanth Reddy said the Janawada farmhouse owned by Rama Rao was illegally transferred from Shatabisha Agro Company through benami transactions. He said the property was earlier seized by the income-tax department from Satyam Computers founder Ramalinga Raju in connection with the accounting fraud. The Chief Minister also asked Harish Rao to disclose how he acquired 14 acres near the Ranganayaka Sagar reservoir from farmers at a price lower than the compensation offered by the government for land acquisition.

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India Should Aspire to Be Among Early Leaders in Emerging Tech: Modi



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate SEMICON India 2026 in New Delhi on Thursday, a day after asserting that India should aspire to be among the early leaders in emerging technologies.

The three-day conference and exhibition, to be held from September 17 to 19 under the theme “Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem,” will bring together Indian and international companies, policymakers, investors, researchers, start-ups, academic institutions and students from across the semiconductor and electronics value chain.

Chairing a semiconductor roundtable with leading CEOs on Wednesday, Modi said the government was committed to providing a predictable and responsive policy environment. He also emphasised the importance of close collaboration between the government and the semiconductor industry in shaping India's technological future.

The Prime Minister highlighted India's strong foundation in talent, technology adoption and infrastructure

support to the semiconductor industry from the Centre; a predictable and responsive policy environment; continued focus on skilling, innovation and infrastructure upgradation; and furthering every effort towards making India a leader in emerging technologies.”

Referring to the target of training one crore people in AI, Modi said India's talent pool, combined with the experience and capabilities of global industry leaders, could create significant opportunities.

The CEOs appreciated the government's sustained efforts to develop India's semiconductor capabilities and noted the progress made in manufacturing, design, infrastructure and talent development.

They expressed confidence in the opportunities emerging under the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 and in the country's potential to build capabilities across the semiconductor value chain, including manufacturing, research and development, advanced technologies and supporting industries.

The industry leaders said the progress achieved in recent years had created a strong foundation for greater industry participation. They also expressed their commitment to contributing to India's emergence as a globally competitive semiconductor and technology hub.

(See Page... 2)

Fight Monkey Menace With Oil Palm Cultivation: Minister

Hyderabad: Agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Wednesday said farmers facing crop damage caused by monkeys should shift to growing oil palm.

Responding to concerns raised by several MLAs during Question Hour over crop damage caused by monkeys, the minister said by growing oil palm, farmers would find that monkey menace and attacks on crops by other wild animals will not



be an issue as monkeys and other animals have no interest in oil palm.

Achampet Congress MLA Dr Ch. Vamshi Krishna said farmers in his constituency with

parts of Nallamala forests in it, were facing severe problems with marauding monkeys raiding crops. He said this problem was particularly severe in Padara in Amrabad mandal.

Nagarjunasagar MLA Kunduru Jayaveer Reddy also said his constituency faces the monkey menace and urged the government to provide subsidies to farmers for erecting solar-powered electric fences to keep the animals away from fields.

CM Naidu to Participate in Seva Sankalp Abhiyan In Varanasi on Sep 17

VIJAYAWADA: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will participate in the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan in Varanasi on Thursday, marking Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 76th birthday and 25 years in public service. The month-long campaign, from September 17 to October 17, will focus on public service, social responsibility and public participation in the development process. A key feature of Thursday's programme is the Varanasi-Vadnagar Seva Yatra, linking Varanasi, Mr Modi's parliamentary constituency, with Vadnagar in Gujarat, his



birthplace. Twin bike yatras will be flagged off simultaneously from Varanasi and Vadnagar and are scheduled to culminate on October 7, marking 25 years since Modi became Gujarat Chief Minister.

The two-way journey is expected to cover about 40,000 km across 193 districts and 1,159 villages in 10 states, involving around 1,000 youths. The campaign will include blood donation, cleanliness and tree-plantation drives, welfare-beneficiary outreach, digital literacy and other community-service activities. The yatra will also focus on cleanliness, water conservation and campaigns for a drug-free, TB-free and plastic-free India. Sanitation workers will be honoured during the journey, while a ceremonial water kalash col-

lected from water bodies along the Gujarat route will be taken to Kashi.

According to the Chief Minister's itinerary, Chandrababu Naidu will leave Vijayawada at 7.30 am on Thursday and reach Varanasi at 9.35 am. He will have darshan at Sri Kashi Vishwanath at 11.15 am and later proceed to the Rudraksha International Convention Centre to participate in the Seva Yatra flag-off ceremony along with other leaders, youth and representatives of service organisations. He will leave Varanasi at 3.10 pm and reach Amaravati at 5.15 pm.

CALL FOR GLOBAL PAUSE ON AI

The risks arising from the potential misuse of AI technologies are gaining greater attention not just from sociologists and policymakers but also from industry pioneers. The need for fair and balanced regulation is being felt across the world, particularly in countries which are at the forefront of AI research. The latest to offer words of caution and restraint is Dario Amodei, chief executive of Anthropic, a leading AI research company. Interestingly, Amodei's call for slowing down AI development till greater safety controls are put in place has found wide support from industry leaders. He rooted for independent auditors to check companies for safety standards and urged global cooperation in creating rules around AI development. Amodei, who co-founded Anthropic to focus on securely and carefully building AI, says that while he believed the technology could bring many benefits, it was advancing at too rapid a pace for researchers to continue safely. The latest call for caution comes just a few days after one of the employees of Anthropic quit over concerns about the safety of the technology. The appeal for a global pause from a leading AI executive follows months of escalating concerns across the technology industry as AI research and development has made significant strides at companies like Anthropic, the developer of the Claude chatbot, as well as OpenAI, the creator of ChatGPT, and Google's DeepMind. At the same time, concerns rose recently after leading AI labs discovered security breaches carried out by their own programmes without their knowledge.

The crux of the warning from a growing number of AI researchers is that the software could spin out of human control if left unchecked and unregulated. It is feared among some sections that the AI tools can attain what computer scientists call "recursive self-improvement", an ability of the system to rely on itself to grow more advanced rather than requiring the aid of human researchers. This could lead to an apocalyptic scenario where machines could take over virtually every field. For years, many of the top AI labs have been locked in bitter competition with one another. But as these systems have advanced, there has been some broader agreement among executives at rival companies that something needs to be done to regulate the technology. Last month, as OpenAI prepared to release an advanced AI model called Astra, the company said it had intentionally slowed down its pace of development, citing advancements in cybersecurity capabilities. There can be no two opinions about the need for international cooperation to put in place a global regulation to prevent misuse of AI technologies. This is to ensure that humans, not artificial intelligence, remain responsible for all decisions. Recently, Pope Leo, the first American pontiff to the Roman Catholic Church's 1.4 billion followers, also called for ethical use of AI technologies.

Energy Conservation Key to Meeting Rising Power Demand: Bhatti

Hyderabad: Energy demand can be met not only by generating more electricity but also by reducing consumption through efficient use of power, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said.

"The unit of electricity we save by avoiding unnecessary consumption is cheaper than the unit of electricity we generate," he said. He called for energy efficiency to be viewed not merely as an environmental protection measure but as a strategy to enhance economic competitiveness.

The Deputy Chief Minister was the chief guest at the 25th CII Energy Efficiency Summit-2026 held at HICC in Hyderabad on Wednesday and addressed the gathering.

He said energy policy had so far been viewed largely from the supply side. "We have focused on how much power generation capacity we have, how much coal is available, how much renewable energy can be added and how much transmission infrastructure is required," he said.

However, he pointed out that there is another power plant right before us—one that requires no chimney, coal mine, land or new transmission line. That is energy efficiency, he explained.

Electricity consumption can be reduced through efficient motors, advanced cooling systems, energy-efficient buildings, improved industrial processes and smart energy management systems. If every megawatt of power demand can be permanently reduced, the pressure on the entire power system can be brought down, he said.

Rising Power Demand in Telangana

The Deputy Chief Minister said that as Telangana continues to develop rapidly, the state's electricity requirements will increase further in the coming years. More investments are needed in industries, manufacturing, data centres, life sciences and electronics, he said.

He said there was a need to improve people's quality of life while simultaneously accelerating economic growth. Since electricity demand is rising, slowing down development is not the solution, he said, adding that the solution lies in generating greater economic activity from every unit of electricity consumed.

