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Disburse Rs.813 Crore Land Acquisition Funds Immediately, Uttam Tells Collectors

HYDERABAD: Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday directed District Collectors and Irrigation officials to ensure that funds already released for land acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) reach affected farmers on a war footing, warning that money should not remain parked in government accounts while irrigation projects are held up.

Reviewing the progress of land acquisition and compensation the disbursement with the District Collectors through a video conference, Uttam Kumar Reddy expressed concern that about Rs 813 crore was still pending for disbursement in the accounts of District Collectors, Revenue Divisional Officers and Special Deputy Collectors.

Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnamp

Prabhakar, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, Secretary to the Chief Minister Manik Raj, Finance Secretary, Sandeep Sultania, Commissioner for Land Acquisition, Siva Kumar Naidu and District Collectors participated in the review.

Officials informed the meeting that since April 1, tokens worth about Rs 3,101 crore had been submitted and around Rs 2,504 crore released towards land acquisition and R&R. Of the amount currently pending at the district level, about Rs 502 crore was with Land Acquisition Officers and another Rs 311 crore with Collectors.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said the accumulation of funds without their reaching land losers was a matter of concern. He asked Collectors to personally intervene and speed up negotiations to facilitate



awards and payments.

"If the money has been released, it must reach the land-losing farmers. If for any genuine reason it cannot be disbursed, explain the reason and return the money instead of keeping it idle," he said.

The Minister recalled that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had committed Rs 6,000 crore during 2026 for land acquisition, R&R and forest-related requirements of irrigation projects with a view to ensuring quick completion of the irrigation projects. He said these funds were being arranged outside the regular Irrigation budget so that lack of money would not delay priority projects.

Humane approach to farmers parting with land

Uttam made it clear that tokens should be raised only after awards were passed and cases were actually ready for payment. At the same time, he stressed that acquisition must follow a humane and reasonable approach towards farmers. "The government does not want to be unfair to farmers while taking away their land. Compensation should, within the legal framework and due process, be as close as reasonably possible to prevailing market values," he said.

In cases where in com-

pensation remained unpaid after an award, he instructed officials to pay the statutory interest wherever applicable. In cases involving court or title disputes, the Minister directed officials to compile all pending cases so that they could be taken up with the Advocate General for focused legal action.

The Minister examined district-wise bottlenecks in Nalgonda, Yadadri-Bhongir, Narayanpet, Siddipet, Vikarabad, Jagtial and Hanumakonda, among others. In Nalgonda district, Uttam reviewed delays concerning Chintapalli reservoir, Pendlipaka balancing reservoir, Udayasamudram and Nellikallu. He stressed the urgency of completing acquisition for Pendlipakala, pointing out that the reservoir was crucial to deriving benefits from the SLBC tunnel once it was completed.

"If the tunnel is completed but land acquisition for the balancing reservoir remains unfinished, the investment cannot yield the intended benefit," he cautioned. Collectors were repeatedly asked to compress timelines, rather than treating two or three weeks as routine administrative processing time. Uttam said land acquisition had become critical because several irrigation projects were substantially completed and their benefits were being held up mainly by pending distributary canals, connecting works and small stretches requiring acquisition.

The Chief Secretary also stressed prudent financial management, telling Collectors that funds should be sought when cases were ready for payment rather than being allowed to remain idle in bank accounts.

Revanth To Take Political Fight to Sircilla, Siddipet

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is set to take the political battle to the strongholds of the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), beginning with a public meeting in Sircilla, the home constituency of BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, on September 30. The Chief Minister is also likely to visit Siddipet next month to address a public meeting in the constituency represented by senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao, party sources said.

The back-to-back public meetings are being seen as an early mobilization exercise by the ruling Congress ahead of the Assembly elections scheduled for November-December 2028. While addressing a public meeting in Nalgonda on September 5, Revanth Reddy vowed to defeat Rama Rao in Sircilla and Harish Rao in Siddipet.

Party sources said the Chief Minister had chalked out an action plan to challenge the BRS leadership in its traditional strongholds, nearly two years ahead of the polls. The proposed meetings in Sircilla and Siddipet are expected to set the tone for a direct political contest between the Congress government and the



BRS in the opposition party's strongholds.

Rama Rao and Harish Rao have maintained an uninterrupted record of electoral victories in their constituencies since entering electoral politics. Rama Rao has won the Sircilla Assembly seat five times — the 2008 bypoll and elections in 2009, 2014, 2018 and 2023. Harish Rao has represented

Siddipet for seven consecutive terms since 2004, including in bypolls in 2004, 2008 and 2010 and general elections in 2009, 2014, 2018 and 2023.

The Congress is planning the Sircilla meeting as a major show of strength and is mobilising party workers and supporters from across the constituency and neighbouring areas. Local Congress leaders have begun preparations for the meeting, including arrangements for the expected large turnout and security.

The proposed meetings also come amid an intensifying political exchange between Congress and BRS over the performance of the three-year old Revanth Reddy gov-

ernment. The BRS has been campaigning against the Congress on the completion of 1,000 days in office, alleging that several of the six guarantees and election promises remained unfulfilled and accusing the government of irregularities in land and other matters.

Sources said Revanth Reddy wanted to utilise the Sircilla meeting to counter the BRS campaign and highlight the Congress government's welfare and development programmes during its first 1,000 days.

Delhi Court Remands Sonia Gandhi Electoral Roll Case To Magistrate

A Delhi court on Monday allowed a revision plea challenging a September 11, 2025 magistrate's order refusing to probe an allegation that Congress leader Sonia Gandhi's name was included in the electoral roll three years before she acquired Indian citizenship in 1983.

Special Judge Vishal Gogne quashed the magisterial court's order, describing it as "non-speaking" and holding that it reflected non-application of mind. The order had dismissed a complaint filed by Advocate Vikas Tripathi, vice-president of the Central Delhi Court Bar Association at the Rouse Avenue courts.

The judge said the impugned order suffered from a "manifest error in law" due to non-compliance with Section 175(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). This included the magistrate's failure to hear the submissions of the concerned police officer and obtain a status report from the relevant police station.

The court said the "non-speaking" nature of the magistrate's order was evident because it failed to consider the two options available under law — directing registration of an FIR or, alternatively, con-



ducting proceedings under the BNSS.

The judge further observed that instead of examining the core question of whether the complaint disclosed the commission of a cognisable offence, the magistrate's order digressed into the issue of citizenship. The court remanded the matter to the magistrate with directions to hear fresh arguments and pass a reasoned order in accordance with law.

The matter has been posted for further proceedings on September 29. The court's latest order does not determine the merits of the allegations against Sonia Gandhi. It requires the magistrate to reconsider the complaint and decide the appropriate course of action after following the prescribed legal procedure.

Indiramma Towers in Core City Areas, Not Outskirts: Ponguleti

Hyderabad: Revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said the state government was constructing Indiramma Towers close to the areas where the urban poor currently lived, instead of shifting them to the city outskirts. He was speaking after laying the foundation for the construction of Indiramma Towers at Raidurg near Malkam Cheruvu in Serilingampally Assembly constituency.

The minister said the houses were being constructed for the poor even in core areas of Hyderabad where land prices were extremely high. Providing homes on land worth hundreds of crores of rupees per acre would give beneficiaries security and a sense of ownership, he said. Benefi-



ciaries would be provided an undivided share of 17-to 20-square yards of land along with full ownership rights over their apartments.

The government had also decided to provide registered sale deeds without registration charges, the minister said. The gov-

ernment had launched the first phase of the programme with 480 houses in each Assembly constituency.

The Indiramma Towers programme envisaged construction of one lakh houses within Hyderabad, he said. Srinivas Reddy assured eligible poor families who had applied but could not secure a house in the first phase that there was no need for disappointment, as the government would take up houses in five phases over the next two years. He added that the government would expedite construction at the Raidurg site with the aim of enabling beneficiaries to celebrate Bonalu from the new homes next year.

The minister said the Congress government had adopted a different approach from earlier BRS regime's 2BHK scheme under which houses for the poor were constructed 30 to 40 km away from Hyderabad. The Congress government was instead providing housing to the urban poor in the heart of the city, he said.

INDIA’S DIPLOMATIC SUCCESS AT 18TH BRICS SUMMIT

The achievement of the latest summit is not that it resolved the world’s conflicts; it is that it prevented those conflicts from destroying BRICS’ ability to talk to one another

The unanimous New Delhi Declaration at the 18th BRICS Summit marks a diplomatic success for India, given the 11-member grouping’s divergent interests and fractured internal politics. Bringing together widely conflicting strategic interests and crafting a carefully worded, mutually agreeable document is a commendable task in itself. The context was complicated: Iran-UAE tensions over the West Asia conflict, the Russia-Ukraine war, and, more importantly, the United States—the elephant in the room—created formidable obstacles to consensus building. India’s diplomacy was the decisive factor in holding the text together. It used its strong ties with all members and worked behind the scenes to overcome the biggest hurdle—convincing the UAE and Iran, which sit on opposite sides of the West Asia conflict, to sign on. The outcome serves as evidence that BRICS can still function as a forum even amid real fractures among its members. However, one should not lose sight of the inherent limitations of the bloc. A key limitation is that, though BRICS can keep difficult conversations alive and affirm broad principles, it struggles to assign responsibility or organise collective action when interests occasionally collide. The document does not attempt to solve the world’s most intractable conflicts overnight, nor does it establish an immediate replacement for Western financial supremacy. It is still a long way to go for it to become a unified geopolitical bloc capable of collective action on the conflicts it discusses.

