

Revanth, Cong Leaders To Join INDIA Bloc Stir Against SIR In Delhi On Oct 12

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, ministers, Congress MPs, MLAs, MLCs and senior party leaders from Telangana will participate in the I.N.D.I.A. bloc protest against the special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral roll in Delhi on October 12, Monday. In view of the protest, the Chief Minister has postponed the Cabinet meeting scheduled for the same day to discuss the El Niño crisis and its impact on Telangana.

Revanth Reddy has invited key Congress leaders in the state to attend



the protest being organised under the aegis of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) in Delhi. He has called upon Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha members, state legislators, MLCs, chairpersons of various corporations, district Congress presi-

dents and senior Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) leaders to reach the national capital and participate in the programme.

The I.N.D.I.A. bloc will organise a major protest in Delhi on Monday to raise its concerns over voting rights and the SIR exercise, AICC general secretary K.C. Venugopal said on Saturday. He also announced that Opposition leaders would meet the Chief Justice of India on the same day. A fresh date for the special Cabinet meeting will be announced soon.

Welfare Schemes Are the Strength Behind Congress Victory in Elections: Deputy CM Bhatti

NALGONDA: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Saturday said the welfare schemes would bring votes to the Congress for victory in the elections, whatever may be the electoral battle came after December 2023.

Speaking at Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda graduates' MLC election preparatory meeting held by the District Congress Committee (DCC) in Khammam, Bhatti said Telangana has approximately 1.15 crore families, of which nearly 1.06 crore families, comprising 3.42 crore people, were receiving six kilograms of fine rice per person every month under public distribution system (PDS). The Telangana government is the only state government in the country that was supplying fine rice to the ration cardholders, he



maintained.

Nearly 1.06 crore families across the state were covered by the Rajiv Aarogyasri scheme, for medical treatment coverage of up to 10 lakh per family. He further stated that the government was implementing a system of directly crediting fee reimbursement funds into the bank accounts of approximately 12.5 lakh students so that financial difficulties would not interrupt their education.

Describing Khammam district as a strong base for the Congress party, Bhatti Vikramarka called upon party workers to demonstrate the same unity in the Graduates' MLC election and ensure that the Congress candidate Ramreddy Sarvotham Reddy won with an overwhelming majority. Stating that victory of the Congress candidate in Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda graduates' MLC was crys-

tal clear, revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy felt the task before the Congress and cadre is to make Sarvotham Reddy to win elections with first priority votes.

The Congress government has filled up 75,000 vacant jobs in the last three years and would soon issue notification for recruitment of 14,000 jobs. He suggested that each mandal would be considered as a unit and the Congress leaders en-

sure at least 15 party sympathisers enrol as graduates' MLC voters, which would make for an easy victory for Sarvotham Reddy.

Agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao reminded that the Congress government has taken up several initiatives for skill development and employment opportunities for the youth. He asked the Congress workers to widely publicise them, while seeking votes for Sarvotham Reddy.

Sarvotham Reddy reminded that four generations of his family continued as loyal to the Congress party. The graduates were looking for a candidate, who would voice their issues and strive to solve them. He promised to do it after winning in the graduates MLC elections.

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Ponnam Slams Centre over Restrictions on Jantar Mantar Protest



Hyderabad: BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Saturday slammed the Centre for scuttling the democratic rights of the people to protest at Janatar Mantar demanding resignation of CEC Gyanesh Kumar.

"Every citizen in India has the right to protest democratically. On behalf of Telangana Congress party, we strongly condemn the actions such as stopping transport facilities in Delhi, metro trains, and internet without any opportunity to stage protest," he said.

The Minister found fault with the Centre for deploying thousands of police, obstructing protesters, and making arrests. "The right to vote is the most crucial weapon of democracy. When people are worried about losing that right to vote, the Central government, which should solve their problems, should act responsibly. Appropriate action should be taken considering the allegations against the protection of voters' rights," he said.

In addition to the demand for the removal of Gyanesh Kumar from his post, the people were demanding that eligible common citizens should not lose their right to vote in the process of revising the voters' list.

The Central government, which should discuss and find a solution to these demands, is disrupting metro trains, and other transport facilities and obstructing protesters, which is against the spirit of democracy.

It should give an answer to the opposition's allegations of vote theft. Transparent measures should be taken to instill confidence in the electoral system in the people. Just as the people fought for the country's independence, democratic movements are continuing today to protect the constitution, protect democratic values, and protect the right to vote, Prabhakar said.

"We demand the Central government immediately stop the restrictive measures being taken against the protesters in Delhi, provide them with an opportunity to protest democratically, and take appropriate steps so that no one loses their right to vote in the revision of the voter list," he added.

Rahul: Delimitation Aims to Punish Tamil Nadu and Reduce Its Voice in Parliament

Chennai: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of launching a "full-scale attack" on Tamil language, culture and history, while also claiming that the delimitation exercise is designed to "punish" Tamil Nadu and reduce its voice in Parliament. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha asserted that "we are not going to let" Prime Minister Modi attack Tamil Nadu's language, history and culture.

"What we are seeing is a full-scale attack on Tamil culture... On your language, history and traditions," Gandhi told a crowd gathered at the Island Grounds here for the sixth edition of his 'Chhatron Ki Goonj' outreach initiative and the first in southern India. With a video of Amit Shah playing out on the screen, Gandhi said, "As you can see in the video, he (Shah) is openly saying that Hindi should be imposed on the people of Tamil Nadu. He is publicly saying that Tamil culture, language and history are secondary to his language, his history to his tradition."

"So, how are Modi and Shah destroying the foundation of democracy? The first is language imposition. A total of Rs 3,300 crore has been withheld from Tamil Nadu via the New Education Policy. The government of India is withholding money that you should get. Second, centralisation. There is an 87 per cent fall in Tamil medium students' share of MBBS seats because of NEET," he said. "The third is 'RSSification' – 70 per cent of your state universities are without vice-chancellors because the governor wants to ensure that RSS people run your universities," the Congress leader claimed.



The latest act is one of representation as the delimitation exercise is designed to "punish" Tamil Nadu and reduce its voice in Parliament, Gandhi said. The remarks come amid speculation that the government could bring a Constitution Amendment Bill involving delimitation for the early implementation of the women's reservation act. Parliament has not been prorogued

till now even though it was adjourned sine die on August 13, the last day of the Monsoon Session.