If industries reduce their electricity consumption, their operating costs will also come down, Bhatti said. A reduction in peak power demand in Telangana would ease



pressure on the generation and transmission systems. It would also strengthen the country's energy security while reducing environmental impact and emissions, he explained.

Energy efficiency, he said, not only reduces the operating costs of businesses but also improves resource productivity. Great innovations, he observed, do not always have to originate in laboratories. A technology that succeeds in one industry can be adopted by another.

A solution developed for a problem in the cement industry could be useful in the steel industry, while an energy-efficiency practice implemented in a paper mill could serve as a model for other sectors.

He said the question should not only be, "What is the next new technology?" but also, "What is already working successfully, and how quickly can we scale it up?"

India does not lack successful pilot projects, he said, adding that the real challenge is to take a successful experiment from one factory and replicate it across 100 factories.

AI for Energy Efficiency

The Deputy Chief Minister said next-generation technologies would play a crucial role in improving energy efficiency. He called for wider adoption of modern technologies such as renewable energy, electrification, digitalisation, smart energy management and artificial intelligence.

Sensors can be used to identify where electricity is being wasted, while digital systems can continuously improve industrial processes, he said. Artificial intelligence can identify patterns that may not be detected by human operators, he added.

In the future, factories should not remain merely consumers of electricity but should become active participants in the power system, Bhatti said.

He offered three suggestions to industries on energy efficiency. First, he said systematic changes cannot be made without measuring energy consumption. Therefore, energy efficiency should not be treated merely as an annual audit but should become a process of continuous monitoring.

Second, he called for a system that facilitates the exchange of experiences so that successful energy-saving practices adopted by one industry can be learnt and implemented by hundreds of other organisations.

Third, he urged the government, financial institutions, educational institutions and technology organisations to work together with indus-

tries to make commercially viable and beneficial technologies available on a large scale to all enterprises.

He said the desired progress in industrial energy efficiency could be achieved only by moving forward on the basis of these three principles.

Telangana Has World-Class Infrastructure

Bhatti Vikramarka said Telangana offers a favourable environment for investments. He highlighted the state's world-class international airport, improved road network, Outer Ring Road, reliable power supply, skilled talent, favourable environment and law-and-order situation as its major strengths.

Telangana is a friendly and industry-oriented state, he said. The government considers investors to be "wealth creators," he added. "We welcome all wealth creators to Telangana to grow together," Bhatti said.

Telangana Aims for a \$3 Trillion Economy by 2047

The Deputy Chief Minister said Telangana has set a target of becoming a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. He said the government was working to take forward not only the power sector but also all other sectors in a planned manner. Industrial development, investments, infrastructure and the energy sector need to be advanced in coordination with one another, he said.

Telangana Rising Global Summit in December

Bhatti Vikramarka said that, following last year's Global Summit, the government was making preparations to organise the 'Telangana Rising Global Summit' in December this year.

He invited industry representatives and investors from across the world to attend the summit. "I urge all of you to attend the Global Summit to the extent possible and become partners in our Telangana Rising," he said.

He said Telangana's development should be not only rapid but also efficient and smart. The state should make more electricity available to the people and industries while ensuring that greater results are achieved from every unit of electricity, he said.

He called for moving forward with the objective of "generating more, developing more and reducing wastage." This, he said, is not only sound economic policy but also a practical pathway towards sustainable development.

Revanth Targets KCR Family in Land Grab

He asked whether the farmers who sold the land had been threatened or offered black money, as they had formally withdrawn their claims for government compensation and sold the land to Harish Rao for 2.5 lakh per acre, against the government's offer of 6.25 lakh per acre.

Revanth Reddy said Harish Rao's alleged illegal acquisition of land must be probed by the Enforcement Directorate. He further alleged that Harish Rao, during the previous BRS government, had laid a BT road to his farm at a cost of 5.33 crore without inviting tenders.

Explaining how Harish Rao had allegedly used the Dharani portal to benefit his uncle M. Hanmanth Rao, his brother Mahesh Rao and his own brother, Revanth Reddy said that, out of the 122 acres owned by a Marwadi person named Gaurav Khurana, 93.33 acres had been transferred to a firm named 'Raj Hitech Farms', owned by them, using Transaction Module 33, which was meant for correcting spelling errors in names.

"Neither a sale deed nor a gift deed, nor any other legally recognised method of transferring land, was used. Instead, Transaction Module 33

(Continuation from Page...1)

of Dharani was allegedly misused to transfer the land. Similarly, another 120 acres and eight guntas of land in Balanagar were acquired from the same person by misusing the Dharani portal," Revanth Reddy alleged, adding that the person was afraid to lodge a complaint.

Lashing out at the alleged misuse of Dharani during the BRS regime, Revanth Reddy said land worth 50 crore had been regularised in favour of former MLC L.V. Stevenson for a meagre 1.53 crore in Secunderabad just before the last Assembly elections.

Pointing to alleged violations by BRS ministers and their close associates, Revanth Reddy said former minister G. Jagadeeshwar Reddy had illegally incorporated 15 acres of Inam land through Dharani into his 47-acre parcel located beside the airport. Another person, Pilot Rohit Reddy, who was aught in a drugs case, had violated GO 111 and built a farmhouse, he said.

Revanth Reddy said that when the state gov-

ernment proposed setting aside 650 acres of government land at Bahadurguda for a bullet train project proposed by the Narendra Modi government, the land mafia and BRS leaders acted against it.

He also pointed out that 77 acres of Bhoodan land in Union minister G. Kishan Reddy's native village of Timmapur had been completely encroached upon. Kishan Reddy had raised the matter when he was an MLA in 2008, he said, adding that the BRS leaders had opposed the government's decision to place the land on the prohibited list.

Pointing out that land worth more than 1 lakh crore in the state had allegedly been misused through the Dharani portal during the BRS regime, Revanth Reddy lashed out at My Home Group chairman Jupally Rameshwar Rao for allegedly encroaching upon more than 100 acres of assigned land across five villages within a 2,463-acre parcel near the Shamshabad airport. "Similarly, a large portion of Evacuee property at Kapra was illegally transferred using Dharani and BRS media," he alleged.

India Should Aspire to Be Among Early Leaders in Emerging Tech: Modi

(Continuation from Page...1)

The meeting was attended by CEOs, heads and representatives of several organisations, including SEMI, Micron, Infineon, Applied Materials, ASML, Merck, Tokyo Electron Limited, Fujifilm, AMD, Intel, Tata Electronics, Lam Research, Rapidus, NXP, Foxconn, Semiconductor Devices, Advantest, Celesta Capital, CG Power and IBM Research.

On SEMICON India 2026, the PMO said: "The conference will focus on advancing collaboration, investment, innovation and talent development in

India. Parallel sessions will cover advancements in the display industry, six country roundtables designed to facilitate collaboration and joint ventures, and a forum on women's leadership, among other subjects." The event will adopt a comprehensive value-chain approach, covering semiconductor materials, equipment and chip design, fabrication, advanced packaging, electronics and systems.

A new "Sand to Silicon to Systems" Value Chain Experience will showcase the various stages of the semiconductor ecosystem.

More than 600 companies are expected to participate in the event, which is likely to attract about 50,000 visitors. Representatives from 52 countries, more than 400 executives and over 150 speakers are expected to attend.

The exhibition will include six country pavilions representing Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore and Sweden. It will also feature 12 state booths, a start-up pavilion, an innovation showcase, a student hackathon and a workforce-development pavilion.

Every Eligible Person Must Get Loans, AP CM Tells Banks



Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday directed banks to ensure that credit reaches every eligible and needy person across all sectors and sections of society.

The success of the state's development efforts would depend on effective last-mile delivery of banking services, he said.

Addressing the 236th state-level bankers' committee meeting at the Secretariat, Naidu announced his decision that future SLBC meetings would review performance bank-wise, district-wise and department-wise after analysing results.

The Chief Minister reviewed agricultural credit, loans to MSMEs, tenant farmers, women's self-help groups (SHGs), PM Surya Ghar and other priority sectors. He expressed concern that some banks were lagging behind their lending targets and said SLBC reviews would have little meaning unless the targets were achieved.

Bankers informed him that action had been taken on nine of the 13 issues raised at

the previous SLBC meeting.