The Delhi summit proved that BRICS can survive its geopolitical contradictions, but survival cannot be taken as a strategic transformation. After demonstrating its capability to hold together a highly heterogeneous grouping at a moment when consensus appeared particularly difficult, a much harder test for India is to use that consensus to produce concrete economic and diplomatic outcomes. The achievement of the latest summit was not that it resolved the world’s conflicts; it was that it prevented the world’s conflicts from destroying the bloc’s ability to talk to one another. That is no small achievement in the present geopolitical environment. But the next stage will determine whether BRICS becomes more than a forum for carefully negotiated communiqués. The real test will be whether it can convert multipolarity into institutional reform, AI cooperation into actual technological partnerships and Global South solidarity into development finance. The declaration was unambiguously strong on the issue of terrorism. The 2025 Pahalgam attack, which killed 26 people, was condemned in the strongest terms, with leaders calling all terrorism “criminal and unjustifiable” regardless of motivation, and pledging zero tolerance. However, the document’s careful omissions were as revealing as its assertions. It avoided naming the US over the strikes on Iran and also did not condemn Iranian attacks on Gulf Arab states. Nor did it criticise Russia for waging a war against Ukraine. Instead, the declaration relied on broad principles — restraint, sovereignty, civilian protection, dialogue and diplomacy.

Jurala tension: BRS leaders, farmers stopped from reaching project over water release

Tension prevailed at Jurala Project as police stopped BRS leaders and farmers protesting for irrigation water. Former MLA Chittam Rammohan Reddy was taken into custody, while senior BRS leaders were placed under house arrest and farmers demanded water for standing crops.



Wanaparthi: Tension escalated at the Jurala Project on Monday as police stopped Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) leaders and farmers from reaching the project to stage a protest demanding water supply for the farming community.

Former Makhthal MLA Chittam Rammohan Reddy was stopped by police at Nandimalla in Amarchinta. Farmers, who were staging a massive protest, were also intercepted. Heated arguments and scuffles broke out between the police and farmers.

The former MLA expressed concern over farmers struggling to save their crops cultivated under the project ayacut. He said farmers had invested heavily in cultivation and that the Congress government was not releasing water at a crucial stage.

He appealed to irrigation officials to release water at least once every three days so that farmers could save their standing crops and avoid losses. While he was speaking to media persons, police took him into custody and tried to shift him.

However, farmers and BRS workers stopped the police vehicle. They raised slogans and demanded that water be supplied to the farming community.

Preventive arrest of former Ministers

As BRS leaders headed towards the Jurala Project, police intercepted them at several locations across erstwhile Palamuru. Former Ministers Singireddy Niranjan Reddy and C Laxma Reddy, former MLA A Venkateshwar Reddy and other senior BRS leaders were placed under house arrest.

Police also detained BRS leaders from Wanaparthi, Atmakur, Amarchinta and Narva mandals at various locations. The Jurala Project was completely cordoned off and a heavy police force was deployed at the dam.

In Gadwal, farmers’ unions backed by an all-party coalition called for a siege of the Collectorate, demanding the release of irrigation water.

Farmers have been demanding water release from the project for the past three days. On Saturday evening, they gathered at the dam, opened the head regulator and released water into the left canal. Irrigation officials, however, reached the project soon after and stopped the release.

Harish Rao condemns arrest of BRS leaders over Jurala water demand

BRS leader T Harish Rao condemned the detention of farmers and BRS leaders protesting for irrigation water to Jurala ayacut lands. He demanded their release, questioned the denial of water to Palamuru farmers and alleged the government neglected irrigation needs

Hyderabad: BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao on Monday condemned the arrest and detention of farmers and BRS leaders protesting for irrigation water for Jurala ayacut lands. He demanded the immediate release of irrigation water to the Jurala ayacut and the release of the detained farmers and BRS leaders.

He said former Ministers S Niranjan Reddy, C Laxma Reddy and V Srinivas Goud, former MLAs Chittam Ram Mohan Reddy and Alla Venkateshwar Reddy, and other leaders were being detained for supporting the farmers.

Harish Rao questioned why Krishna River water was being taken to Kuppam, 738 km from Srisailem, while farmers in neighbouring Palamuru were being denied water. He alleged that the government had failed to utilise the four reservoirs — Narlapur, Yedula, Karivena and Vattam — built under the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, with a combined capacity of 50 TMCft.

The former Minister questioned why the pumps were not being operated despite abundant Krishna River flows over the past two-and-a-half years. He alleged that water was being released to



Andhra Pradesh while Telangana farmers were being neglected. He called it the Congress government’s betrayal of farmers. “Is this not a failure of Congress rule? Is it not the incompetence of the rulers?” he asked, demanding answers from Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy.

Harish Rao said around 8.4 TMCft was available in the Jurala project, but irrigation water was not being released. He alleged that police had virtually cordoned off the project and were arresting people for demanding water. He slammed the Revanth Reddy government for using El Nino as an excuse to withhold irrigation water and destroy agriculture.

KTR condemns BRS leaders’ detention, demands Jurala water release for farmers

BRS working president KT Rama Rao condemned the detention of party leaders protesting for irrigation water from the Jurala project. He demanded their release and alleged that water was being withheld despite availability, leaving standing crops under stress in the ayacut.



Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao condemned the arrests and house detention of party leaders in erstwhile Mahbubnagar district for demanding release

of water from the Jurala project to save standing crops. He demanded immediate release of the detained BRS leaders and also water for Jurala ayacut farmers, warning of an escalation of farmers’ anger against the Congress government.

Rama Rao said former Ministers S Niranjan Reddy, C Laxma Reddy and V Srinivas Goud, former MLAs and other BRS leaders were being detained to suppress their protest, exposing the Congress government’s anarchy. “Instead of addressing the farmers’ woes, the Revanth Reddy government is attacking the BRS leaders to cover up its inefficiency,” he said.

The BRS working president said 9 TMCft of water was available in Jurala project, but the government was refusing to release it, leaving standing crops to wither. He also stated that the police had erected barricades around the project and booked cases against farmers who tried to open the gates to safeguard their crops.

“Even though just two TMCft of water would suffice drinking needs, pushing the ayacut farmers into a crisis by refusing to release water from the Jurala project which holds nine TMCft, is an unforgivable sin,” he said.

Police action against BRS puts Congress government under scrutiny

Hyderabad: A series of police actions against BRS leaders, aides and functionaries has triggered a political dispute over the use of preventive measures and criminal cases against Opposition leaders in Telangana. Several of the recent cases have also seen judicial intervention, including rejection of remand pleas and directions providing protection from arrest.

The latest episode involved BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao’s PRO Mahesh Manikya Mudiraj, who appeared before the Saifabad police for questioning in connection with a case related to the September 7 incident at the Assembly gate. While he was at the police station, Bolarum police took him to their station in connection with a separate case alleging obstruction of police duties at a check-post on September 8, when BRS leaders were proceeding towards BRS president and former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhara Rao’s Erravelli residence.

The Telangana High Court had directed the police to follow the procedure under Section 35(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in the earlier case. Mahesh was later served a notice under Section 35(3) of the BNSS by Bolarum police and released. Police have alleged that he obstructed officials from performing their duties at the Bolarum check-post.

The action against Mahesh came amid another controversy involving BRS social media convener Manne Krishank. The Telangana High Court on Friday directed the police not to arrest Krishank in connection with a case over a social media post and directed them to follow the procedure under Section 35(3) of the BNSS. The court also asked him to cooperate with the investigation.

In another case, the Nampally court rejected the police remand plea of BRS MLCs T. Madhusudhan Reddy alias Tatha Madhu and N. Naveen Kumar Reddy, who had been arrested over alleged derogatory remarks against Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar. The court granted them bail on personal bonds. The case was registered under provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

For the BRS, the sequence has reinforced its allegation that the Congress government is using police cases, arrests and preventive action to put pressure on the Opposition. The party has also alleged that such action is extending beyond senior leaders to their aides, PROs and other functionaries.

Preventive action against BRS leaders has been reported at various points during 2026. In April, BRS cadres in parts of Adilabad and Nirmal were placed under house arrest ahead of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy’s tour. Similar preventive detentions were reported in Kumram Bheem Asifabad in June and Suryapet in August ahead of the Chief Minister’s visits. Police described the measures as preventive.

In August, BRS leaders T. Harish Rao, P. Sabitha Indra Reddy and Talasani Srinivas Yadav were placed under house arrest ahead of their proposed visit to the TIMS Hospital at Sanathnagar. Police said the action was precautionary and intended to prevent any untoward incident.