On April 17, the Constitution Amendment Bill to implement women's reservation in legislatures in 2029, and increase the number of seats in the Lok Sabha, was defeated in the Lower House. In his remarks at the student outreach event, Gandhi said these are attacks on the people of Tamil Nadu, on their language, culture, tradition and history. "Modi uses fear, hatred and division to carry out these attacks. But we are not going to let Modi attack the Tamil language, history and culture, nothing... He is not going to touch Tamil Nadu," Gandhi said. The former Congress chief also said that whenever he comes to Tamil Nadu, he learns something from the people of the state. Describing what defines a student, Gandhi quoted Tamil social reformer Periyar saying, "Do not follow anything just because someone else has said it. Analyse and inquire into everything." He then quoted Tamil poet Thiruvalluvar: "The deeper you dig a well in sand, more water springs up; the more you learn, the more knowledge flows." Gandhi also interacted with students on stage, who spoke in Tamil, through an interpreter. Asserting that curiosity is the foundation of progress, Gandhi said, "Anything you do will always begin with a question you ask. So, questioning is the foundation of curiosity. The question is at the heart of human progress. Not just that, democracy itself emerges from asking questions." "Democracy is your right to ask questions."

Sunday 11, October, 2026

GST 2.0,
A WELCOME COURSE
CORRECTION

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

Karimnagar Congress Leaders Demand
CEC's Resignation



KARIMNAGAR: Congress leaders in Karimnagar demanded the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar during a day-long hunger strike at Indira Chowk on Saturday. The ruling party activists staged the protest in support of agitations called by the All-India Congress Committee (AICC) and Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC), seeking the CEC's resignation.

Centre Denies Requesting Land Acquisition
for 3 High-speed Rail Corridors

Hyderabad: Union Coal Minister G Kishan Reddy on Saturday said alignment studies for three proposed high-speed rail corridors linked to Hyderabad are currently underway and that the Centre has not sent any land acquisition requisitions to the concerned state governments. Any land acquisition being carried out for the same at this juncture is "illegal", he said in a statement. Reddy's clarification came amid land acquisition efforts by the Telangana government for the rail corridor and other projects which faced resistance from farmers on Hyderabad outskirts. Reddy said he discussed the proposed Hyderabad–Chennai, Hyderabad–Bengaluru and Hyderabad–Pune High-Speed Rail corridors with Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. "The railway minister clarified that no land acquisition requisition has been sent to the respective state gov-



ernments and that any land acquisition being carried out in the name of High-Speed Rail at this stage is illegal," he said. He quoted the railways minister as saying that alignment studies for all three corridors are currently underway and that once the alignment is finalised, the details will be shared with the respective state governments and farmers.

CM Revanth Sounds Alarm Over Looming
Power, Water Crisis in TG Under El Niño

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has sounded alarm over the looming power and water crisis in Telangana due to the El Nino conditions and directed officials to finalise an action plan to tackle the potential challenges, with particular focus on drinking water, irrigation, agriculture and electricity supply. He cautioned that failure to anticipate the impact and take precautionary measures could lead to severe problems in the coming months. The Chief Minister held an extensive review meeting with senior officials to assess the emerging situation and discuss measures to minimise the impact of El Nino and the rainfall deficit. He stressed the need for coordinated action by all departments and called for public participation in implementing the proposed measures. Revanth Reddy said the next eight months would be crucial in managing the potential crisis and called for creating awareness among people from the village to the state level about the challenges posed by El Nino. An extensive awareness campaign would be launched after the Dasara festival through television channels, cinema halls and cultural troupes to educate people about the possible impact and the precautions they should take. The Chief Minister cautioned that the power crisis could intensify in the coming days. He said the government was prepared to incur the necessary expenditure to procure electricity to meet the state's requirements, but pointed out that power availability in the market was limited. He directed officials to ensure prudent use of available electricity and explore the temporary postponement of electricity-intensive activities wherever possible to manage demand. On the water situation, Revanth Reddy directed officials to assess the condition of standing crops and take measures to ensure that farmers did not face a water shortage until the crops were harvested. He stressed the need for special precautions to prevent the situation from deteriorating and called for the conservation of every drop of available water. Officials were asked to prioritise drinking water requirements while planning the utilisation of available water resources for irrigation and other essential needs. The Chief Minister announced that a special meeting with ministers would be convened shortly to deliberate on the impact of El Nino, the



rainfall deficit and the difficulties being faced by farmers. Key decisions would be taken after reviewing the situation in areas that had received inadequate rainfall and assessing the immediate interventions required to address the emerging challenges. With drought-like conditions prevailing in around 215 mandals, the state government has already adopted a resolution in the Legislative Assembly urging the Centre to declare the affected areas drought-hit, provide adequate financial assistance and sanction a special package of ₹20,000 crore to help the state deal with the situation. Revanth Reddy also directed officials to appeal to the Centre to provide an additional 50 days of employment under the employment guarantee scheme, over and above the standard 125 days, to support rural households affected by the adverse conditions. He said the state government was ready to facilitate the additional employment days. A decision on constituting an all-party committee, if required, would be taken after consultations with ministers. The Chief Minister suggested establishing a dedicated 'war room' to continuously monitor the evolving situation and coordinating the response across departments. He also called for setting up a toll-free helpline to enable people to seek assistance and report problems. Senior officials from the Chief Minister's Office were instructed to maintain constant oversight of electricity supply arrangements and ensure that emerging issues were addressed promptly. Officials were directed to organise awareness programmes at village, mandal, district and state levels after Dasara to explain the potential consequences of El Nino and encourage people to conserve water and electricity.