The Chief Minister, however, said pending targets and issues should not continue to remain unaddressed. Though lending to MSMEs had increased, it was still below the expected level, he noted.

Naidu called for greater credit support to tenant farmers and urged banks to extend loans on a larger scale under PM Surya Ghar. He said the government wanted Andhra Pradesh to emerge as the country's leading state in PM Surya Ghar implementation. Adequate bank financing would be crucial to achieving the goal.

He said the state had set a target of achieving 15 per cent economic growth but had faced difficulties due to El Nino conditions. Efforts were under way to overcome the challenge.

The CM praised women SHG members for their loan repayment record, saying more than 99 per cent of the borrowers were repaying loans on time, while only 0.67 per cent were lagging behind in repayments. He suggested that banks examine a one-time settlement

mechanism to achieve 100 per cent recovery from defaulters.

He directed officials to speed up the action plan for providing loans to beneficiaries of TIDCO houses. Banks were asked not to trouble applicants by insisting on NALA-related loans as the NALAAct had been repealed.

Naidu stressed the need for greater vigilance against cyber fraud and called for co-ordination with the DGP's Cyber Security Cell. He also directed banks and officials to intensify financial literacy and cyber-fraud awareness programmes across the state.

The meeting noted that total bank advances in Andhra Pradesh had risen to Rs 10.28 lakh crore by June 2026, with agricultural credit accounting for Rs 3.98 lakh crore. During the first quarter of 2026-27, banks disbursed Rs 63,686 crore to 2.33 lakh MSMEs.

Under PM Surya Ghar, 1,57,703 applications had been received by Sept 10, with loans worth Rs 3,081 crore sanctioned. SHGs received Rs 18,621 crore in loans, while Rs 13,757 crore was sanctioned for 4,48,562 PM Mudra loan applicants.

Banks also briefed the CM on construction of their offices in the Amaravati financial hub. Naidu directed them to expedite the works.

Naidu Calls for Market Intervention to Rein in Prices

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to keep essential commodity prices within the reach of the common man and adopt advance planning of crop cultivation, production and market management to contain inflation.

Reviewing the agriculture and allied departments at his camp office on Wednesday, Mr Naidu asked officials to analyse the reasons for price rises, assess whether production was matching demand and monitor supply. He stressed the need to predict market requirements before deciding which crops should be cultivated.

Naidu asked officials to identify crops and locations requiring market intervention to prevent price spikes. He directed them to implement the minimum support prices (MSP) announced by the Centre and encourage farmers to cultivate those crops. Where necessary, the government should enter into buy-back agreements with farmers, he said.

He called for full utilisation of Oilfed, Markfed, Rythu Bazaars and ration shops to regulate prices. MSP-backed procurement would ensure produce reached the government, providing greater scope to stabilise prices, he said.

"After prediction, we should move to production and accordingly assess the market," the Chief Minister said.

He asked officials to supply nearly 60 essential commodities through Rythu Bazaars and ration shops. Onion and red gram should soon be made available through these channels, while palm oil should also be supplied through ration shops.



Naidu called for exploring onion and chilli cultivation in new areas beyond traditional growing regions. Officials should assess crop patterns at each Rythu Seva Kendra and estimate onion demand and availability.

The Chief Minister directed officials to bring 8.61 lakh hectares of currently uncultivated land under rain-fed crops. Millets, ragi, foxtail millet, jowar, bajra, maize and horse gram should be promoted, besides encouraging natural farming. Farmers should be provided subsidised seeds and necessary farm machinery based on local crop requirements, he said.

Officials informed him that 3.61 lakh hectares of horticultural crops were at high risk. Mr Naidu announced ₹190 crore for life-saving irrigation to protect these crops and directed officials to take measures such as supplying water through tankers.

Naidu also ordered monthly communication to the Centre on measures being taken to tackle the impact of El Niño and congratulated officials after the Andhra Pradesh Micro Irrigation Project received the ISSCA Global Award-2026.

Ministers K. Atchannaidu, Nimmala Ramanaidu and Nadendla Manohar, along with senior officials, attended the review.

Education Minister Nara Lokesh Inaugurates Two Modernized Government Schools

Nellore: Education minister Nara Lokesh on Wednesday inaugurated the newly renovated RSR municipal high school at Stonehousepet and the DSR (Devirreddy Sarada) government high school at Moolapet.

This marks a major upgrade of government-school infrastructure in Nellore city.



The two schools have been transformed with modern classrooms, laboratories, digital learning facilities and sports infrastructure at a combined investment of over ₹21.7 crore through CSR and philanthropic support.

The RSR municipal high school was modernised with ₹8.3 crore in CSR funds from the VPR Foundation, with the renovated campus featuring 43 classrooms, LED screens, modern furniture and computer, robotics, astronomy,

physics, chemistry and biology laboratories.

Art, music, dance and language rooms, a library and modern sanitation facilities have also been provided.

The school has also been equipped with a one-acre playground, football, volleyball and badminton facilities, a kids' play area, sensory park and outdoor gym. A 21,000-sq-ft synthetic court has been developed for sports activities.

At Moolapet, the DSR GHS was rebuilt with ₹13.41 crore in

area and open musical instruments.

After inaugurating the schools, Lokesh inspected the facilities and interacted with students. He also reviewed their academic performance with school heads and officials, focusing on learning outcomes, attendance, enrolment and Class X results.

At RSR, he sought improvement in the Class X pass percentage, which stood at 60.19 per cent last year, and called for efforts to boost enrolment and attendance.

At DSR, he welcomed the increase in enrolment but expressed concern over low attendance and stressed the need for better learning outcomes and quality mid-day meals.

The two projects are part of an initiative to modernise 15 government schools in Nellore city, with the objective of providing students access to facilities comparable to those available in private and corporate schools.

AP Minister Satya Kumar Calls for Timely Treatment, Proper Patient Care

VIJAYAWADA: Health minister Satya Kumar Yadav called for strengthening healthcare services in hospitals and ensuring patient safety ahead of World Patient Safety Day, to be observed on September 17.

In a statement issued here on Wednesday, the minister stressed the importance of early diagnosis, timely treatment, proper use of medicines and monitoring patients' health after treatment.

He said nearly 2.83 crore people had undergone medical tests under Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) 4.0, of whom 59.38 lakh were found to have high blood pressure and 48.32 lakh diabetics.

As part of NCD 4.0, extensive medical tests are being conducted among people aged above 18 to detect blood pressure, diabetes and oral, breast and uterine cancers. Early diagnosis would help ensure proper and timely treatment, he said.

Satya Kumar ruled out any delay or disruption in treatment once diseases were confirmed and said further tests, medicines and other health services would be linked to the Sanjeevani health scheme.

He stressed the need to provide medicines on



time and create awareness among patients about using them as prescribed by doctors. He also highlighted the role of family members in supporting patients, particularly those suffering from chronic diseases.

The minister called for strict compliance with hospital protocols, from admission and treatment to the provision of healthcare and other services. He also called for awareness programmes on World Patient Safety Day among health personnel in all districts and teaching hospitals, with emphasis on providing proper care to patients.

Prakasam Administration Plans To Turn Barren Lands Into Income Sources



NELLORE: The Prakasam district administration plans to explore ways to turn unused barren and fallow lands into additional sources of income for farmers and landowners, with a focus on increasing the district's Gross Value Added (GVA).

Collector P. Rajababu on Wednesday directed officials of the agriculture and allied departments to identify such lands and promote suitable activities. At a meeting with officials at the Prakasam Bhavan, he reviewed the agricultural situation and the extent of land left uncultivated in the district. The collector suggested growing fodder grass and fruit-bearing plants on barren lands to generate additional income and improve GVA. He asked officials to identify suitable parcels, hold discussions with landowners and encourage community farming initiatives.

With weather experts forecasting a strong El Nino influences this year, Rajababu stressed the need for innovative measures to safeguard the interests and incomes of farmers and livestock rearers. He also said increasing green cover on unused lands could help reduce heat in the local environment. He directed officials to identify land for fodder and fruit plantations and take up the initiative as a pilot project before expanding it to other areas. District agriculture officer Srinivasa Rao, Natural Farming district project manager Subhashini, APMIP project director Srinivasulu and district horticulture officer Gopichand attended the meeting.