The pattern became particularly visible during the September 7-8 Assembly session. BRS legislators, including K.T. Rama Rao and Harish Rao, were arrested after a confrontation with police at the Assembly gate. Police subsequently registered multiple cases and took preventive measures against BRS leaders amid protests and tensions surrounding the session.

On September 8, police also prevented KTR, Harish Rao and other BRS leaders from proceeding towards K. Chandrashekhara Rao’s Erravelli residence. Police detained the leaders, while the BRS alleged that Congress workers were being allowed to proceed towards the same area.

Police have generally cited law-and-order concerns and the need to prevent untoward incidents while carrying out preventive measures. The BRS, however, has alleged that the actions amount to an attempt to restrict Opposition activity and dissent. Recent court interventions — including rejection of remand pleas and directions to follow statutory procedures before arrest — have added a legal dimension to the continuing political dispute.

Market Committee Chairman Offers Prayers at Palaji Ganapati Temple



Nirmal District : Bhainsa, Nirmal District: Bhainsa Agricultural Market Committee Chairman Sinda Anand Rao Patel visited the renowned Palaji Ganapati Temple in Maharashtra and offered special prayers to Lord Ganesha. On the occasion, he performed special rituals at the temple and prayed for the happiness, prosperity, health and well-being of the people. During the Vinayaka Chavithi celebrations, a large number of devotees are visiting the Palaji Ganapati Temple to seek the blessings of Lord Ganesha. The temple authorities have made special arrangements to ensure that devotees visiting the temple do not face any inconvenience. During his visit, Sinda Anand Rao Patel also inspected the temple premises and sought the blessings of Lord Ganesha.

STUPALDA ASHOK JUNIOR ASSISTANT (ESTABLISHMENT SECTION) AND SHI BALAKUNTLA KIRAN KUMAR, OUTSOURCING EMPLOYEE (AUDIT SECTION) OF NIZAMABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ARE IN ACB NET



AMEER HUSSAIN,, CRIME BEURO CHIEF : at about 11.18hours, Accused Officers (AO-1) Sri Palda Ashok, Junior Assistant (Establishment Section) and (AD-2) Sri Kalakuntla Kiran Kumar, Outsourcing employee (Audit Section O/o the Commissioner, Nizamabad Municipal Corporation were caught red handed by Officials, Nizamabad Range at the Padmashall Sangam, Seetharnnagar Colony, near Raja Rajendhra Chowrasta, Mzamabad Town when they demended and accepted tribe 113.000/- from the complainant and to make necessary entries monthly pension" prepare the increment proceedings the complainant mother's service Thus, AC-2 accepted the undue advantage of Rs. 15,000/- and thereby performed ther public duties dahonestly Improperly. The identity of the Complainant been withheld for security reasons. Therefore, Hon'ble II Addl. Special Judge Hyderabad AO-2 case is under investigation being amested and produced before the of SPE & ACB Cases Court, Nampally, CALL PHONE NUMBER 1064 (TOLL FREE NUMBER) In case of demand of bibe by by any Public Servant, the public are requested to contact Toll FACB1004 for taning action as per Law. ACB Telangana can also be (9440640100), facebook (Telangana ACB) Xollagens ACB). The QR Code of ACB is displayed in alt prometic places to contact ACB, Telangana. The name and victim

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Is the Real Leader 'Kalpitha Nayakudu' Book Is Nothing but a Work of Fiction: Palle Shanthi Raj

Peddapalli Correspondant September 21: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the true leader who championed social justice and equality, said Palle Shanthi Raj, Peddapalli Convenor of the Telangana Ambedkar Youth Association. A golden jubilee programme marking 50 years since the formation of the Telangana Ambedkar Youth Association was organised under the leadership of Palle Shanthi Raj at the Ambedkar statue near the bus stand in Peddapalli district headquarters. Speaking on the occasion, Shanthi Raj said the organisation was committed to taking Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ideals, constitutional values, social equality, importance of education and awareness among youth to the people. He alleged that the book titled 'Kalpitha Nayakudu', written about Ambedkar, was largely fictional and did not reflect historical facts. He said freedom of expression should be used to publish and disseminate facts, not falsehoods. He recalled the various programmes undertaken by the Ambedkar Youth Association over the past five decades for social justice, the rights of marginalised communities, education, employ-



ment and social awareness. Later, the participants paid floral tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and cut a cake as part of the golden jubilee celebrations. CPI District General Secretary Tandra Sadanandam, AISF leader Lenin, CPI Town Secretary Naveen, KVPS District General Secretary, Telangana SC/ST Youth Association General Secretary Nyathari Aditya, Arepelli Naresh, Palle Kranthi, Manohar, Rakesh and others participated in the programme.

Salaries from Next Month Based on FRS Attendance

Nagarkurnool : District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil has directed all government departments in the district to ensure that every officer and employee is registered under the Facial Recognition System (FRS) by the end of this month. He said employees working at the mandal, division, cluster and village levels should also be brought under the FRS. The Collector held a review meeting on FRS-based attendance at the Prajavani meeting hall of the Nagarkurnool Collectorate on Monday, along with Additional Collectors B. Chennayya and Deva Sahayam. He directed department officials to verify the total number of employees working in their respective departments against those registered in the FRS and complete pending registrations immediately. Hemanta Keshav Patil said the FRS system should be implemented effectively to accurately verify employee attendance and the actual staff strength in all departments. He noted that some employees were yet to be registered and instructed the concerned officials to take special measures to complete the process. Departments such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Horticulture are already using their respective software systems, while employees of other departments should use the available e-SPS FRS system for attendance. The Collector directed officials to coordinate with the EDM in case of technical issues during registration and resolve them promptly. He made it clear that department heads would be responsible for ensuring proper registration and daily attendance monitoring. From next month, the FRS-based attendance system will be implemented more strictly, the Collector said. He directed officials to complete the required process for all unregistered employees without delay. Sal-



any payments will be processed based on attendance recorded through the FRS system, and concerned department officials will be held responsible for negligence. He also instructed officials to streamline FRS-based attendance across the Collectorate and all government offices in the district and ensure daily monitoring of staff attendance.

SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE cum Secretary DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Smt A SRIDEVI ATTENDED Legal Awareness Program at the Government Residential School for the Hearing Impaired

AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF : A legal awareness program was organized at the Government Residential School for the Hearing Impaired in Malakpet, Hyderabad, under the auspices of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Sessions Division, Nampally, Hyderabad. Smt. A. Sridevi, Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority (Sessions Division, Nampally, Hyderabad), attended the event as the chief guest and addressed the students. On this occasion, Smt. A. Sridevi educated the students about various topics, including the fundamental rights and duties enshrined in the Indian Constitution, the right to equality, the right to education, children's rights, legal protections for women and persons with dis-



abilities, and the availability of free legal aid. She explained that students with special needs should be aware of their rights, bring any legal issues they face to the attention of the concerned authorities, and avail themselves of free legal aid through the District Legal Services Authority whenever necessary. She further stated that the District Legal Services Authority works to ensure legal services are accessible to everyone, specifically providing free legal advice and assistance to eligible individuals. She answered questions raised by the students and clarified their doubts. She advised the students to enhance their understanding of the law and to respect the rights of others while protecting their own. The school principal, teachers, staff, and students participated in this program. The event aimed to foster legal awareness among the students and raise consciousness regarding their rights and responsibilities.

Asian Games 2026: Srihari Natraj clocks 25.52s to finish 10th

Indian swimmer Srihari Natraj finished 10th in the men's 50m backstroke final at the Asian Games, clocking 25.52 seconds. China's Xu Jiayu won gold in a Games-record 24.04 seconds, while Natraj's teammates also missed out on finals

Tokyo: India's Olympic swimmer Srihari Natraj finished 10th in the men's 50m backstroke final at the Tokyo Aquatics Centre here on Monday.

Natraj was up against a strong field of Chinese and other Asian swimmers and clocked 25.52 seconds to finish 10th in the final, as China's Xu Jiayu won the gold with a Games record of 24.04 seconds.

Natraj started well and stayed with the lead pack but fell behind in the second half of the 50m and finished nearly 1.5 seconds behind gold medallist Jiayu.

It was a double podium finish for China, as Wang Zicheng finished second in 24.49 seconds to take silver, while South Korea's Jihwan Yoon bagged the bronze in 24.54 seconds.

Natraj had earlier finished joint ninth overall in the heats with a time of 25.37 seconds, qualifying for the final. Another Indian, Rishabh Das, clocked 25.41 seconds to finish 10th and failed to make the cut for the final after being the first reserve for the medal clash.

Elsewhere, India's Akash Mani and Heer Gitesh Shah failed to advance to the men's 50m freestyle final, finishing



26th and 28th overall, respectively. Akash clocked 23.43 seconds, while Heer Gitesh Shah finished in 23.57 seconds in the heats.

In the men's 100m breaststroke heats, India's Danush Suresh finished 22nd overall with a time of 1:03.46 and failed to qualify for the final.