Ensure Landslide Victory
for Sarvotham Reddy in
MLC Polls: Bhatti



Hyderabad: Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has called upon Congress party leaders and workers to work collectively to ensure a massive majority for Congress candidate Ramreddy Sarvotham Reddy in the Khammam–Nalgonda–Warangal Graduates' MLC election. He urged party cadres to take up the graduates' voter registration drive as a movement and ensure that every eligible graduate is enrolled as a voter. Bhatti Vikramarka was speaking as the chief guest at a meeting organised by the Khammam District Congress Committee at SR Function Hall in Khammam. He said that a clear action plan was essential to secure a decisive victory in the MLC elections. He suggested holding meetings in all five Assembly constituencies following the district-level meeting, followed by meetings at the mandal and village levels to accelerate the voter registration process. He asked the party to appoint a senior leader as in-charge for each Assembly constituency and ensure that leaders and workers coordinated their efforts under their guidance. He explained that even those who had registered as voters in the past would need to register again in accordance with the current election process. He urged party leaders to identify graduates within Congress-supporting families and ensure their registration. Subsequently, they should reach out to neutral voters and graduates from other sections who are favourably inclined towards the government's welfare schemes to mobilise support for the Congress candidate. **Fine Rice Distributed to 3.42 Crore People** Bhatti Vikramarka called upon Congress leaders to explain the benefits of the welfare schemes implemented by the state government to people in every household. He said that Telangana has approximately 1.15 crore families, of which nearly 1.06 crore families, comprising 3.42 crore people, receive six kilograms of fine rice per person every month. By providing fine rice free of cost, despite its high price in the open market, the government is extending substantial support to poor families, he said. Emphasising the government's commitment to farmers' welfare, he stated that financial assistance under the Rythu Bharosa scheme had been provided to approximately 72 lakh farmers. Under the Gruha Jyothi scheme, nearly 53 lakh beneficiaries are receiving free electricity for consumption of up to 200 units per month. He also stated that free electricity was being supplied to approximately 30 lakh agricultural pump sets across the state. These initiatives are helping reduce the electricity expenditure of households, he added. As part of its social security measures, the government is providing Cheyutha pensions to approximately 43 lakh beneficiaries. Under the Rajiv Aarogyasri scheme, nearly 1.06 crore families across the state are eligible for medical treatment coverage of up to Rs.10 lakh per family. The scheme provides crucial support to poor and middle-class families, ensuring that serious health problems do not push them into financial distress, he said. He further stated that the government was implementing a system of directly crediting fee reimbursement funds into the accounts of approximately 12.5 lakh students so that financial difficulties would not interrupt their education. The government is also successfully implementing a programme to provide breakfast along with a glass of milk to approximately 27 lakh students studying in government schools, he explained. Bhatti Vikramarka said the government was implementing the Indiramma Indlu housing scheme on a large scale to fulfil the dream of owning a house for poor families without homes. In the first phase, financial assistance of Rs.5 lakh per house was being provided for the construction of 4.5 lakh houses, he said. He explained that the government was moving towards sanctioning another 2.5 lakh houses in the second phase, with a target of 2,000 houses for each Assembly constituency. The government was also undertaking the construction of one lakh houses for poor families in Hyderabad. He stated that the government was spending Rs.40,000 crore on the construction of Indiramma houses. **Financial Security for Every Family Is the Goal** Bhatti Vikramarka said the government was working towards launching the Indiramma Bima scheme on November 19, coinciding with the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Under the proposed scheme, a family would receive insurance assistance of Rs.5 lakh if the person who was the primary income earner died accidentally, he explained. He said the government's objective was to provide security to families across Telangana without discrimination based on caste, religion or region.

AP NDA Coalition Promises 28.18% Average Quota For BCs In Local Body Elections

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh coalition government on Saturday proposed an average reservation of 28.18 per cent for Backward Classes (BCs) in local body elections. The coalition partners in the government promised more than 34 per cent party-level opportunities wherever statutory quotas fall short.

Briefing reporters after the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu at the State Secretariat, Agriculture minister K. Atchannaidu said the proposed reservation for BCs is based on the report of Rajiv Ranjan Mishra Commission and in accordance with Supreme Court guidelines.

Atchannaidu recalled that N.T. Rama Rao introduced 20 per cent reservations for BCs in 1987. The Chandrababu Naidu government increased the quota to 34 per cent in 1995 through amendments to the Panchayat Raj Act. The minister charged that the YSRC government reduced the



quota for BCs to 24 per cent in 2019, costing BCs around 17,000 political positions at various levels.

The agriculture minister said when NDA coalition government sought to restore the 34 per cent quota recently, it faced legal objections. It thus constituted a special commission under senior IAS officer Rajiv Ranjan Mishra through GO No. 3 dated February 19, 2026.

The commission collected data across districts and social groups and recommended reservations based on the BC population in individual

local body units. The cabinet has approved the recommendations and forwarded them to the State Election Commission.

The proposed BC reservations are 26.73 per cent for gram panchayat ward members, 27.95 per cent for sarpanches, 25.55 per cent for mandal parishad territorial constituencies (MPTCs), 24.60 per cent for mandal parishad presidents (MPPs), 24.60 per cent for zilla parishad territorial constituencies (ZPTCs) and 23.08 per cent for zilla parishad chairpersons.

In urban local bodies,

the proposed quota is 32.78 per cent for ward members, 33.02 per cent for municipal chairpersons, and 35.29 per cent for mayors. The overall average across local bodies is 28.18 per cent, Atchannaidu underlined.

The agriculture minister underlined that coalition partners would provide more than 34 per cent party-level opportunities wherever statutory reservations are lower.

Social welfare minister Dola Bala Veeranjanya Swamy said reservations have been calculated using population data for indi-

vidual local units. Scheduled tribe (ST) reservations had been considered first, followed by scheduled caste (SC) reservations, before determining the legally permissible BC share. SC and ST allocations have been based on the 2011 Census, he pointed out.

Health minister Satya Kumar Yadav said the NDA government at the centre and the coalition government in AP are committed to BC empowerment. He questioned the YSRC government's decision to reduce reservations and said the government had followed Supreme Court guidelines to ensure legally sustainable allocations.

The ministers said the government is ready to conduct local body elections on time. The notification for the polls will be issued by the State Election Commission.

Other ministers present at the briefing included Kolusu Parthasarathy, S. Savitha, Gummidi Sandhya Rani and Vangalapudi Anitha.

Gadkari Gives In-Principle Approval To Four-Lane NH 42

ANANTAPUR : Union Road Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari has given in-principle approval to widen into four lanes the 71.25-km stretch of National Highway 42 connecting Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

AP Finance minister Payyavula Keshav met Gadkari in New Delhi on Saturday and submitted a letter seeking upgrading of the highway. The road passes through the Uravakonda assembly constituency in Anantapur district.

According to an official press release, Gadkari responded positively to the proposal and agreed in principle to the widening.