Ponnam Inaugurates Centralized Community Kitchen at Karimnagar



Hyderabad: The Telangana government and Hare Krishna Movement Charitable Foundation established a massive centralized community kitchen at Karimnagar market yard as part of the breakfast program for

the government school students. BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inaugurated it in the presence of elected representatives and officials in the district. The Minister also inspected the massive kitchen, designed with advanced technological equipment. The new facility would enable the staff to provide quality breakfast to students of government schools.

Telangana Governor Extends Birthday Greetings to Modi



Hyderabad: Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla has conveyed his warm birthday greetings to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of his birthday on September 17. On behalf of the people of Telangana and on his own behalf, the Governor extended his heartfelt greetings and wished the Prime Minister continued good health, strength and long life. The Governor prayed that the blessings of Lord Sri Lakshmi

Narasimha Swamy remain with Narendra Modi always and that the Almighty bless him with good health, strength and longevity. Shukla expressed the hope that, under the Prime Minister's able and visionary leadership, India would continue to move ahead with greater momentum on the path of development, progress and prosperity. The Governor also wished the Prime Minister many more years of dedicated service to the nation.

Sridhar Babu Urges Singapore Firms to Invest in Bharat Future City



Hyderabad: Telangana IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu has urged Singapore companies to explore investment opportunities in "Bharat Future City", being developed by the Telangana government as a new urban and economic growth centre. Sridhar Babu made the appeal during a meeting with a high-level Singapore delegation led by Augustine Lee, Permanent Secretary (Energy and Trade), Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore, at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat here on Wednesday. The Minister said Singapore's technological and industrial expertise could contribute to the development of Telangana's semiconductor ecosystem, and invited Singapore companies to explore opportunities in semiconductor fabrication, ancillary industries and an integrated supply chain. He said Telangana was seeking to strengthen its position as a destination for high-value industries, research and development and technology-driven enterprises through international partnerships.

The Minister highlighted investment opportunities for Singapore companies in sectors including IT and IT-enabled services, emerging technologies, semiconductors, electronics, advanced manufacturing, life sciences, biotechnology, aerospace, green technology, renewable energy, logistics, urban infrastructure, research and development and skill development. Sridhar Babu also urged the Singapore delegation to promote awareness among Singapore-based companies about investment opportunities in Telangana and encourage them to explore the State as a destination for future investments. He invited the Singapore Government and Singapore companies to participate in the "Telangana Rising Global Summit-2026", scheduled to be held from December 7 to 9, and sought their support in facilitating wider participation from Singapore. The summit is being organised under the State's investment-focused agenda, with Bharat Future City featuring prominently in the event.

Revanth Reddy Invites Singapore Firms to Invest in Telangana



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Wednesday invited Singapore companies to invest in Telangana, assuring prospective investors of the state government's support. A Singapore delegation led by Augustine Lee, Permanent Secretary of the Energy Market Division under Singapore's Ministry of Trade and Industry, met the Chief Minister at the Assembly. During the meeting, the Singapore representatives expressed their willingness to set up a semiconductor industry in Telangana, an official release said. Welcoming the Singapore companies to set up

their manufacturing units in Telangana, Reddy assured that his government would extend full support to their investments in the state, it said. The representatives responded positively regarding the investment proposals, it said. The CM briefed the delegation on major development projects undertaken by the state government and sought financial support of the

Singapore. The state government invited the Singapore delegation to attend the 'Telangana Global Summit' to be organised by it in December this year, it said. During the meeting, CM Revanth Reddy highlighted the key features of the state government's Musi river rejuvenation project and the Future City' being developed on the city outskirts. Discussions also

covered the ongoing works of the first phase of the Musi project and the promotion of a 'night economy'. The Chief Minister also outlined plans to develop the 'Future City' as a net-zero city and the transformation of Hyderabad into a Knowledge Hub, the release said. The CM informed the Singapore delegation about the agreements signed between Telangana government and the world famous Universities like Harvard, Oxford, MIT, and the London School of Business to establish their off-shore campuses in Hyderabad, the release added.

KTR calls for long-term solutions to urban problems



Hyderabad: BRS working president and former Minister KT Rama Rao called for holistic and long-term solutions to urban problems. He cautioned leaders against knee-jerk responses to citizens' grievances. Rama Rao was speaking at 'Sheheron Pe Charcha', a cross-party dialogue on making Indian cities work for people, organised by Janaagraha at India Habitat Centre in New Delhi on Tuesday. He participated in a panel discussion along with Parliamentarians Mahua Maji and S Niranjana Reddy and Janaagraha CEO Srikanth Viswanathan.

"Leaders should look for holistic and long-term solutions when citizens approach them with any grievance or issue. Knee-jerk reactions or responses won't suffice," he said. The former Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister listed initiatives taken by the previous K Chandrashekhara Rao

government to reduce the burden on Hyderabad by developing infrastructure and opportunities in other parts of Telangana. The government established super-specialty hospitals and medical colleges at district headquarters and set up IT Towers in several Tier-II cities, he said. On urban mobility and public transport,

Rama Rao said improving high-speed rail networks could help reduce the pressure on large cities. He excluded confidence that such networks would begin expanding over the next decade. He also pointed to access to capital as a major challenge for city governments and called for innovative and inclusive solutions to address problems confronting Indian cities. He later visited the Bharat AI Experiential Center at the venue and interacted with representatives of organisations working on artificial intelligence solutions for public good.

Warangal: AIRF Demands Filling of 3 Lakh Railway Vacancies



Warangal: The All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) has demanded immediate filling of around three lakh vacant posts in the Railways and sanctioning of additional posts in line with the expansion of railway assets and new stations. The demands were raised during a Permanent Negotiating Machinery (PNM) meeting with Railway Board CEO and chairman Satish Kumar and other board members at Rail Bhavan in New Delhi on Wednesday. Various issues concerning railway employees were discussed at the meeting. AIRF president N. Kannaiah, general

secretary Shiv Gopal Mishra, AIRF vice-president and SCRUM zonal president K. Srinivas and others participated in the meeting. The union sought removal of the ceiling on Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) and demanded that the bonus be calculated on basic pay. It said the existing ₹7,000 ceiling for the 78-day bonus should be removed. On railway safety, the union demanded deployment of two employees for night patrolling instead of one and reduction of the patrol beat from 20 km to 12 km. It also sought hard-duty and risk allowances for employees working in safety-related departments. The AIRF urged the Railway Board to stop surrendering posts across departments and prevent outsourcing and privatisation. It also sought dedicated funds for repairs of railway quarters and improved medical facilities for employees, pensioners and their families. The representatives also raised issues relating to the 8th Pay Commission, cadre restructuring, Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme (MACPS), enhancement of uniform allowance, special facilities for women employees, increased Staff Benefit Fund (SBF) funds and development of railway institutes and clubs.

Harish Rao challenges Revanth to judicial probe into 22-A land row



Hyderabad: BRS Legislature Party deputy leader T Harish Rao on Wednesday challenged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to order an inquiry by a sitting Supreme Court or High Court judge into the Bhu Bharati and 22-A land controversies, including alleged irregularities over the past three years. He said the BRS was ready to face scrutiny of its government and demanded that the same yardstick be applied to the Congress government.

In a point-by-point rebuttal to the Chief Minister's allegations, Harish Rao said Revanth Reddy had effectively admitted the BRS's allegations by acknowledging that entire survey numbers had been uploaded to the prohibited list. He questioned why no action had been taken against officials responsible for the alleged errors and demanded a white paper detailing the extent of land added to and removed from the 22-A list after December 7, 2023. Harish Rao has previously made a similar demand for district-wise details of additions and removals from the prohibited list.

He pointed to an alleged contradiction between Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's claim that no acre was added to the prohibited list after the Congress came to power and the Chief Minister's statement that officials had uploaded a 1999 prohibited lands list covering around 3.71 lakh acres in haste, affecting nearly 30 lakh acres.

The BRS leader said Revanth Reddy had offered to constitute committees and issue new guidelines, but argued that these measures would not by themselves resolve the problem. "Revanth Reddy made a promise, but did not give any immediate relief to the 22-A victims," he said. He questioned why affected people were being forced to approach officials for relief despite being legal owners.