In the men's 4x200m freestyle relay, the Indian team of Dhakshan Shashikumar, Sajan Prakash, Aneesh Sunil and Vedaant Mahadevan failed to make the final and have been placed as first reserves.

India is represented in 14 individual events, as well as the men's 4x100m freestyle, 4x200m freestyle and 4x100m medley relays, at the Asian Games.

Srihari and Sajan are among the most experienced Indian swimmers in the squad. Srihari represented India at the Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024 Olympics, while Sajan swam at the Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

India have not fielded any women swimmers at the Asian Games 2026, as was the case at the Commonwealth Games.

India are looking to end a 12-year wait for an Asian Games swimming medal in Japan. Sandeep Sejwal was the last Indian swimmer to make the continental podium, winning bronze in the 50m breaststroke at Incheon 2014.

Indian swimmers returned from Hangzhou 2023 without a medal despite setting six national records.

Four Indian juniors earn spot at 2026 Junior Pickleball World Championships

Four Indian junior pickleball players — Aadya Vinod, YS Keerthi, Anjali Bhupendra Pol and Stuti — have earned opportunities to compete at the 2026 Junior Pickleball World Championships in Dallas after strong performances at the Asia Pickleball Junior Open 2026.

Hyderabad: Indian pickleball has received a significant boost on the international stage, with four promising junior players Aadya Vinod, YS Keerthi, Anjali Bhupendra Pol and Stuti learning an opportunity to compete at the 2026 Junior Pickleball World Championships in Dallas, Texas.

The young Indian players earned the opportunity following impressive performances at the Asia Pickleball Junior Open 2026. Aadya Vinod and YS Keerthi secured bronze in the Girls Doubles 12U category, while Anjali Bhupendra Pol and Stuti emerged champions in the Girls Doubles 18U category. Anjali also secured silver in the Girls Singles U18 category. The invitation from the Asia Federation of Pickleball (AFP) gives the four young athletes an opportunity to compete at the Junior Pickleball World Championships, scheduled to take place from November 5-8, 2026, at Brookhaven Country Club in Dallas, Texas. The championships



will feature junior divisions across the 12U, 14U, 16U and 18U age categories.

Arvind Ramesh Prabhoo, President, All India Pickleball Association (AIPA), "This is a proud moment for Indian pickleball and, more importantly, for our young athletes who are showing that India has the talent and potential to compete at the highest levels of the sport. Aadya, Keerthi, Anjali and Stuti have earned this opportunity through their performances, dedication and hard work. Competing at the Junior Pickleball World Championships will give them invaluable international exposure and experience, and I am confident that they will represent India with pride. We hope their journey inspires many more young players across the country to take up pickleball and dream bigger."

Commenting on the players' performance at the Asian Junior Championship, AIPA President Arvind Prabhoo had earlier said "This is a very encouraging performance from our young Indian players at the Asian Junior Championship. Winning a gold, silver and bronze across different age categories reflects the growing depth and potential of junior pickleball in India. International exposure at this stage is extremely important for the development of these athletes, and performances like these give us great confidence in the future of Indian pickleball."

The achievement underlines the growing depth of India's junior pickleball programme and the importance of providing young players with opportunities to compete internationally. AIPA's development programme focuses on identifying and nurturing emerging talent and providing players with structured support as they progress towards higher levels of competition.

For Aadya, Keerthi, Anjali and Stuti, the upcoming World Championships represent another important step in their sporting journeys and an opportunity to carry Indian pickleball onto the global junior stage.

SPORTS



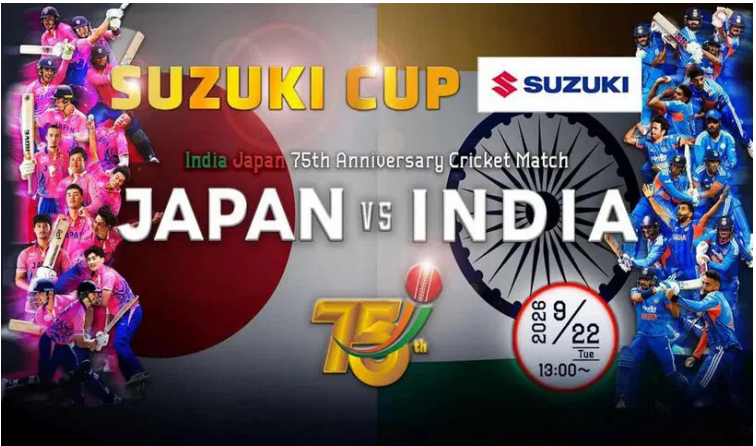
India-Japan T20I: Historic Suzuki Cup to kick off 75th anniversary celebrations

India and Japan will meet in their first men's T20I on September 22 at Sano in Tochigi, with the Suzuki Cup launching celebrations for 75 years of diplomatic relations. The fixture is also part of Sport 75, promoting sporting ties.

Hyderabad: The Suzuki Cup marks the launch of celebrations for the 75th anniversary of India-Japan Diplomatic Relations, with the world champions set to light up Tokyo in a milestone one-off T20I.

Tokyo is set to be a witness to history as India and Japan prepare to face each other in a historic first-ever men's T20 International in the Suzuki Cup, bringing together two nations for a landmark cricketing occasion. The contest at the Sano International Cricket Ground in Tochigi Prefecture on Tuesday, September 22, will also mark the launch of celebrations for the 75th anniversary of India-Japan Diplomatic Relations. With the action getting underway early in India at 9:30 AM, fans can catch the historic encounter live on Star Sports Network.

The occasion will see the World T20 champions, fresh off recent series wins, take centre stage in Japan as they build up to a blockbuster home season. The contest will be a massive opportunity for Japan and its players as they share the field with one of the top T20 sides in the world, while the Men in



Blue gets a chance to showcase its talent in a different part of the world as it looks to continue its splendid form. Tokyo will see some of India's top stars, including Captain Shreyas Iyer, Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson, Jasprit Bumrah and Ishan Kishan, among others, with the Japanese players set to face a full-strength Indian side.

Beyond the contest itself, the Suzuki Cup will shine a spotlight on the growing footprint of cricket in Japan and the role of sport in strengthening ties between the two countries. The match will serve as the first step of "Sport 75", an initiative aimed at promoting human exchanges and cooperation between India and Japan, making the occasion part of a wider celebration of the relationship between the two nations.

With a first-ever India-Japan T20I, the reigning world champions in action and the 75th anniversary celebrations adding to the occasion, the Suzuki Cup promises to be a watershed moment in the cricketing relationship between India and Japan and the sport in general.

Suchika Tariyal wins India's maiden Asian Games MMA medal

Nagoya: Suchika Tariyal settled for a bronze medal in the women's traditional 60kg mixed martial arts event at the Asian Games here on Monday after Singapore's Hui Hoon Teo was awarded the semifinal on the basis of her lower weight following a draw in a fiercely contested bout.

This was India's maiden medal in the discipline, which made its debut at the 20th edition of the Games here. Tariyal, however, was shattered by the result and wept bitterly on the mat after the final decision was announced in Teo's favour.

The bronze took India's overall medal tally to six at the continental showpiece. Shooters have bagged four silver medals and one bronze so far.

Hailing from Kilo village in Haryana's Rohtak district, the 36-year-old Suchika is a 2024 world champion in jiu-jitsu. She represented the country at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in judo and at the 2022 Asian Games as a kurash fighter.

"I am a little disappointed with the result of today's bout because I thought I won the fight. I am not able to agree with the result. I was saying that this is not fair," Suchika told PTI in an exclusive interaction after her bout.

"This is not fair. Because if you look at a player, he or she gives 100 per cent everywhere. And if you feel that the decision is unfair, then it is my right (to express myself).

"I won both my rounds very well because I took her down. She did not even take me down. Yes, there could have been two-three connecting punches. I also landed a connecting punch. And in the last minute, she was going back and forth. Then I was applying my kick. I was hitting her again and again."

She, however, was proud of becoming the first Indian athlete to win an Asian Games medal in mixed martial arts.

"I have given my 100 per cent and worked hard to reach here. I am happy I have won a bronze medal for the country."

The closely fought bout was initially ruled in Teo's favour, but after an Indian challenge, the result was declared a draw following a split decision by the six judges.

The winner was then determined on the basis of the fighters' weights recorded during the morning weigh-in, in accordance with the international federation's rules.

Since the Singaporean weighed 700 grams less than Suchika, she was declared the winner and advanced to the final, while Suchika settled for bronze.

"We challenged the decision by paying an arbitration fee of USD 1,000. Three new judges were added to the earlier three to conduct the arbitration and score



the bout again. When those three new judges came, the bout was scored a draw," MMA Sports Federation president Nikhil Kunder told PTI.

"The Singapore team had an option to either counter-arbitrate, where three more judges would come in and score the bout again, or go for the weight that was taken in the morning weigh-ins. That's the rule of IMMAF (International Mixed Martial Arts Federation)."