Keshav said the existing two-lane highway has several sharp curves and inadequate horizontal and vertical alignments, particularly along stretches



passing through villages and residential areas. Ten accident black spots have been identified along the route.

The proposed four laning is expected to improve road safety, ease traffic movement, and strengthen connectivity to towns and villages in the district.

The stretch, from kilometre 4/350 to 75/600, passes through Anantapur district headquarters and mandals of Uravakonda, Kuderu, and Vidapanakallu, besides several villages and densely populated settlements. The route had been upgraded from a State Highway to National Highway in 2010.

NH 42 begins at Joldarasi on NH 67 in Karnataka and passes through Uravakonda, Anantapur, Raptadu, Kadiri, Palamaner, and Kuppam before terminating at Krishnagiri on NH 48 in Tamil Nadu.

The Anantapur stretch had been widened into a two-lane road with paved shoulders in 2015-16. However, major geometric improvements and bypasses had not been undertaken, leaving hazardous curves and sections passing through habitations.

Minister Keshav urged the centre to prioritise the four-laning in view of growing traffic and road safety concerns.

Pattiseema Helped Generate Rs 50,000 Crore In Wealth, Says Minister

Vijayawada: Water resources minister Nimmala Ramanaidu said the Pattiseema lift irrigation scheme had helped divert nearly 500 tmc ft of Godavari water to the Krishna delta since its launch in 2015, contributing to the creation of wealth estimated at Rs 50,000 crore.

Speaking to the media at the Secretariat on Saturday, he said the state government had spent nearly Rs ,600 crore on the scheme. He described it as an engineering achievement, saying



the investment had helped provide irrigation water to farmers in the Krishna delta and support crop cultivation.

Referring to the prevailing Super El Nino conditions and concerns over

rainfall, Ramanaidu said nearly 57 tmc ft of Godavari water had been diverted to the Krishna delta to protect crops across seven lakh acres and meet the drinking water needs of nearly 30

lakh people.

He said the availability of Godavari water for the Krishna delta had reduced the need to draw water from the Srisailem reservoir for the delta, allowing Krishna water to

be used to meet requirements in Rayalaseema.

Ramanaidu criticised YSRC president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy over his earlier remarks on the utility of the Pattiseema scheme when he was in the Opposition.

The minister credited Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu with executing the scheme to divert Godavari water to the Krishna delta before the completion of the Polavaram irrigation project, instead of allowing the water to flow into the sea.

Centre, State Join Hands To Restore Prathipadu Tank

VIJAYAWADA: Union minister of state for communications and rural development Pemmasani Chandrasekhar on Saturday inaugurated the restoration and modernisation of a drinking water tank at Prathipadu village in Guntur district. The project was taken up at a cost of Rs 49.91 lakh under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) 2.0, with financial support from the Central and state governments.

Speaking on the occasion, Pemmasani said he had set a goal of developing villages on a par with towns after taking charge as Union minister. The Centre had initiated measures to develop village tanks under the watershed development programme to improve the quality of life in rural areas.

He said a tank at Vengalayapalem had been developed as a pilot project, providing villagers with a suitable place for evening walks. The initiative, which he described as the first of its kind in the country, had proved successful and paved the way for wider implementation.



As part of the programme, 100 tanks had been selected for development across Andhra Pradesh, including 10 in Guntur district, he said. The Prathipadu tank was restored by officials using funds provided with support from the Central and state governments. Despite the State's financial difficulties, efforts were being made to take up as many village development works as possible, he added.

Telugu Desam leader Vangaveeti Radhakrishna said Pemmasani was demonstrating how development could be achieved under capable leadership. He said the Guntur parliamentary constituency was being developed as a model for the State and urged people to support the ruling alliance in the forthcoming local body

elections.

Prathipadu MLA B. Ramanjaneyulu alleged that the previous YSRC government had pushed Andhra Pradesh's development back by 25 years during its five-year tenure. He said the present government was focusing on public welfare and developing facilities according to people's needs.

Ramanjaneyulu said Pemmasani understood how to coordinate with departments and officials to provide public amenities. He recalled that the Vengalayapalem tank had been developed as a pilot project with Central funds and inaugurated in the presence of Union minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. The initiative was now being extended to several tanks in the district, he added.

Guntur district Jana Sena president Gade Venkateswara Rao and Prathipadu constituency coordinator Korapati Nageswara Rao attended the programme.

President Murmu To Inaugurate Saras Aajeevika Mela In Vijayawada On Oct. 15

VIJAYAWADA: President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the Saras Aajeevika Mela-2026 at Punnami Ghat in Vijayawada on October 15, providing a national-level marketing platform for women members of self-help groups (SHGs) to showcase and promote their products.

The mela, organised in coordination with the Central and State governments, will feature more than 600 stalls run by SHG members from across the country. It will also have a food court offering regional cuisines and cultural programmes throughout the event.

Union minister of state for rural development and communications Pemmasani Chandrasekhar and Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni) inspected the arrangements at Punnami Ghat on Saturday. Addressing a press conference, Pemmasani extended Navaratri greetings and said Vijayawada would host two major events during the Dasara festivities — Vijayawada Utsav and the Saras Mela.

He said the national-level fair would enable women from SHGs across India to display their products and connect with potential customers. The organisers were planning activities and facilities to make the event an attraction for families.



Recalling last year's mela in Guntur, Pemmasani said the event had attracted considerable attention. He said it had been brought to Vijayawada at the request of Kesineni Chinni.

The MP thanked Pemmasani for bringing the event to Vijayawada and said it aligned with the efforts of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to promote entrepreneurship and women's economic empowerment.

Kesineni said Naidu aimed to encourage entrepreneurship in every household, while Modi's Lakhpati Didi initiative sought to help women achieve financial independence through self-employment.

Women from different states will run the food court, giving visitors an opportunity to sample regional cuisines, he said.

Kesineni urged SHG members from across Andhra Pradesh to visit the mela, study the products on display and learn ways to increase demand for their products and build distinctive brands. He said such initiatives could expand markets for SHG products and raise Vijayawada's profile as a venue for large public events.

He added that cultural programmes would run throughout the mela, providing families with entertainment and giving women entrepreneurs opportunities to showcase their products and learn from their counterparts across the country.