Harish Rao rejected the Chief Minister's argument that the previous BRS government was responsible for the 22-A issue. He challenged the Chief Minister and Ministers to visit any area in and around Hyderabad and interact with people who, he claimed, were facing problems with land registrations that they had not faced during the BRS regime.

He also questioned the overnight removal of the Chief Minister's residence from the prohibited list and demanded similar relief for ordinary property owners. "The law should be the same for the common man and the Chief Minister," he said.

On Bhu Bharati, the former Minister referred to what he described as several irregularities raised by the BRS, including more than 9,200 registrations allegedly carried out without the knowledge of owners across the State and a reported land transfer involving a woman undergoing cancer treatment in Gajwel. He also sought an explanation regarding the alleged Jangaon stamp duty scam and Nadergul land scam.

Rejecting allegations concerning his own properties, Harish Rao said details of his agricultural land had been disclosed in his election affidavit and income-tax returns. "All the properties mentioned by Revanth Reddy to make wild allegations against KCR and his family as well as other BRS leaders are already in the public domain as they were disclosed in their election affidavits," he added.

The BRS leader also referred to more than 308 acres of assets allegedly owned by Revanth Reddy and his family and challenged the Chief Minister to announce a judicial inquiry into them. "We received the information from people from Kodangal and other areas within an hour after Revanth Reddy's speech, without us making any efforts. There are scores of victims whose properties were encroached upon by his family," he alleged.

Harish Rao alleged that the Congress government was resorting to diversion whenever the BRS questioned it on public issues and the Six Guarantees. He said the suspension of BRS MLAs was aimed at avoiding a debate on the government's alleged failures and asserted that the Opposition had not walked out of the Assembly voluntarily. He said BRS legislators were ready to attend the session and challenged the government to lift their suspension.

He also ridiculed the Chief Minister's argument that BRS legislators were suspended for wearing black T-shirts with slogans in violation of Assembly rules, while Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, were allowed inside Parliament under its rules.

Telangana HC postpones judgment on Danam Nagender disqualification petition to Friday

Hyderabad: Amid curiosity over the disqualification petition against BRS turncoat MLA from Khairatabad Danam Nagender, the High Court has reportedly postponed its judgment to Friday.

There was anticipation that the High Court would deliver its judgment on the disqualification petition against the Khairatabad MLA on Wednesday.

BJP Floor Leader Aleti Maheswar Reddy and BRS Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy had filed petitions against his defection in the High Court. As arguments in the case had already been heard, the High Court was expected to deliver its judgment on Wednesday afternoon. However, the court is learnt to have postponed the judgment to Friday.

Danam Nagender has been facing allegations of defecting to the Congress after winning the 2023 Assembly elections from Khairatabad on a BRS ticket. He later contested as a Congress candidate from the Secunderabad Lok Sabha constituency in the 2024 elections.

Though he lost the Lok Sabha elections, his



decision to contest on a Congress ticket drew severe criticism. Subsequently, petitions were filed by the BRS seeking his disqualification.

The Supreme Court, on July 31, 2025, directed Speaker G Prasad Kumar to decide on the disqualification of the MLAs facing defection charges. Accordingly, the Speaker conducted hearings on 10 MLAs.

After hearing arguments from both sides, the Speaker rejected the disqualification petition filed against Danam Nagender. Challenging the Speaker's decision, Aleti Maheswar Reddy and Padi Kaushik Reddy approached the High Court.

BRS leaders hit back at Revanth Reddy over land allegations

Hyderabad: BRS legislators G Jagadish Reddy, Vemula Prashanth Reddy and MLC Naveen Kumar hit back at Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy over his allegations concerning the lands of BRS leaders and their families. They challenged him to substantiate the claims with official records.

Speaking to the media, Jagadish Reddy said details of his properties were clearly disclosed in his 2018 and 2023 election affidavits and asserted that not an inch of his land was assigned or inam land.

He alleged that Revanth's charges



against BRS chief K Chandrashekhar Rao, party working president KT Rama Rao, BRSLP deputy leader T Harish Rao and other BRS leaders were baseless. He accused the Chief Minister of making false statements on the floor of the House. Prashanth Reddy said Revanth Reddy contradicted himself

by first saying Chandrashekhar Rao had 67 acres and later claiming that the farm land comprised over 300 acres of government land, in sharp contrast to his previous claims of 1,000-acre farm house. He also alleged that government land allotted in Sircilla in 2002 for rehabilitation of former Naxalites was now

being taken back.

In a separate statement, MLC Naveen Kumar said most of the lands in his name were purchased before 2014 in accordance with the laws then in force. He said his family's properties had no connection with Dharani entries or the 22-A prohibited list. He also rejected Revanth Reddy's claim that his family owned land in Siddipet. He said all his assets had been declared in his election affidavits and challenged the Chief Minister to substantiate any allegation with official records.

Bandi Sanjay Alleges Misuse Of Dharani, Bhu Bharathi

ADILABAD: Union minister of state for home affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Wednesday alleged that the previous BRS government had misused the Dharani portal for land-related "exploitation" and claimed that the Congress government was now using Bhu Bharathi for the same purpose.

Speaking to the media in Karimnagar, Sanjay alleged that the family of former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao had used Dharani to grab large tracts of land and make money. He also alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had failed to act against land encroachments and was now using the Bhu Bharathi system for similar purposes.

Sanjay questioned why the Chief Minister had taken 1,000 days



to disclose details of the alleged land scam in the Assembly. He alleged that BRS MLAs had sold government lands and amassed money, while poor people cultivating podu lands for decades were yet to receive pattas.

He claimed that 25 lakh families in the state did not have land to construct houses and alleged that several villages had seen no development as their lands were classified as forest areas.

Sanjay further alleged that Revanth Reddy was raising funds for the Congress whenever elections were held in other states and linked this to the Chief Minister's disclosures on alleged land scams. He said he had raised the issue of land scams during his padayatra.

Referring to the Chief Minister's disclosure on the alleged land scam involving nine persons, Sanjay questioned how long it would take to disclose alleged irregularities involving 90 MLAs.

He demanded that the Chief Minister constitute an SIT, seize encroached lands and assets of legislators disproportionate to those declared in their election affidavits, and disqualify them if they were found guilty.

Sanjay also questioned the status of investigations into alleged irregularities relating to electricity purchases, phone tapping, farmhouse deals, the Formula E race and Kaleshwaram. He alleged that 10,000 acres had been grabbed in Sircilla and claimed that political leaders and influential persons had encroached on lakhs of acres across the state.

Srijana Meets Coimbatore Team on Rainwater Harvesting, Waterlogging



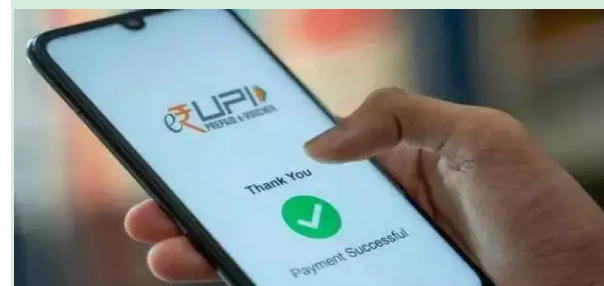
Hyderabad: Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) Commissioner, G Srijana held a meeting with the Coimbatore team to understand their experience in rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and waterlogging management.

The session covered Modular Rainwater Harvesting, Infiltration Tunnels, EcoBloc Sponge Grounds and Sponge Parks for managing stormwater and supporting groundwater recharge. The Coimbatore experience and project examples were also reviewed as part of the discussion.

The CMC is studying the applicability of such approaches at suitable locations in Cyberabad, keeping local conditions and requirements in view.

The meeting was attended by all Zonal Commissioners, Chief Engineer, Zonal SEs and EEs, with discussions focused on practical approaches that could be relevant to Cyberabad.

PIL Challenges MDR on UPI Transactions



A public interest litigation has been filed in the Supreme Court challenging the Centre's decision to impose a merchant discount rate (MDR) on specified UPI person-to-merchant transactions exceeding ₹2,000. The petition alleges that the levy was introduced without adequate statutory safeguards, transparency or public consultation.