Kunder said Suchika weighed around 59.2 kg in the morning, while her opponent was found to be 58.5 kg.

"She is devastated, this is something that she didn't prepare for. We did a good camp. She was in a good state of mind. The fight was very close. She landed a lot of punches. Personally, the second round belonged to Suchika," he said.

The bout was so close that both rounds of two minutes each were split 1-1 by the three judges. One of the three judges in both rounds gave 10-10 to both fighters.

After the regulation two rounds, the three judges could not reach a verdict. One judge gave 19 points to each fighter, another gave 19-20 and the third ruled 20-19 in Suchika's favour.

The bout went to a one-minute overtime, in which Teo emerged the winner, with two judges giving her 10 points.

Both Suchika and Teo raised their hands. When the scorecard was flashed on the electronic board, a stunned Suchika shook her head in disbelief. The referee called her to raise the winner's hand, but Suchika remained at a distance.

After the referee raised Teo's hand, Suchika dropped to her knees and was seen being consoled by her coaches. She, however, wrapped herself in the tricolour and took a small lap of honour.

Despite the disappointment, the bronze was India's first-ever medal in mixed martial arts at the Asian Games.

The 36-year-old from Haryana took up combat sports after facing street harassment as a 12-year-old and went on to become a multi-discipline combat sports athlete.

Congress Opens New Office In Dharmasagar

Station Ghanpur MLA Kadiyam Srihari, Warangal MP Kadiyam Kavya and Hanamkonda DCC president Engala Venkatram Reddy inaugurated a new Congress party office at the Dharmasagar mandal headquarters on Monday.

They called upon party workers to strengthen the organisation at the grassroots and ensure that government welfare schemes reach every household.

Srihari urged party workers to work unitedly and remain accessible to people to resolve their problems. Kavya said the newly formed committees should play a key role in taking the government's welfare and development



programmes to the people.

Venkatram Reddy called upon grassroots leaders to ensure that eligible beneficiaries received the benefits of the six guarantees and other welfare schemes. He urged party workers to work together under Srihari's guidance without factional politics.

After the inauguration, a rally was organised with the newly formed mandal and village committees, followed by an introduction programme at a function hall. Newly appointed committee presidents, office-bearers, leaders and workers attended the programme.

Revenue Dept Begins Survey of 388-Acre Assigned Land Near KCR Farmhouse

Hyderabad: Revenue officials on Monday began the four-phase "enjoyment survey" of 388 acres of land in Survey No. 325 at Erravelli in Siddipet district, close to the farmhouse of BRS president and former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, as part of the state government's exercise to ascertain the actual status of assigned land in the area.

Officials began the first phase by surveying lands belonging to 80 farmers. They have decided to issue notices to all 215 persons claiming the 388 acres. Notices were served on 50 more persons on Monday, in addition to the 100 farmers who were served notices on September 19. The remaining 65 are expected to receive notices over the next two days.

According to official sources, the survey would take about 10 days. Officials would ascertain the actual extent of assigned land in Survey No. 325, the extent currently in the possession of Scheduled Caste beneficiaries, the land under non-SC possession, and whether there were any encroachments.

The notices asked the farmers to be present at their respective land parcels on Monday and provide details to the officials. The survey is expected to continue till September 30.

Revenue officials on Monday collected details of the 388 acres, including survey numbers and the names of those who had held the land earlier. They also examined the present revenue records and compiled the details for submission in reports.

The exercise followed Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's direction to complete a fact-finding exercise into the alleged encroachment of assigned lands in Erravelli within 30 days. Speaking in the Assembly on September 17, the Chief Minister had said the government would bring all facts relating to the alleged encroachment of assigned land belonging to the Dalit community into the public domain.

Revanth Reddy had directed the revenue department and the Siddipet district collector to issue formal notices, verify land records and submit a comprehensive fact-finding report within the deadline. He said that if any government or assigned land was found to be in unlawful possession, the government would repossess it and redistribute it to landless Dalit community families.

Meanwhile, the survey has triggered a fresh dispute, with



residents of Venkatapur, which shares boundaries with Erravelli, claiming rights over a portion of the 388 acres. They said Erravelli residents had rights over only about 250 acres and claimed that they had rights over the remaining 138 acres.

The residents demanded that the survey be conducted by taking into account Kasra and Sethwar records. They alleged that officials and staff had made errors during the Dharani records updation process in 2018, resulting in changes to the land records. They urged the authorities to ensure that their claims were properly examined and that they were not deprived of their rights during the ongoing survey.

Revanth Reddy Orders Rs.5 Lakh Aid for Missing Telangana Activist's Family

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to provide Rs.5 lakh financial assistance to the family of Mandala Raju, who went missing during the Telangana statehood movement in 2013.

Raju, 34, the son of Mandala Sammi Reddy of Gorla Veedu village in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, went missing on June 20, 2013. According to Bhupalpally MLA Gandra Satyanarayana Rao, Raju had actively participated in the Telangana movement and was arrested and lodged in Cherlapally central jail. He subsequently went missing.

In a representation to the Chief Minister, the MLA said Raju was the only



son of his elderly parents, who are now facing severe financial difficulties without a source of livelihood.

Responding to the MLA's request, the Chief Minister directed officials to sanction Rs.5 lakh to Mandala Sammi Reddy on humanitarian grounds under the Telangana martyrs' quota.

Jupally Krishna Rao defends Jurala water management amid farmers' protests

Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao defended the Telangana government's Jurala water management, citing water scarcity and drinking water needs. He said farmers were advised to cultivate dry crops, blamed the previous BRS government and sought Centre's support to tackle drought.

Hyderabad: Admitting water scarcity in the Jurala Project ayacut, Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao said the Congress government had been appealing to farmers to take up drought-resistant dry crops to cope with deficient rainfall. Amid farmers' protests to release water from the Jurala Project, the Minister said the situation had arisen due to the impact of El Nino. Since the beginning of the season, the government had repeatedly advised farmers to cultivate semi-dry crops, he said.

At a press conference here on Monday, Krishna Rao defended the State government's decision on Jurala water release. He said the available water had to be used judiciously to meet drinking water needs. About 3 TMCft of silt had accumulated in Jurala, while



another 2 TMCft was being stored to meet drinking water requirements. "Releasing the available water without fresh flood inflows will create a drinking water crisis," he maintained, adding that the current inflow into Jurala was less than 300 cusecs.

However, the Minister said the monsoon season was still ongoing and expressed hope that more water would flow into Telangana from the Almatti and Narayanpur projects in upstream Karnataka. "We are already making efforts to speak with the Chief Minister of Karnataka

regarding the release of water," Krishna Rao said.

On the Almatti issue, the Minister said the Congress government had approached the Supreme Court and that the stay order remained in effect. The legal battle was still continuing, he said. Stating that the Karnataka government was spending Rs 70,000 crore solely on land acquisition for the Almatti project, he assured that the Telangana government would not compromise on water allocations under any circumstances.

He claimed that water was released to

the Nagarjunasagar Project solely for power generation. "Why would we ever want to harm the farmers?" he asked.

The Minister also blamed the previous BRS government for failing to construct additional reservoirs in Palamuru. He questioned why an additional reservoir was not constructed near Jurala to serve the 5.50 lakh acres under its ayacut. Countering the BRS charges, Krishna Rao said the Kalwakurthy lift irrigation motors were being operated regularly. They had stopped only for a few hours on a single day, he maintained.

Acknowledging that the State was facing difficulties due to El Nino, the Minister said the Telangana government had requested the Centre to provide an additional Rs 20,000 crore to tackle the drought.

Congress 'Fact-Finding' Team Visits Jagadish Reddy's Farmhouse

A Congress delegation, on a 'fact-finding' mission regarding the properties of the BRS top brass, on Monday visited the farmhouse of former minister G. Jagadish Reddy in Shamshabad on Monday and claimed that the BRS leader's assets had risen from `12 lakh in 2002 to include 50 acres of land.

Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, heading the team, pointed to discrepancies in the assets claimed by Jagadish Reddy. "Jagadish Reddy is a very close associate of the 'Neo Nawab' KCR and holds land in Shamshabad, which has nothing to do with his constituency. How was he able to own this," the MP asked.

Kiran Kumar Reddy pointed out that when Jagadish Reddy contested in 2009, he declared assets worth `12 lakh in his affidavit. He was able to generate enormous wealth within two decades, particularly after the BRS came to power, the Congress MP said. "While the family of four-time Suryapet Uppala Malsur continues to struggle to this day, and had to apply for the Indiramma housing scheme, Suryapet MLA Jagadish Reddy built a farmhouse spanning 50 acres in Shamshabad, across Survey No.s 162 and 223," he pointed out and added, "I still won-



der what did the people who actually led the Telangana movement achieve."

Kiran Kumar Reddy demanded that the government conduct a survey of the land where Jagadish Reddy's farmhouse was located, on the same lines of the survey carried out at the house of former chief minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's farmhouse at Erravelli, take over illegally held assets and distribute it to the poor.