Sharmila Urges Delhiites to Seek Deletion of Gyanesh Kumar's Name from Electoral Rolls

As Preferred Source Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Congress president Y S Sharmila on Saturday appealed to the people of Delhi to file Form 7 seeking the deletion of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's name from the electoral roll, saying this would make him understand the pain and anxiety of citizens whose names were allegedly deleted without their knowledge. Form 7 is a voter application form to object the proposed inclusion or deletion of an existing name in the Electoral Roll.

Criticising the alleged deletion of votes during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process by the poll body, Sharmila accused the "system" of undermining democratic rights and the sanctity of the electoral process. "In a pointed appeal to the people of Delhi, she (Sharmila) called upon them to file Form 7 seeking the dele-



tion of CEC Gyanesh Kumar's vote. She said the move was intended to make the CEC understand the pain and anxiety experienced by citizens whose votes could be deleted without their knowledge," said a Congress press release, quoting Sharmila.

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, she said, "Modi

means 'Murderer of Democratic India.'" Meanwhile, the APCC president was stopped while driving herself from her residence to proceed to attend a protest organised against the alleged voter deletions under the SIR process. Sharmila's protest was aimed at highlighting concerns over the electoral revision exercise and demanding accountability over allegations of wrongful voter deletions. She asserted that the right to vote is fundamental to democracy and that any process affecting voters' names must be transparent, fair and accountable.

10th Convocation of PGDM (ABM) Held at MANAGE, Hyderabad



HYDERABAD, 10 October 2026 : The 10th Convocation of the Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Agri-Business Management) [PGDM (ABM)] for the 2024–26 batch was successfully held at the National Institute of Agri-

cultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, on 10 October 2026. Marking a major milestone in MANAGE's 30-year legacy of excellence in agricultural management, the event celebrated the academic achievements

and professional transition of the graduating cohort. Shri Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, IAS, Hon'ble Joint Secretary (Admin & GC, Extension & Pulses Mission), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, & Di-

rector General, MANAGE, Hyderabad, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He conferred the PGDM (ABM) diplomas upon the graduating students, presented medals to meritorious achievers, and delivered the Convocation Address.

Singareni Management Must Stop Playing With Public Health! Immediate Dust Control Measures Demanded*

Coal Dust Menace on Manuguru–Eturnagaram Main Road Raises Health Concerns

“Failure to Address the Issue Will Force Us to Launch a Protest,” Warns CPI (ML) Mass Line Manuguru Division Secretary R. Madhusudhan Reddy*

MANUGURU:* CPI (ML) Mass Line (Prajapantha) Manuguru Division Secretary R. Madhusudhan Reddy has strongly demanded that Singareni management immediately implement effective measures to control coal dust and protect public health. He expressed concern over the severe dust pollution affecting people travelling along the Manuguru–Eturnagaram main road.



Coal Dust Creates Serious Problems for Commuters*

Speaking on the issue, R. Madhusudhan Reddy stated that excessive coal dust is rising from the movement of lorries, buses and other vehicles on the Manuguru–Eturnagaram main road, particularly along the stretch from the railway bridge near Kanakadurga Temple to the turning leading towards the Mallampalli Open Cast (OC) mine.

He said the situation has become extremely difficult for commuters, with thick coal dust affecting visibility and making travel uncomfortable and hazardous.

Health Risks Cannot Be Ignored

R. Madhusudhan Reddy warned that continuous exposure to coal dust could adversely affect public health, particularly by increasing the risk of respiratory problems and lung-related illnesses. He expressed concern that local residents, motorists and other road users are being exposed to dust pollution because of the heavy movement of vehicles.

He questioned why effective preventive measures had not been implemented to address the problem and urged Singareni management to treat public health as a priority.

Immediate Dust Suppression Measures Demanded*

The CPI (ML) Mass Line leader demanded that Singareni management take immediate steps to clean the accumulated coal dust from the road and regularly spray water in affected areas to prevent dust from rising. He stressed that appropriate and sustained dust-control measures are essential to ensure safer travel and protect the health of the public.

He also called upon the management to address the issue without further delay and provide a lasting solution to the problem.

Protest Warning Over Management's Negligence

R. Madhusudhan Reddy warned that if Singareni management continued to neglect the issue, the organisation would be compelled to launch a protest in support of the affected public.

He reiterated that protecting people's health and ensuring safe road conditions must be given top priority, and demanded an immediate response from the management.

Public Health Must Come First — Singareni Management Must Act Now to Control Coal Dust!

Best Teacher Award: Chiluka Padmavathi's Inspiring Journey

Recognition for Dedication and Commitment to Education; A Proud Moment for Blue Bells High School

Hyderabad October, 10 : Chiluka Padmavathi, a dedicated teacher who has earned recognition in the field of education through hard work and perseverance, has been selected for the State-Level Best Teacher Award. Working at Blue Bells High School in Achampet, Padmavathi's achievement has brought joy and pride to her school, family members, colleagues, and well-wishers. Hailing from Tallacheruvu village in Achampet mandal, Padmavathi considers teaching not merely a profession but a responsibility to shape the future of students. Along with explaining academic subjects in an easy-to-understand manner, she places special emphasis on nurturing confidence, discipline, punctuality, and human values among students. She believes that every student has unique talents and abilities that can be developed with proper guidance and encouragement. Her commitment to teaching, dedication to students, and continuous efforts to improve their learning have contributed to her selection for this prestigious recognition.

Padmavathi's journey from a rural village to receiving state-level recognition serves as an



inspiration to aspiring teachers and students alike. Her achievement highlights the importance of dedication, perseverance, and a strong commitment to education. Family members, including Chiluka Hanumantha Rao, Pedda Sanjeeva Rao, Chinna Sanjeeva Rao, Lakshmana Rao, sisters Anjamma and Sunitha, brother-in-law Rama Rao, Garnepudi Akhil, Garnepudi Mithil, Chiluka Vijay, Max, and others, congratulated her and expressed their best wishes for her future achievements. The management, staff, fellow teachers, and students of Blue Bells High School have also expressed happiness over her selection for the State-Level Best Teacher Award, describing it as a proud moment for the institution. Padmavathi's achievement has brought recognition to her native village of Tallacheruvu and her school in Achampet. Family members, colleagues, students, and villagers have wished her continued success and expressed hope that she will continue to inspire young minds and contribute to the development of future generations through quality education.