The government has introduced a 0.4 per cent fee on UPI payments exceeding ₹2,000 made to merchants, with effect from October 15. No MDR will be levied on UPI transactions of up to ₹2,000.

The plea, filed by advocate Anjan Datta, challenges the Centre's September 14 notification and the MDR framework announced on September 15.

The petitioner has sought the quashing or suspension of the framework insofar as it imposes MDR on UPI transactions exceeding ₹2,000. Alternatively, he has sought its reconsideration following transparent consultation, the publication of empirical data and an impact assessment, besides safeguards for micro and small enterprises.

The plea also seeks an independent review by the Reserve Bank of India and the Union government.

According to the petition, the new framework provides for a 0.4 per cent MDR on general person-to-merchant UPI transactions exceeding ₹2,000, subject to a cap of ₹300 on transactions of ₹75,000 or more.

It also provides for a flat MDR of ₹5 on transactions exceeding ₹2,000 in specified essential and low-margin sectors, including railways, telecommunications, insurance, fuel and agricultural inputs. Capital-market transactions will attract an MDR of 0.02 per cent, capped at ₹300.

The petitioner said UPI transactions of up to ₹2,000 and all person-to-person transfers would remain free, while small merchants receiving up to ₹1 lakh a month through UPI QR codes would be exempt.

The plea challenges the constitutional validity of amended Section 10A of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, alleging that it gives the executive unguided powers to decide which electronic payment modes should receive no-charge protection.

It questions the fixation of rates, transaction thresholds, caps and sectoral classifications through what the petitioner described as a press release. It alleges that the complete operative instrument prescribing the charges has not been published in the Official Gazette.

The petitioner has also questioned the distinction between UPI transactions and RuPay debit-card payments, pointing out that the notification continues no-charge protection for RuPay debit cards without a monetary ceiling.

The plea alleges that the framework is arbitrary and discriminatory and could adversely affect merchants, particularly those with low margins. It also raises concerns over a possible indirect burden on consumers and digital exclusion.

Awareness Programme on Ozone Layer Protection Held for High School Students’



Nirmal District : On the occasion of World Ozone Day (September 16), an awareness programme on ozone layer protection was organised by the Forest Department at the Zilla Parishad High School in Alur village, Sarangapur mandal.

Ramakrishna Rao, Forest Range Officer, Nirmal, who attended the programme as the chief guest, explained the importance of the ozone layer in protecting the environment. He said that the ozone layer acts as a protective shield and umbrella for the Earth, safeguarding all living organisms from harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation emitted by the sun.

He emphasised that protecting the ozone layer is the responsibility of every individual and urged students to contribute to environmental conservation.

Later, Mohammed Nazir Khan, Deputy Forest Range Officer, Sarangapur, administered the Ozone Protection Pledge to the students.

Chandra Nagakanth, Headmaster, Mohammed Nazir Khan, DFO, along with Teachers, Sandhya, Santosh, Vennela and Sujatha, and students participated in the programme

Devotees Flock to Seek the Blessings of Koridi Ganapathi

Nirmal District : Om Sri Ganeshaya Namah
Swayambhu Sri Koridi Ganapathi – History of His Manifestation

In Nirmal district, at Mategaon village in Bhainsa Rural Mandal, devotees from various places are visiting the Swayambhu Sri Koridi Ganapathi to offer prayers and seek blessings.

According to the history narrated by the villagers, a farmer named Prakash Patel removed several trees from his agricultural land with the help of a JCB in 2015. The tree trunks, along with their roots, were placed beside the house of D. Tukaram. After using some of the wood for his requirements, a few tree stumps were left behind.

The remaining stumps lay there for nearly two to three years, exposed to rain and sunlight. In May 2017, three boys—P. Chakri, Sailu and Santosh—were playing cricket nearby. When the ball fell near one of the stumps, one of the boys noticed that the stump appeared to resemble Lord Ganesha. He called the other two boys and showed it to them.

The three boys then placed the stump inside the compound wall of the house and began worshipping it, believing it to be Swayambhu Koridi Ganapathi. They continued their worship without initially discussing it with others.

Later, on Sunday, July 23, 2017, on the occasion of Shravana Amavasya, village elders came to see the idol after learning about it. They felt that the stump genuinely resembled a self-manifested form of Lord Ganesha and began offering prayers.

Scholars and priests were subsequently invited to examine the idol. According to the villagers, the Vedic scholars stated that the idol appeared to be Swayambhu.

Since July 23, 2017, daily rituals have been performed at the shrine. Devotees from distant places visit the temple, offer prayers, and make vows.

Since 2017, Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations, idol installation and annadanam (free food distribution) have also been organised every year.

Devotees visiting Koridi Ganapathi believe that their wishes are fulfilled after seeking the deity's blessings. People from several surrounding areas also come on foot to have darshan of Sri Koridi Ganapathi.



Adani Foundation at ACC Wadi Helps Bhima Bai Build Her Own Business, Doubling Her Family's Income

- Bhima Bai from Ravoor village doubled her family's monthly income through a broom-making enterprise supported by Adani Foundation at ACC Wadi.
 - A loan from a Self Help Group and a broom-making machine helped increase production from 200 to 500 brooms per month.
 - The initiative highlights how livelihood support and women's entrepreneurship are creating sustainable economic opportunities in rural Karnataka.
- Wadi, 16 September 2026: ACC along with the Adani Foundation, through its CSR initiatives at ACC Wadi, is helping women in rural Karnataka move from financial uncertainty to enterprise ownership — one household at a time.
- Bhima Bai from Ravoor village knew exactly what her family needed. What she did not have was a way to provide more of it. With a household income of Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 8,000 per month, meeting basic needs was possible. Saving was not. Paying for her children's education required choices that no parent should have to make repeatedly.
- In 2024, she joined the Renuka Yellamma Self Help Group supported by Adani Foundation. The SHG gave her something she had not had before — access to credit and the kind of entrepreneurial guidance that helps a person turn an idea into an income. With a small loan from the group, Bhima Bai started making brooms by hand. It was a modest beginning but it was hers entirely.
- Her work was consistent and her instinct for the business was clear. Adani Foundation took note. In 2025, the Foundation provided her with a broom making machine — a single intervention that changed the scale of everything. Production that had stood at 200 brooms a month jumped to 500. The enterprise that had started as a supplementary income became a significant one.
- Today, Bhima Bai's family earns Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 17,000 per month.



Her children's education is no longer a source of anxiety. The household that once ran on Rs. 7,000 a month now runs with room to breathe, room to save and room to plan.

Bhima Bai did not wait for her circumstances to change. She changed them — with a loan, a machine and the backing of Adani Foundation at ACC Wadi. Her story is one of many that the Foundation is quietly building in the communities surrounding its operations, each one a reminder that the distance between hardship and stability is often shorter than it looks when the right support arrives at the right time.

Flipkart Minutes Marks Two Years with 4X Growth, Reaches 150+ Cities

- 4X year-on-year growth, nearly 1,200 micro fulfilment centres across 150+ cities

Vizag- September 11, 2026: Flipkart Minutes, the quick commerce offering from Flipkart, today marked two years since its launch in August 2024, having grown 4X year-on-year and expanded to nearly 1,200 micro fulfilment centres across 150+ cities. The platform has created more than 4 lakh direct and indirect jobs since inception, while around 60% of customers return to shop on Flipkart Minutes, reflecting the growing adoption of quick commerce across the country.

Tier 2+ markets are emerging as an important driver of this growth, with the customer base growing nearly 25X year-on-year across cities such as Ambala, Barabanki, Bhagalpur, Durgapur, Kanpur, Roorkee, Siliguri, Salem and Tiruppur. Demand in these markets is also extending beyond daily essentials, with strong uptake of products such as Korean noodles, sauces and ready-to-eat meals, alongside premium skincare and personal care categories.

Rising Gen Z Adoption Broadens the Quick Commerce Basket

Gen Z has emerged as the fastest-growing customer cohort on Flipkart Minutes, with the customer base growing nearly 5X year-on-year in the past twelve months. Gen Z drives over 45% of orders across categories such as beauty, electronics, gaming, wearables, fragrance, health and nutrition, and grooming, while accounting for 1 in 3 gourmet orders on the platform. The data points to a generation using quick commerce for a much



wider range of products, from everyday essentials to premium and aspirational categories.