BJP Stages Dharna For SRSP Water Release

KARIMNAGAR: BJP activists staged a dharna at Chinthakunta canal on Monday, demanding that the state government release water into the canal from the Sri Ram Sagar Project (SRSP).

A scuffle took place between police and the protesting activists when police forcibly shifted them to the police station.

As police tried to move the activists in a vehicle to the police station, one of them climbed onto the bonnet. A police officer allegedly attacked him with a lathi following the incident.

Earlier, BJP district president Saini Mallesham criticised the Congress government for allegedly neglecting Hindu festivals. He warned that the agitation would continue until water was released from the SRSP.

Mallesham, deputy mayor Y. Sunil Rao, Karimnagar Parliament convenor B. Praveen Rao and others were taken into custody and shifted to the police station. They were later released.



Immigration Advisors Warn Of Impact Of Trump’s New Order

Immigration advisors and lawyers said renewal of the \$100,000 fee under the new executive order of US President Donald Trump will hit employers hardest, and warned that repeated rule changes on H-1B and specialised immigrant workers could push applicants to look outside the US.



Attorney Bhumireddy Sai Srinivas Reddy told Deccan Chronicle the order directs the Departments of State, Labour and Homeland Security to examine whether a sponsoring employer has laid off similarly situated US workers within the prior year or plans layoffs that could affect them. “This applies at every stage: the labour condition application, the USCIS petition, the consular visa, and admission at the port of entry,” he said.

He explained that if laid-off positions resemble the sponsored roles in duties, qualifications and location, agencies may treat the layoffs as weighing against the filing. “Similarly situated” is likely to be interpreted through the regulatory concept of “essentially equivalent” jobs, though layoffs in unrelated departments or locations may carry less weight.

Consultant M. Dinesh said the order could gravely hurt H-1B employers. “If the employer had fired an American worker within one year for any reason, and is planning on hiring an international worker on an H-1B visa, the new order essentially bars them from doing so,” he said, adding that the Department of Labour may reject many applications. He noted that Canada is actively calling for skilled workers and offering incentives, making it an attractive alternative if US restrictions continue.

“For companies that rely on foreign talent, the practical reality is heightened compliance risk and reduced predictability regardless of how litigation resolves. For workers, immigration outcomes now depend more heavily on employer decisions they do not control,” Srinivas Reddy said. He added that both employers and workers will be watching three developments: the appellate ruling on the \$100,000 fee, the final version of the DHS fee rule after the September 24 comment deadline, and agency guidance on how the layoff order will be applied.

Banks Urge Customers to Finish Essential Work Before Nationwide Strike

Hyderabad:With bank unions calling a three-day nationwide strike from September 28 to 30, along with 4th Saturday holiday and Sunday preceding the strikes, bank customers have been advised to complete essential transactions early.



The strike will come immediately after the fourth Saturday and Sunday on September 26 and 27, when bank branches will remain closed, resulting in a five-day period during which customers may not have access to branch-based services.

The united forum of bank unions, representing several major bank employee and officer unions, has called the strike over various demands, including the implementation of a five-day banking week. The unions have also raised issues related to the performance linked incentive scheme and other service-related matters.

Several banks have advised customers to complete important branch-related work before the strike. Services such as cash deposits and withdrawals at branches, cheque-related work, account services, KYC updates and other counter-based transactions could be affected depending on employee participation.

P. Sravan, a branch manager of a private bank in Hyderabad said “Customers who have urgent work such as cash transactions, cheque-related services, KYC updates or other branch work should complete them in advance to avoid inconvenience during the strike period.”

Banks have also advised customers to use digital banking channels wherever possible. ATMs, internet banking, mobile banking and UPI services are expected to provide alternatives for several routine transactions, although customers may face disruptions in some services depending on the bank.

State Bank of India has issued a public advisory, and said they are making all possible efforts to provide essential banking services during the strike period. They advised customers to plan their banking requirements ahead of the five-day period and use ATMs and customer service points.

Union Ministers, NRR Slam Arrests of Bhagyanagar Ganesh Utsav Samithi Activists

Hyderabad: Union Minister for coal and mines G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of State Bandi Sanjay and state BJP chief N. Ramchander Rao strongly condemned the arrest of Bhagyanagar Ganesh Utsav Samithi (BGUS) activists who were protesting at Tank Bund, saying the state government should have solved issues instead of detaining those seeking better arrangements for the immersion of Lord Ganesh idols. In separate statements, both ministers described the act as a “wicked” move.

Nearly 1.4 lakh Ganesh idols have been installed across Hyderabad this year, with lakhs of devotees expected to gather for the main immersion on September 25, making it essential for the government to give clarity on arrangements well in advance, Kishan Reddy said. He pointed out that BGUS had taken the issue of immersion at Tank Bund to the notice of the government and officials, but the state failed to hold timely discussions and arrive at a solution acceptable to all.

When there are legal issues, the government should examine them in advance, decide what can be done within the law, discuss with the samithi and provide clarity on alternative arrangements, Kishan Reddy said, adding that imposing restrictions just a few days before the immersion was not a solution. He urged the government to take into account the need for cranes, traffic management and security for large-scale idol immersions, respect the sentiments of Hindu devotees, and avoid confrontation and attempts to suppress the issue through arrests. Kishan Reddy called on the state government to drop its rigid stance, immediately hold talks with BGUS representatives, duly keeping legal aspects and sentiments of devotees in mind, and make practical arrangements for the immersion of big idols so that the September 25 Ganesh immersion is completed peacefully, smoothly and without inconvenience to devotees.

In his statement, Sanjay demanded the unconditional release of BGUS leaders. He said it was atrocious to ban idol immersion at Tank Bund, which has been carried out for decades.

Crack Down On Illegal Sand Transport And Mining: CS Sanjay Jaju To Officials

Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Monday directed officials to take stringent measures to curb illegal sand transportation, unauthorised mining and illegal movement of minerals, and to identify vulnerable areas and conduct regular inspections.

Reviewing the functioning of the mines and geology department at the Secretariat, Jaju instructed officials to conduct surprise inspections and raids with vigilance teams. He directed officials — including mines and geology secretary M. Raghunandan Rao,



Director General (vigilance and enforcement) D.S. Chauhan and mines director Anudeep Durishetty — to respond promptly to complaints of illegal sand transportation and mining and initiate legal action against the violators.

He directed officials to take steps to make the mines and

geology department more efficient and improve service delivery while enhancing government revenue through better utilisation of mineral resources. Jaju reviewed the department’s performance, administrative issues, revenue mobilisation, recruitment and promotions. He asked officials to expedite the filling of vacant posts and the process of employee promotions as per rules, and take measures to ensure that staff shortages did not hamper the department’s functioning.

Telangana Aims To Emerge As Hub for Health Innovation: Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad : Telangana aims to develop the State as a major hub for health innovation by bringing together its strengths in information technology, emerging technologies, pharmaceuticals, life sciences and start-ups with the healthcare sector, Minister for IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu said on Monday.

Speaking at the inauguration of the national conference ‘HOMA CME 2026’ at T-Hub here, organised on the theme ‘Beyond Numbers – Precision Phenotyping in Diabetes and Metabolic Care’, Sridhar Babu said technology could play an important role in improving healthcare delivery and addressing emerging public health challenges.

He said the State



government was working to create an ecosystem that brings healthcare professionals, researchers, technology companies, life sciences institutions and start-ups together to develop and scale solutions for healthcare.

Referring to the growing burden of diabetes and other metabolic disorders, Sridhar Babu said

changing lifestyles were contributing to the increase in such conditions. He stressed the importance of early identification and said data and technology could complement conventional medical approaches in the management of chronic diseases.

The Minister said the government would encourage new ideas

and innovations aimed at addressing emerging healthcare challenges. He called upon doctors, researchers, institutions and technology companies to work with the government to strengthen public healthcare and develop solutions that could be taken to a wider population.

Sridhar Babu released The New Paradigm, authored by

physician Dr. Muddu Surendra Nehru. He also launched ‘Metric Explorer’, a free metabolic calculator application designed to help users assess metabolic health parameters.

As part of a Proof of Concept (PoC) initiative, a free protocol will be offered to 50 selected patients from government hospitals. The initiative will examine the application of a precision-based approach to metabolic care.

Sridhar Babu said greater collaboration among medical professionals, researchers and technology companies could help translate new ideas into practical healthcare solutions and strengthen Telangana’s capacity for health innovation.

Expedite Super Speciality Hospital Works: Principal Secretary

WARANGAL: Medical, health and family welfare department principal secretary Christina Z. Chongthu directed officials to expedite construction of the under-construction super speciality hospital in Warangal and complete the works within the stipulated deadline.

Chongthu inspected the construction works on Monday along with director of medical education Dr N. Vani. Warangal collector Dr Satya Sarada and Hanamkonda collector Chahat Bajpai welcomed her by presenting saplings.

She later reviewed various issues related to the medical and health department with officials and sought details of completed and ongoing works, pending construction, infrastructure and other facilities at the hospital.