DISTRICT MANAGER TECHNICAL CIVIL DEPARTMENT MHBABUBABAD IN ACB NET

AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF CASE OF DISPROPORTIONATE ASSETS AGAINST A DISTRICT MANAGER (TECHNICAL), CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, MAHABUBABAD,

The Ants-Comuption Bureau (ACB), Telangana, has taken up a Disproportionate Asseh (DA) case againd Sri V. Narasimha Rao, Assitant Manager (Technical Civil Supplies Department, presently woning presently working as District Manager (RDC) of Muhabubabad and formerly worked at Khammam Collectorate, as he is alleged to have acquired assets by indiging in comupt practices and dublocs means during this service. As this is an offence punishable under Section 131b) read with Section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 jos amended in 2016, proceedings authorising registration of an RCA care have been loued. Preliminary searches were conducted 10.3026 of 7 places relating to the Suspect Officer, his relatives and associates

Duing the searches, several several immovable and movable assets were identilled. The delas, as rotected in the property statement, are summaried below:

A. IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

1. Open Plot: five open plots of Bolepoll, Raghunathapalom and verugumatis, Chamnam Datict, admeasuring 1.230.16 square yards in total, standing in the names of the Suspect Of-ficer and his wille. The aggregate document/ registration value is Rs. 30.72.000/-

2. Agricultural Land Agricultural lands of Kamata Chervu, Suryapet Dinict (1.00 acres approximately, Skanda (21.3 acres) and



Namavaram (331 acres each parel and Novorom (531 acres each in the names of the Suspect Officer and Na forthernow. Mothe Mandal, Suryaper Distict. The recorded document/registro enthegistration values total Rs. 1,17.01.895/ for the Skonda land, the recorded value is Rs. 76.00.000/- and the agreement value Rs. R654.75.000 654.75.000/1 for each of the two Namavaram lands, the document value 19.25000/-and the agreement value 1,92,50,000

3. RCC Buildings/Houses: 1. G-2 RCC building and 2.0+4 RCC building of Kaviraj Nagar, Khammam, and 3. ground, fist and second floor house at Sagar Enclave, Baramalguda, 18 Nagar, standing in the names of the Suspect Officer, hit wite and his father-inw. The aggregate document value is Rs.

1,58,00,000/-

MOVABLE ASSETS

Vehicles: Hyundai Creta cor (Reg. No. 100 18.49,759 TVS Jupiter (Reg. No. 100454772)-Rs. 1,05,000/- and Honda Activa 4G (Reg. No. 1504852517) 1504852517-Rs. 50.000/ Household articles: Rs. 33.48, 400/-Gold and silver ornaments: Gold weighing approximately 380.97 grams and sliver weighing approximately 331.58 grams: combined valve Rs. 9.31.321/Cash: Rs. 15.600/-seized from the residence of the Suspect Officer.

The total value of the assets identified so far, approximately Rs. 9.41.06975/- (Rupees Nne Crove Forty-One Lokh Sie Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-five orly). The market value of the above immovable properties is expected to be much higher than their document/registration value. Further verificaffion regarding addifional

The ownership, source of acquifion, nature of transactions and source of funds relating to the identified assets are subject to further verification and investigation. A rice mill is also suspected to have been acquired in a benami name, and its ownership and source of investment are being verified as part of the ongoing investigation

The investigation is under CELL PHONE NUMBER 1944 (TOL FREE Ne public che requested to contact foll free Number of ACB

Le, 1064 for taking action as per Law alto be contacted froug Government offices and prominent public to com kept secret Telangana. The Emedia platforms whatsapp details of the vic-tim complainan

Modi Extends Mahalaya Greetings, Prays For Peace And Prosperity

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday greeted people on the occasion of Mahalaya and prayed for the blessings of Goddess Durga to bring happiness, compassion, hope and prosperity to society.

In a post on X, Modi said, "Shubho Mahalaya! We seek the blessings of Maa Durga. May the blessings fill our society with happiness, compassion and hope. May there be peace and prosperity all around." The Prime Minister also shared his greetings in Bengali.

Mahalaya marks the end of Pitri Paksha, a fortnight dedicated to paying homage to ancestors, and the beginning of Devi Paksha, which heralds the arrival of Goddess Durga and the countdown to Durga Puja.

According to Hindu mythology, Goddess Durga begins her journey from Mount Kailash, the abode of Lord Shiva, to her parental home on Earth, accompanied by her children.



The occasion holds special significance in West Bengal and other eastern states, where devotees traditionally begin the day by listening to 'Mahishasura Mardini', a devotional programme narrating the goddess's triumph over the demon Mahishasura.

Devotees also perform tarpan, a ritual offering of water and prayers in memory of departed ancestors.

This year, Mahalaya falls on October 10, while Sharad Navratri begins on October 11. The festivities will culminate in Vijayadashami on October 20.

Union Govt Goes All In To Thwart CJP Protest Planned On Saturday



Cockroach Janta Party's (CJP) protest planned for Jantar Mantar on Saturday. Over 7,000 protesters, including four former chief ministers — Arvind Kejriwal, Mamata Banerjee, Pinarayi Vijayan and Manik Sarkar —members of youth and students' organisations, besides CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke and YouTuber Dhruv Rathee, and several independent journalists were detained.

Later in the evening, the Delhi police released all detainees except CJP leaders Dipke, Ashutosh Ranka and Saurav Das. While the Delhi Metro reopened all the stations and Internet restrictions were removed, the police said that the security arrangements and traffic restrictions will be in place for Sunday as well.

The CJP vowed to continue protests against alleged electoral roll irregularities until Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar resigned, announcing another demonstration at Jantar Mantar at 10 am on Sunday, even as police warned of possible restrictions across New Delhi and Central Delhi.

"The government must have thought we will return home after the detentions today. This fear of Modi, Shah shows we have won half the fight," said Ajinkya Shinde, the CJP's national organisation in-charge, who was leading the protest as key members of the outfit remained under detention. Addressing a press conference after Saturday's police action, Shinde said the outfit would not retreat despite the detentions.

Urging people to join the demonstration in large numbers, Shinde called on them to continue protesting even if stopped by the police. "Come to Jantar Mantar in large numbers, and protest wherever Delhi Police stops you," he said.