Kunal Gupta, Senior Vice President and Head of Flipkart Minutes, said, "In two years, Flipkart Minutes has evolved from a convenience offering into a broader shopping channel, with customers using it for much more than their daily essentials. What is particularly interesting is how quickly this behaviour is spreading beyond the largest cities, while Gen Z is also bringing new categories and new shopping occasions to the platform. With our growing network, we have an opportunity to make this experience available to more consumers across the country, while creating new opportunities for brands, farmers and local businesses to reach customers."

The platform's biggest single order to date was worth ₹6 lakh and included five smartphones, illustrating how quickly quick commerce is expanding beyond everyday essentials.

Building for India: Partners, Farmers, and a Greener Footprint

Since August 2024, Flipkart Minutes has built a partner ecosystem of close to 500 D2C brands, giving them access to hyperlocal demand and new customer segments. Through partnerships with Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), the platform has also connected thousands of farmers directly to consumers, helping them reach new markets and improve price realisation.

Complaint filed at police station against former MPP for abusing journalists

Journalists from Mallapur Mandal in Jagtial district have been receiving threats and indecent language by calling up newspaper reporters who are fearlessly bringing the truth to the public.

Mallapur, September 16 : Action has been taken against journalists for publishing news in newspapers based on a complaint filed by villagers of Obulapur and Obulapur ST Thanda villages against former MPP Nalla Rajanna of Ratnapur village, alleging that teak wood was being cut illegally in the Freedom Forest area. After bringing this fact to light, Mallapur mandal reporter Rudra Ramprasad and fellow journalist Mora Satish were called by former MPP Nalla Rajanna and abused them in extremely vulgar language and openly threatened to kill them, saying, "I will see about your situation." On Wednesday, all the journalists together filed an official complaint with Mallapur Sub-Inspector Anil along with audio recording evidence, demanding immediate registration of criminal cases and arrest of Nalla Rajanna, who is trying to silence the media with the political power of the ruling



party, and protection for journalists. They stated that they will submit a complaint to high-level officials and public representatives on this issue with the help of district and state-level journalists.

Another National Award for SCF's Saibaba



Hyderabad: Former Ranji Trophy cricketer Kammela Saibaba, a banker and the founding secretary of Sports Coaching Foundation, an NGO, has been honoured with the Pan-India Award in the category of Best Social Activist at the National CSR Leadership Congress & Awards function held at a top hotel on MG Road, Bengaluru. Saibaba has received several national and international awards for his remarkable contribution to sports and social development. He remains committed to empowering deprived children and youth to take up sports, and also received the prestigious President of India Award in 2015. A sportsman with a mission, he has continued to create opportunities and transform lives through sports for the past 35 years.

Lakshya Football Academy Beat Hyderabad Football Academy for Golden Cup

Hyderabad: Lakshya Football Academy emerged champions of the Hyderabad Golden Cup Women's Football Tournament conducted by the Telangana Football Association at Jubilee Hills in Hyderabad.

Lakshya proved too good for Hyderabad in the final, defeating them with a commanding 6-1 scoreline. Renuka scored twice, in the 12th & 29th minutes, Aruna struck in the 36th & 42nd, Poojitha got goals in the 5th & 21st minutes for the winners. Hyderabad's only goal came from Ira, in the 16th minute of the game.

As many as eight teams participated in the two-day tournament that was played over the weekend which saw competitive football being dished out



much to the delight of the spectators who had turned up for the matches.

The result (final)

Lakshya FA 6 (Renuka 12, 29, Aruna 36, 42, Poojitha 5, 21) bt Hyderabad FA 1 (Ira 16)

Individual Awards

Top Scorer: Poojitha (Lakshya Football Academy) — 12 Goals

Best Goalkeeper: Bhagyamma (Lakshya Football Academy)

Best Player: Wajhiya.

Emerging Player: Ira (Hyderabad Football Academy)

Promising Player: Jiys (BPHC)

Position Taken By BCCI and We Stand By it: Muzumdar on Not Accepting Asia Cup Trophy From Naqvi

Dubai: Indian women's cricket team head coach Amol Muzumdar said the side fully supports the BCCI's stand of not accepting the Asia Cup trophy from Asian Cricket Council's Pakistani chief Mohsin Naqvi and winning the tournament is "good enough" for the players.

The Harmanpreet Kaur-led team defeated Sri Lanka comprehensively in the final on Sunday by 72 runs to win the tournament for a record-extending eighth time. But it refused to take the trophy from the incumbent ACC chief, who is also his country's Interior Minister besides being the chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board.

"That stand has been taken by BCCI and we stand by it. For us, this tournament is over. We're the champions -- that's good enough. It was on the big board that India champions of Asia Cup 2026," Muzumdar told reporters after the match when asked about not accepting the trophy from Naqvi.

"This tournament is over; officially over for us. We're happy that we've turned out to be champions. Now, we look forward for the Asian Games," he said.

The Indian women's team's refusal to accept the trophy from Naqvi was a repeat of the position first taken in the 2025 men's edition of the tournament. The Suryakumar Yadav-led side did not accept the winner's trophy from Naqvi to protest against the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people that same year.

Muzumdar said he was not aware of any



possibility of the team receiving the trophy in the coming days.

"No news as yet. So, I cannot answer that," he said.

The men's team too has not received the trophy till date as it lies locked at ACC headquarters in Dubai with Naqvi insisting that only he will hand it out.

When asked if such instances should be stopped in sports, the Indian head coach replied, "Well, as I said earlier, my answer remains the same, my friend. That the stand has been taken by BCCI and we're united and standing by it. Absolutely."

"For us, this tournament is officially over. The fact that we're champions, we're really glad and I'm really proud of every single person in this unit, including the support staff and the players, needless to say.

"We're looking forward to the Asian Games now. This is officially over," he added referring to the quadrennial showpiece beginning September 19 in Japan where both the Indian men's and women's teams will enter as defending champions.

SPORTS



Varun Chakravarthy Ruled Out of Asian Games 2026, Vipraj To Replace Him



New Delhi: Young leg-spin all-rounder Vipraj Nigam will replace Varun Chakravarthy in India's Asian Games squad after the senior spinner was ruled out of the continental event with a side strain. The Asian Games will begin on September 19 in

Aichi-Nagoya, Japan. "Varun is out for an indefinite period of time. Vipraj Nigam and Kuldeep Yadav were the two available options from the long list. Kuldeep will play the West Indies ODIs later this month," a BCCI source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

Chakravarthy, who was forced out of the ongoing T20I series against Afghanistan after suffering the injury in the opening game, is expected to remain sidelined for some time. The 22-year-old Nigam, who represents Delhi Capitals in the IPL, has so

far played 19 matches in the league, taking 13 wickets. The 21-year-old has also shown his big-hitting ability, scoring at a strike rate of around 176 in his IPL career.

The men's cricket competition of the Asian Games will begin on September 24. India will open in the quarterfinal stage. Chakravarthy's withdrawal is a setback to India as the 35-year-old had returned to the national side after recovering from a hamstring injury before the Afghanistan series. He reported discomfort following the first T20I and was sent back to the BCCI Centre of Excellence for further assessment.

Abhishek Sharma rises to No. 2 in ICC T20I batting rankings

Abhishek Sharma climbed to second in the ICC T20I batting rankings after his 82 against Afghanistan, while Ishan Kishan retained the top spot. Sanju Samson, Jasprit Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh also gained places, alongside notable movements in ODI and Test rankings.

Dubai: India's Abhishek Sharma climbed to second place in the latest ICC T20I batting rankings released on Wednesday, while teammate Ishan Kishan retained the top spot after the reigning T20 World Cup champions took an unassailable 2-0 lead in their three-match series against Afghanistan.

Abhishek moved up one place after his blistering 82 in the series opener, overtaking Pakistan's Sahibzada Farhan. The left-hander now trails Kishan by 51 rating points, who continues to lead the T20I batting chart.

Sanju Samson was another Indian batter to make significant progress, climbing four places to 30th after his fine half-century in the second match against Afghanistan.