Chongthu also reviewed the medical services and facilities that would be available to the public once the hospital becomes operational. She directed officials to maintain quality

standards in construction and ensure coordination among various departments to complete the works at the earliest. She said necessary measures should be taken to provide better and quality healthcare services to the public.

Officials from the departments concerned participated in the inspection.

Punjab National Bank inaugurates new branch in Nagarkurnool

Punjab National Bank inaugurated its new Nagarkurnool branch under Hyderabad Circle Office on Monday. Collector Hemant Keshav Patil and Zonal Head Vandana Pandey inaugurated the facility. With the new branch, PNB’s Hyderabad Circle network has reached 79 branches.

Hyderabad: The Punjab National Bank (PNB) inaugurated its Nagarkurnool branch, which will be under the jurisdiction of Hyderabad Circle Office, on Monday, September 21.

Hemant Keshav Patil, Collector and District Magistrate, Nagarkurnool, and Vandana Pandey, Zonal Head (General Manager), Hyderabad, inaugurated the new facility in the presence of senior bank officials and local residents.

With the inauguration of the Nagarkurnool branch, the total number of branches of PNB under Circle Office, Hyderabad, has reached 79, a press release on Monday said.

Hemant Keshav Patil, Collector,



Nagarkurnool, congratulated Punjab National Bank on the inauguration of the new branch and expressed his expectation that the Bank would continue to contribute to the economic and social development of the region through its banking services.

During the programme, local customers and the landlords also shared their views and experiences. Arvind Kalra, Circle Head, Hyderabad, apprised the customers of the Bank’s various digital and modern banking facilities and reaffirmed the Bank’s commitment to providing efficient and customer-centric services.

Comprehensive Plan To Transform Kuppam Into A Model Constituency And Swarna Kuppam: CM

TIRUPATI: Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu on Monday launched or inaugurated several development works in Kuppam and laid foundation stones for new projects during a visit to his constituency.

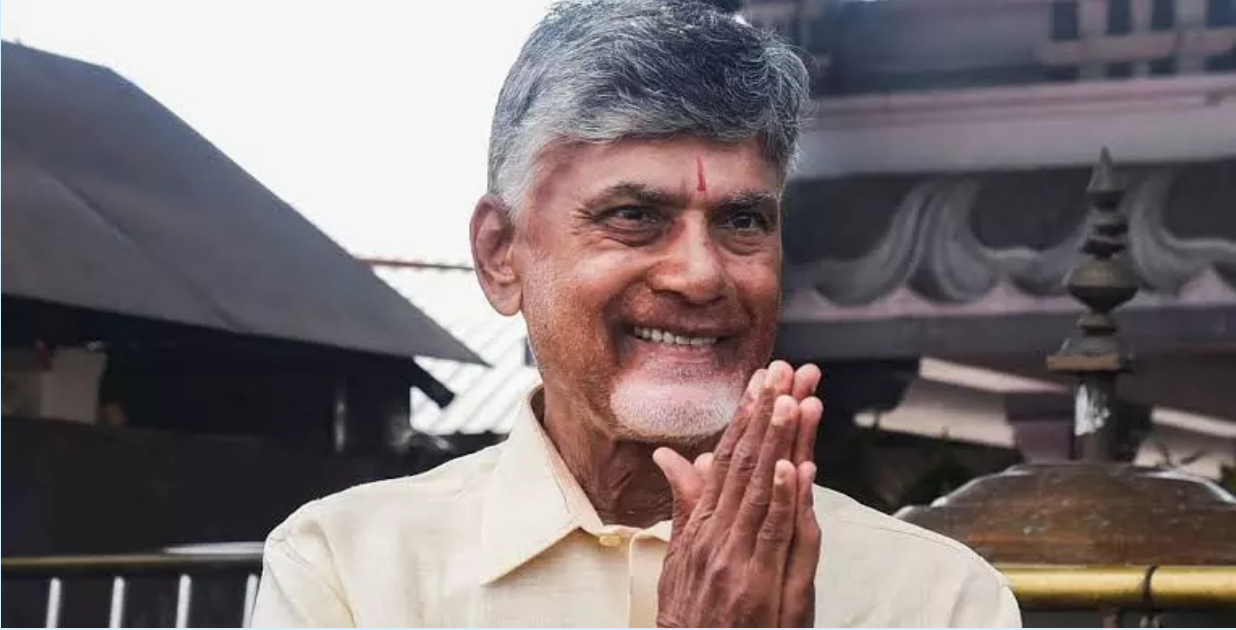
He launched the conversion of 36,459 agricultural motors to solar power at a cost of `60 crore and PM KUSUM solar projects with a combined capacity of 14 to 15mw for agricultural feeders.

Development works in 35 schools, taken up at a cost of `15 crore to improve basic facilities for students, were inaugurated. The completed

buildings of a degree college and a women's hospital were inaugurated. A skill development centre of Manasa Sarovar Global University was also opened at the NAC building.

He laid the foundation stones for a junior college at Mallanur, to be built on about 10 acres, a Rythu Bazaar costing `2 crore and development works worth `2.50 crore at the Kuppam market yard.

In the municipal area, foundation stones were laid for works worth `38 crore, including RDO and DSP offices costing `13 crore and high



most streetlights costing `8 crore.

The chief minister also inaugurated an integrated solid waste management and material recovery plant built at a cost of `3.30 crore. He announced that underground utility works estimated at `184 crore have been planned in Kuppam.

During interactions with agriculture, horticulture, sericulture and animal husbandry officials and beneficiaries, Naidu reviewed measures to tackle water shortage and improve farm incomes. He stressed water conservation, groundwater recharge, filling irrigation tanks and adoption of natural farming, PMDS and micro irrigation.

He also discussed ways to increase farm household incomes through dairy, poultry, horticulture, floriculture and sericulture.

Naidu interacted with women beneficiaries and officials involved in bank linkage, Unnathi and Stree Nidhi programmes. He called for better training, marketing support and hand holding for women's self help groups.

In a separate interaction with investors and stakeholders, he discussed industrial, tourism and employment opportunities in Kuppam. Five companies exchanged MoUs involving proposed investments of `662 crore.

At a public meeting, the Chief Minister said projects worth `7,939 crore had been taken up during his visit to Kuppam two months ago and the development works would continue in the constituency.

At night, he flagged off the Dadar Puducherry Express and Vasco Da Gama Velankanni Express trains after Kuppam was given additional stoppages on both services. He also inspected the railway station and reviewed arrangements with railway officials.

Samsung India Makes Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra and Galaxy Z Fold8 More Accessible with Lower Monthly EMIs Through Galaxy Forever

- **Monthly EMIs reduced by 25% for the Galaxy Z Fold8 and Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra with the new 'bullet-payment' option**
- **Galaxy Forever includes an assured buyback and Samsung Care+ protection**

GURUGRAM, India, September 2026: Samsung India has introduced a new, flexible payment plan for its latest flagship foldable smartphones – the Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra and Galaxy Z Fold8 – under its Galaxy Forever programme. This innovative plan makes owning a Galaxy foldable more accessible and affordable than ever before.

Under the two-year programme, customers can own the Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra and Galaxy Z Fold8 by paying only 60% of the device price along with the Galaxy Forever programme fee, spread over 24 EMIs. This reduces the EMI by 25% over 24 months, making payments more manageable. Through this programme, the EMI for the Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra decreases from INR 9417 to INR 6997*, while the Galaxy Z Fold8 EMI drops from INR 8584 to INR 6416*.

The remaining 40% of the device price is deferred as a bullet payment once the 24-month tenure is complete. At the end of the 24-month period, customers have the flexibility to:

- Upgrade: Avail the latest Galaxy device and return the old device
- Retain: Pay the 40% bullet payment amount and keep the device
- Return: Simply return the device and exit the programme

Customers also have the option to return or upgrade earlier than 24 months, as per the following buyback values applicable with No Questions asked** returns:



- 10–11 months: Assured buyback of up to 55%
 - 12–13 months: Assured buyback of up to 50%
 - 14–18 months: Assured buyback of up to 45%
 - 19–25 months: Assured buyback of up to 40%
- The Galaxy Forever programme also includes Samsung Care+, which offers protection against accidental and liquid damage with no claim processing fees. This means customers do not need to purchase Samsung Care+ separately; it is part of the package.
- By combining lower monthly EMIs, an assured buyback option, and included device protection,

Galaxy Forever provides customers with unmatched flexibility and peace of mind. Whether you choose to keep your current Galaxy foldable or upgrade to a newer model, this programme ensures you are always future-ready.

Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra: The Most Advanced Foldable for Productivity

The Galaxy Z Fold8 Ultra brings Samsung's highest level of performance to the foldable category, combining a large 8-inch main display, advanced camera system and hardware built for demanding workflows. It is just 4.1mm thin and weighs 215g, making it Samsung's slimmest Fold design yet. The 200MP main camera with HDR, and a new 50MP ultra-wide lens with improved Nightography deliver greater detail in any light, while 8K video recording with the new APV codec and Cine LUT tools give creators more control. Powered by the Snapdragon 8 Elite Gen 5 for Galaxy platform and a 5000mAh battery with 45W fast charging, it supports a full day of work and content creation.