On Monday, the Opposition will again take to the streets demanding the sacking of the CEC.

Nearly 35,000 paramilitary personnel, including those from the Border Security Force, along with the Delhi police contingents, were deployed across Delhi-NCR to prevent protesters from joining the demonstration. Reacting to the mass detentions, the United Nations Human Rights Council said,

"We are concerned by reports of mass detentions in India of demonstrators before and during the large-scale demonstrations in Delhi. We call on the authorities to ensure that the right to peaceful assembly is fully respected and fulfilled." There were also reports of "saffron goons" attacking the protesters.

Jantar Mantar was turned into an fortress, ringed with barricades, loudspeakers blaring warnings and thousands of armed security personnel maintaining an intimidating vigil. Several trains were cancelled and 45 Metro metro stations were shut with the Internet suspended in central Delhi.

The day began with a dramatic intervention at the IGI airport, where police detained Dipke, along with Das and Ranka, inside their aircraft soon after it landed in the national capital. In a video released by the party, Dipke could be heard telling the police personnel who entered the aircraft to detain the CJP leaders, "We are here to be arrested, come and arrest us."

Accusing the authorities of treating the leaders like criminals, Dipke described the government action as "dictatorship". He claimed that "even former PM Indira Gandhi had not resorted to such measures". Mr Rathee was picked up from his Gurugram residence.

The crackdown acquired a wider political dimension as leaders from several Opposition parties attempted to reach the protest site. Several detained leaders claimed that they were driven around in police vehicles for hours. AISA leader Neha Bora, CPI (ML) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, social activist Yogendra Yadav, activist lawyer Prashant Bhusan and others were detained from the INA area as they tried to march towards the protest site. Vijayan, Sarkar and other Left leaders including M.A. Baby and Brinda Karat faced police action as they attempted to leave Kerala Bhavan and other locations to join the protest march. Climate activist Sonam Wangchuk dubbed the clampdown in Delhi an "undeclared emergency".

The AAP chief was forcefully detained outside his Lodhi Estate

residence while ensuing his march to Jantar Mantar with party colleagues and supporters. Soon after being released late in the evening, Mr Kejriwal took out a road show and exhorted people with his "Dilli Chalo" slogan.

Banerjee, accompanied by TMC leaders including MP Derek O'Brien, staged a sit-in on South Avenue after police prevented them from proceeding towards the protest site. Wearing a band-aid over her mouth, she termed the situation as having gone "beyond an Emergency" and becoming a "Super Emergency". Soon after being released, the TMC supremo said she almost felt kidnapped and that the situation had surpassed the Emergency era. She has decided to stay in the city and join the INDIA bloc's planned protest against the SIR on Monday.

With the designated venue out of reach, parts of Connaught Place, the INA market and the area around Safdarjung Tomb briefly became makeshift sit-in sites, as protesters regrouped and raised slogans before being subsequently rounded up. Some protesters hid in public washrooms, took shelter overnight in a gurdwara and slipped in and out of its gates as police closed in, turning the crackdown during the protest into an elaborate game of hide-and-seek.

From Connaught Place and Gurdwara Bangla Sahib to INA, Gole Market and Minto Bridge, small groups of protesters repeatedly assembled, raised slogans and attempted to regroup, only to be chased or detained. Some sought refuge inside a gurdwara or hid in public washrooms to evade the security cordon. The planned gathering at Jantar Mantar thus spilled into streets and intersections across the capital, as protesters struggled to find one another amid restrictions on movement and rapidly changing police deployments.

The outer circle of Connaught Place, the area near Hanuman Mandir, Sansad Marg, Raisina Road, Imtiaz Khan Road, H.K.S. Surjeet Bhawan, the stretch around the Safdarjung Airport flyover and the vicinity of the Shivaji Stadium Metro station were among the locations where protesters gathered or attempted to mobilise. Several people were detained near Regal Cinema in Connaught Place, while others were sent back or chased away as they tried to regroup.

Later, the AISA announced a change in its destination to Dilli Haat after several protesters were detained in and around Jantar Mantar. Bora, marched towards the alternative location and urged others to join her. "Delhi Haat becomes Jantar Mantar today! See you there!" she wrote on X.

BJP Chief Nitin Nabin Warns Rahul, Kejriwal & CJP: No Leniency for 'Anarchists'

New Delhi: BJP president Nitin Nabin on Saturday accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal and the CJP of attempting to destabilise the country with the backing of foreign forces, and asserted that the government will deal sternly with their "ill intentions," while the party workers will foil their design on the ground. Speaking to reporters here, Nabin alleged that Gandhi, Kejriwal and the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) are resorting to create anarchy because they "cannot digest the country's progress" under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

"An attempt is being made to create a state of anarchy in the country. Efforts are underway to destabilise the country and its 140 crore people. Who is doing this? There are two anarchic groups, one led by 'INDI Alliance' leader Rahul Gandhi, and the other led by Arvind Kejriwal and his associate CJP," he added. The BJP chief claimed both groups are trying to compete with each other to prove who is the "greater anarchist", and said they must clearly understand that the people of India are fully aware of their objectives.

"I give a clear warning to you today that the 'bikau' politics you are pursuing and attempting to destabilise India in collusion with foreign forces will never succeed. I warn you today that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the patriotic people of this country will give you a fitting reply," Nabin said. "The Government of India will deal sternly with the situation as you attempt to stoke tension, and BJP workers, remaining firmly among the people, will thwart these designs of yours," he added.

Nabin alleged that Gandhi and Kejriwal are trying to destabilise the



country and its economic progress to fulfil their political ambitions in "collusion" with the foreign forces. "They are challenging the country's democracy because Prime Minister Narendra Modi is at the helm with the people's mandate and trust in his favour," he charged. "When the people have rejected you and democracy punished you, instead of accepting that verdict or learning from it, you hatched a plan to destabilise this country. You are doing this to serve your political objectives and at the behest of foreign forces," the BJP leader said.