India also made notable gains in the T20I bowling rankings. Varun Chakravarthy rose two places to fifth, while Jasprit Bumrah



climbed seven places to 10th. Arshdeep Singh made an 11-place jump to 14th, and Axar Patel rose six places to 27th after a good display against the hosts.

Afghanistan all-rounder Azmatullah Omarzai also climbed the T20I all-rounder rankings after scoring an unbeaten half-century in the opening match of the series.

Three Australian players gained places in the ODI rankings following their 59-run victory over Zimbabwe in the series opener in Harare.

Australia pacer Nathan Ellis rose 20 places to 20th among ODI bowlers after taking a five-wicket haul. Matthew Renshaw, named Player of the Match for his 109, moved from outside the top 100 to 68th among batters.

Cooper Connolly also climbed nine places to 77th in the ODI batting rankings after scoring 51 at No. 3 against Zimbabwe.

In the Test rankings, England pacer Ollie Robinson reached a new career-high rating and moved up two places to third among bowlers after taking 21 wickets in the recent three-Test series against Pakistan.

England teammate Josh Tongue also achieved a career-best ranking, climbing two places to 11th after taking 19 wickets in the series.

Robinson's half-century in the third Test at Birmingham also helped him climb seven places to 13th in the Test all-rounder rankings.

Despite Pakistan's 3-0 series defeat, skipper Babar Azam rose two places to 13th among Test batters, while Shan Masood climbed four places to 37th for his brilliant batting in the final match of the series. England wicketkeeper-batter Jamie Smith also moved up three places to 20th after his half-century in the first innings of the third Test.



CINEMA

Chiranjeevi's Vishwambhara Eyes Sankranthi Release?



Megastar Chiranjeevi's much-awaited Vishwambhara is reportedly eyeing a Sankranthi release, with January 12, 2027, being discussed as a possible date if everything goes as planned.

According to a source, the makers are keen to target the Sankranthi holiday season, believing the socio-fantasy entertainer has the potential to attract family audiences in a big way. "Discussions are underway to release the film on January 12. It is the kind of film that can appeal to audiences from six to 60, making the festival season an ideal window," says the source.

The team is currently completing the remaining portions of the shoot, with the final schedule expected to be wrapped up by Wednesday. "A few key scenes were canned recently, and the entire shooting part is expected to be completed in the next couple of

days," the source adds.

VFX work is progressing simultaneously, with the team reportedly working against the clock to get the film ready for its intended release window. An official release date is expected to be announced once the production work is completed.

Vishwambhara also marks the reunion of Chiranjeevi and Trisha Krishnan nearly two decades after Stalin (2006). Their pairing is expected to add a nostalgic touch to the fantasy adventure.

Director Mallidi Vassishtha recently spoke about the film during Chiranjeevi's birthday celebrations, describing the opportunity to direct the Megastar as a childhood dream.

With the makers now reportedly considering Sankranthi, Vishwambhara could be positioning itself as one of the major attractions of the 2027 festival season.

Anupama Parameswaran reflects on life, says 'every moment counts'

Actress Anupama Parameswaran reflected on life and memories in a new Instagram post, saying that every moment matters and "today is really all we have." Her latest message comes months after a cryptic post about finding peace, freedom and herself.

Chennai: Underlining the fact that life was short and that every moment counted, actress Anupama Parameswaran on Tuesday said that if there was one thing she had now come to understand, it was that "Today is really all we have."

Taking to her Instagram page to post a reel, the actress wrote, "Not just a reel, an archive of memories."

She further went on to add, "Life is full of surprises, and with them come lessons. Some beautiful, some difficult, all leaving something behind. But if there's one thing I've come to understand, it's that life is short. Every moment counts. Every memory matters. And today is really all we have."

It may be recalled that Anupama had put out a cryptic post in July this year that came under the spot-



light.

In it, Anupama had said that peace had found her and that she no longer needed to take any more permissions or be in fear.

Taking to her Instagram page to pen the rather cryptic post that gave the impression that she was finally free from something that had been imprisoning her, the actress wrote, Sometimes, you have to let go of the dead ends to finally find your peace. And today, peace found me."

She had further said, "From today, I

choose my voice. I choose my life. No more permissions. No more fear. Just me, finding my way back to myself and falling in love with the life I almost forgot was mine. And there's something I've wanted to say for a very long time... Something I wasn't allowed to say for far too long. I love you all."

She wrote, "Thank you for standing by me, believing in me, and filling my life with so much love. If I haven't said it enough before, please know that I have always felt

coming up for release. The makers of the film, which features actor Sharwanand in the lead, released the look of Anupama Parameswaran as Kandula Sulochana Rani in the film.

The poster released showed Anupama as a village belle, walking barefoot on a dusty rural path. Sources had disclosed to IANS that Sulochana would be a spirited person who is deeply rooted in nature. The character in the film would be seen earning her livelihood by crafting leaf plates from Moduga leaves. Sulochana, sources claimed, would be shown as a person embodying both resilience and quiet strength.

The makers had revealed on actor Sharwanand's birthday that he played a character called Ganga in the eagerly awaited action thriller.



Bandhavi Sridhar Looks Radiant in a Graceful Saree With Red Roses

In a graceful recent photograph, Bandhavi Sridhar looks over her shoulder while holding two vibrant red roses. She wears a pale yellow sleeveless blouse with subtle embroidery paired with a soft green floral saree.

In a graceful recent photograph, Bandhavi Sridhar looks over her shoulder while holding two vibrant red roses. She wears a pale yellow sleeveless blouse with subtle embroidery paired with a soft green floral saree. Her dark hair is tied in a sleek ponytail, complemented by traditional gold jewellery and a bindi, creating a classic and charming appearance against a blurred outdoor backdrop.

Bandhavi Sridhar is an Indian actress and model primarily working in Telugu cinema. Born and raised in Hyderabad, Telangana, she began her career as a child artist, appearing in popular films such as Mr. Perfect, Rabhasa, Mogudu, Ramaiya Vastavaiya, and Majnu.

In 2019, she won titles including Miss India Andhra Pradesh and Miss India Fashion Icon. She made her adult acting debut in the 2022 Telugu horror thriller Masooda, directed by Sai Kiran, where she played the memorable role of Nazia and earned recognition for her performance.

She has since appeared in Light House (2024) and the Hindi film Jaat (2025). Upcoming projects include Peddi (2026) and Sairabanu. Alongside acting, Bandhavi continues modeling and brand work, steadily building her presence in the industry with a blend of traditional charm and modern versatility.

Vijay Sethupathi's 'Baththa' glimpse promises a gritty 1980s story

The makers of Vijay Sethupathi-starrer 'Baththa' have released a glimpse titled 'The World of Baththa'. Set in the 1980s, the film portrays Sethupathi as a feared ruffian. Directed by Balaji Tharaneetharan, it releases worldwide on October 1



Chennai: The makers of director Balaji Tharaneetharan's eagerly awaited Tamil film 'Baththa', featuring Vijay Sethupathi and Lijomol Jose in the lead, have released a glimpse video from the film titled 'The World of Baththa', much to the delight of fans and film buffs.

Actor Vijay Sethupathi took to X to share the link to the glimpse video and wrote, "Experience the power-packed #WorldOfBaththa now. Written & Directed by #BalajiTharaneetharan. A @SaiAbhyankkar musical. #BaththaFromOct1."

The glimpse video opens with those close to Baththa eagerly awaiting his return. It is evident that the film is set in the 1980s. While Baththa's daughter says she is scared and wants her father to return, his brother is seen exuding confidence that he will return.

A small child is heard saying, "Everybody is scared of him but he isn't scared of anything." The glimpse video also shows that people expect a major crime to take place, while the police are seen asking people if they suspect anyone.

Throughout the glimpse video, Baththa

comes across as a ruffian who keeps bashing people. The video also gives the impression that he is not an ideal husband. In one scene, he is seen spitting out the food served to him by his wife.

In another sequence, his wife, played by Lijomol Jose, asks him where he was and says that they had been searching for him. He replies in an arrogant tone, "You shouldn't search for me. I will be found by myself."

Starring Vijay Sethupathi and Lijomol Jose in the lead roles, 'Baththa' has been directed by Balaji Tharaneetharan, who is best known for the superhit film 'Naduvula Konjam Pakkatha Kaanom', and presented by well-known director Atlee.