Galaxy Z Fold8: New Foldable Experience Focused on Immersive Viewing

The Galaxy Z Fold8 is designed for smooth transitions from quick cover-screen interactions to immersive viewing, reading and gaming when unfolded. Weighing just 201g with a 4800mAh battery, it is Samsung's lightest Galaxy Z Fold yet. The new Flex Titanium display structure reduces crease visibility and improves durability, while the main display reaches up to 3000 nits of peak brightness. Its dual 50MP camera system, Dual Recording and My FanCam features make capturing and editing content easier across different scenes.

Rakesh Reddy Reviews Nandipet Mini Stadium Plan :

Nizamabad Nandipet September 21, 2026 : Efforts to establish a modern mini stadium at Nandipet gained momentum with a review meeting chaired by Armoor MLA Paidi Rakesh Reddy, who discussed the proposed project with officials and local representatives.

The meeting focused on the proposed site, infrastructure requirements, construction plans and financial provisions for the facility. Nizamabad District Youth and Sports Officer Pavan Kumar, mandal officials, public representatives and local sportspersons were present.

MLA Rakesh Reddy said the proposed mini stadium would provide rural youth with better opportunities to pursue sports and develop their talent. He assured that he would take steps to facilitate government funding for the project and extend necessary support for developing the facility with modern sporting amenities.

District Youth and Sports Officer Pavan Kumar said



the department would prepare and forward the detailed project proposal to the government. He said the response received so far from the government was encouraging.

The meeting reflected the focus on strengthening sports infrastructure and creating better opportunities for emerging athletes in the rural areas of Nizamabad district.

Police Conduct Awareness Programme for Ganesh Mandap Organisers

Celebrate the Ganesh festival in a peaceful atmosphere: ACP G. Gajji Krishna

Peddapalli Correspondent September 21: Peddapalli: An awareness programme was organised by the police for Ganesh mandap organisers in view of the Ganesh Navaratri celebrations. The programme was held at Sai Garden in Rangampalli, Peddapalli, under the supervision of Peddapalli Rural SI Madhukar, with organisers from rural areas participating. ACP G. Gajji Krishna and CI Praveen Kumar attended the programme as chief guests. Speaking on the occasion, the officials urged the organisers to conduct the Ganesh celebrations in a peaceful and orderly atmosphere. They advised the organisers to strictly follow police guidelines and regulations and take necessary precautions to ensure that devotees do not face any inconvenience. The officials briefed the organisers on various aspects, including security arrangements at Ganesh mandaps, traffic management, the use of DJs,



Ganesh processions and immersion arrangements. They also appealed to the organisers to extend full cooperation to the police during the celebrations and immediately bring any problems to the police's attention. SI Swetha, police personnel and Ganesh mandap organisers from various rural areas participated in the programme.

Journalists' Issues Should Be Resolved

Nirmal District : Telangana Journalist Association (TJA) Submits Memorandum to District Collector

The Telangana Journalist Association (TJA) Nirmal District Committee urged the District Collector to examine the problems being faced by journalists in Nirmal district and take appropriate measures for their resolution.

In this regard, the TJA District Committee submitted a memorandum to the District Collector. The committee brought various issues faced by journalists while performing their professional duties to the Collector's attention.

The committee requested that the government provide the facilities and benefits due to journalists and resolve the pending issues related to accreditation cards. It also appealed for house sites for journalists and opportunities under the Indiramma Housing Scheme.

The TJA District Committee further requested the Collector to examine other issues faced by journalists in the course of their duties, coordinate with the concerned departments, and ensure their speedy resolution. It also urged the authorities to issue clear instructions to the concerned officials to address the problems.

TJA Nirmal District President Arugula Poshetty, General Secretary Maraju Gangadhar, members Bhoomesh and Faheem, along with other journalists, participated in the programme.



Farmers Need Action on Ground, Not Just Assembly Speeches: BRS

Nagarkurnool : BRS youth leader Dr Nagam Shashidhar Reddy demanded that the local MLA not limit efforts to raising farmers' irrigation issues in the Assembly but also participate in their agitations at the ground level and work towards resolving their problems.

Speaking to the media at his residence in Nagarkurnool on Monday, Shashidhar Reddy alleged that farmers were struggling due to the government's failure to provide irrigation water to their agricultural fields. He said farmers were being forced to stage protests as their concerns were not being addressed.

He claimed that farmers received 24-hour free power during the previous BRS government and alleged that the present government's failures had resulted in drought-like conditions in the State. He pointed out that the Krishna River flows for around 300 km through the erstwhile Palamuru district, yet farmers in the region continue to face irrigation water shortages.

Shashidhar Reddy alleged that the lack of proper plan-



ning in water utilisation was benefiting the Andhra region, while local leaders were failing to effectively address the issue. He demanded immediate steps to resolve farmers' irrigation problems and urged the Chief Minister to focus on the district and allocate higher funds through the special budget for its development.

BRS leaders Artham Ravi, Bala Goud, Arjunayya, Bheemudu, Satyam and Ahmed were present at the meeting.



CINEMA

Sigma Trailer: Sandeep excels in this all-round entertainer

IN THE TRAILER, WE SEE SANDEEP KISHAN AS A LOSER WHO IS REGARDED AS A COMPLETE FAILURE BY EVERYONE IN HIS LIFE.

Sigma starring Sandeep Kishan, Faria Abdullah in leading roles has generated good buzz with songs, teaser. The fact that TN CM Vijay's son Jason Sanjay, is debuting as a director with the film has enhanced the buzz and expectations further. Now, the makers have unveiled trailer for the movie releasing on 2nd October.



garded as a complete failure by everyone in his life. Even his lady love, played by Faria Abdullah, thinks he is not thinking straight. But the emotion to cheat the person and teach them a lesson keeps him going.

Jason Sanjay blended the emotions and stylish action

heist drama elements in a perfect way for Indian Cinema. He added doses of humor, love, action and excitement to the proceedings and trailer does an apt job in presenting all the elements while holding back interesting story points. Sandeep Kishan is excellent in the role with his look and charm.

He is able to convey emotions with his eyes and maintain the balance with his smarts. Lyca Productions is producing the film with S Thaman scoring music for it and his BGM enhanced the trailer. Renowned production and distribution company Mythri Distributions is releasing the movie in Telugu States.



Kayadu Lohar Expands Her Footprint

Young actress Kayadu Lohar, who couldn't make a strong mark with Telugu films like 'Alluri' and 'Funky', is looking to deliver her maiden hit in Tollywood with 'The Paradise'. Although she has been missing from the film's promotions, her role opposite Nani is said to be significant.

"Kayadu is a typical multilingual actress who is working across all South Indian languages to expand her footprint," says a source, adding, "Kayadu hasn't had the right success in Telugu so far, and even one good hit would give her some space in Telugu films."

Her Tamil film 'Dragon', starring Pradeep Ranganathan, also did well in the Telugu states, and now she has to impress audiences with her role in the upcoming Telugu film. "She hails from Assam but is slowly making her mark in Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu. She is becoming a sought-after actress for her looks and talent," the source points out.

He says Kayadu faces tough competition in Tollywood from the likes of Meenakshi Chaudhary, Sreeleela, Rashmika Mandanna and Mrunal Thakur, along with younger actresses such as Mamitha Baiju, but she has to carve out her own space.

"First, she has to deliver a box-office winner, and then things will fall into place. Kayadu looks to be a promising actress," he concludes.

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 Vassishta 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'

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 spotlight.

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, Some-

times, 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 it. Every message, every prayer, every ounce of kindness reached me when I needed it the most. Thank you, Universe, for leading me back to myself."

Anupama concluded the post saying, "Here's to healing. Here's to freedom. Here's to choosing myself. And here's to a life that is finally, completely, unapologetically my own."

On the work front, Anupama next has director Sampath Nandi's explosive action drama 'Bhogi' 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.

Scene Title Teaser: Suriya excels in different character

Suriya has made a huge mark on Indian Cinema as Singham in cop avatar but the actor has decided to change that image with his upcoming cop film, Scene. Directed by highly talented filmmaker, Jithu Madhavan, who made Aavesham, the movie is set to be a cop drama with Suriya in his most casual and fun avatar yet.

The movie is locked for 6th November release on the occasion of Diwali. Makers have unveiled title teaser with Suriya in a short and T-shirt. His character looks different from what he did all this while and has a lot of promise showcasing his fun side. He opened up a lot to play this super fun cop on screen.

His humming, his stylish walk and his ability to change to serious character while being fun are tremendous. With highly talented actors like Nazriya Nazim and Naslen cast in prominent roles, the movie appears to be a must watch



film with highly interesting elements that break the cliches of cop films.

The movie is presented in such a casual and fun manner, even though there is a deep mystery and investigative thriller feel, Jithu Madhavan and Suriya seem to be delivering another memorable blockbuster. Zhagaram Studios and 2D Entertainment are producing the film on a lavish scale.