Hitting out at Gandhi and Kejriwal, Nabin said challenging democracy in the name of the Constitution and resorting to lies amounts to insulting the people's mandate. "The person whom the people of the country have given their mandate and in whom they have placed their trust is leading the nation. Your repeated electoral defeats in the states and the resulting desperation suggest that you do not want the country to move forward peacefully," the BJP president said. Nabin said that the BJP-NDA under Prime Minister Modi's leadership has liberated the country from "an atmosphere of fear" and ended "terrorism and Naxalism" from their very roots over the past 12 years. "Yet, there are still individuals with an 'urban naxal' mindset who are intent on destabilising the country," he said, adding, "Rahul Gandhi ji, your ambitions will never succeed. All the patriots and nationalists will come together and thwart your plans." Without taking names, Nabin slammed Kejriwal, Gandhi and other opposition leaders for using "contemptuous words" for those holding the highest positions in the country, asserting that people of the country will "punish" them. He also asserted that the country's youth will reject the "so-called leadership" of the CJP for their "derogatory words" against those holding high positions in the country. "India's youth are connected to India's culture and its democracy. They are committed to the Indian Constitution. That is precisely why the people of India will never accept those words of yours," Nabin added. The BJP president said Prime Minister Modi is dedicated to building a 'New India' with people of the country showing faith in him. "We clearly state to the people of India that we are fully committed to the nation's development. We will ensure peace and progress and all of us will work together to realise the dream of a Viksit Bharat, while dealing sternly with any forces, whether domestic or foreign, that seek to undermine it," he added.

India Closely Monitoring Developments In Neighbourhood And Beyond As Global Security Order Undergoes...

New Delhi:Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said India was closely monitoring developments in its neighbourhood and beyond, along with their strategic implications, as the global security order undergoes a major transformation and new forms of warfare reshape the battlefield.

Addressing Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 at Jodhpur Air Force Station, Mr Singh said the established world order was rapidly changing, even as the contours of the emerging order remained uncertain. He said the Indian armed forces were undergoing a fundamental transformation — structurally, materially and strategically — guided by the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

"India is continuously monitoring developments in our region and beyond along with their broader strategic implications," Mr Singh said after witnessing an aerial display.

He said the established world order was rapidly changing while the shape of the future order was yet to emerge. "India's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat does not mean isolation from the world. It means developing domestic capacity to design, develop, manufacture, maintain and upgrade critical defence technologies," he said.

The defence minister said modern warfare is becoming increasingly complex with rapid technological changes and the emergence of new areas of conflict.

He said the growing role of non-state actors, threats to critical trade routes and sealanes, and the use of new technologies added to uncertainties in the global security environment.

"Modern warfare is getting more complex with new technological changes, expansion of weapon domains and the addition of new elements. It is no longer confined to land, sea and air. It now spans space, cyber, the electromagnetic spectrum and the information domain. Surprise and deep uncertainty have become a new normal. Accompanied by these is the rising influence of non-state actors from the battle-



field. Critical trade routes, vital sea lanes and vulnerable points are actively being weaponised," Mr Singh said.

He said artificial intelligence is reshaping decision support, electronic warfare demands, and absolute spectrum control.

"We are facing a situation where the older established world order is fast disappearing while the shape of the future order is yet to emerge," the minister said.

He said the volatile security situation required countries to remain constantly alert.

Referring to changes in military operations, Mr Singh said drones and unmanned systems had altered the speed, scale and nature of warfare.

He said military strength, in the future, would depend less on the number of platforms a country possessed and more on how quickly it could gather information, understand a situation, take decisions and act.

"Speed, precision, information and integration are now the true defining attributes," he said.

Mr Singh said India recognised the need for self-reliance in defence years ago, knowing that no country could sustain a prolonged war without the ability to produce its own weapons and critical technologies.

The defence minister referred to the Tejas fighter aircraft, Dhruv, Rudra and Prachand helicopters, the Light Utility Helicopter and the Akash air defence system as examples of India's growing indigenous defence capabilities.

Grand Dasara Celebrations in Manuguru: Opportunity for Entrepreneurs to Set Up Stalls!

Food Stalls, Assam Speciality Products and Other Business Stalls Invited — Apply Before October 17



Manuguru:* In view of the upcoming Dasara festival, Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), Manuguru, has invited interested traders and entrepreneurs to set up stalls as part of the grand Dasara celebrations scheduled to be held on *October 20*.

As part of the celebrations, arrangements are being made to provide opportunities for various stalls from the beginning of the festival. Food stalls, sales counters featuring interesting and speciality products from Assam, and other business stalls will be permitted as part of the event.

The initiative is expected to provide a

valuable opportunity for local traders, small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs to showcase and sell their products during the festive celebrations.

Applications to Be Submitted by October 17

Interested traders and stall operators are requested to submit their applications with complete details to the *Personnel Department at the Singareni office in Manuguru, on or before **5:00 PM on October 17*.

POM (Personnel) Officer *N. Ramesh* informed the interested applicants about the opportunity and urged them to contact the department within the stipulated deadline.

Contact Number: 9951210143

Interested entrepreneurs are encouraged to make use of this opportunity and participate in the Dasara celebrations in Manuguru.

Good News for Farmers: Sriram Sagar Project Releases Irrigation Water!

Irrigation Water to Reach Peddapalli Constituency Until Monday
Steps Taken to Protect Crops; Farmers Need Not Worry: Government Whip and MLA Vijaya Ramana Rao

Peddapalli Correspondent | September 10: Farmers in Peddapalli constituency have received good news, as water has been released from the Sriram Sagar Project to meet the irrigation needs of standing crops during the Kharif season. The water was released on Saturday at Pochampad in Nizamabad district. State Government Whip and Peddapalli MLA Chintakunta Vijaya Ramana Rao announced that irrigation water would be supplied to agricultural fields in the constituency through the D-86 and D-83 main canals from the Ravelli distributary until Monday. The MLA stated that he had taken special initiative to protect farmers' crops amid the prevail-



ing irrigation challenges attributed to the effects of El Niño. He assured farmers that efforts would continue to ensure an uninterrupted water supply until their crops were ready for harvesting. He urged farmers not to worry about irrigation water and advised them to make proper use of the available supply without wasting water. MLA Vijaya Ramana Rao expressed his gratitude to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, State Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, and Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu for their support in ensuring irrigation water for farmers in Peddapalli constituency. The MLA reiterated that continuous efforts would be made to ensure an adequate irrigation water supply, with the primary objective of protecting farmers' crops and safeguarding their interests.

Rising Sun School Student Sahasra Selected for Telangana State-Level Netball Competitions

Peddapalli Correspondent September 10: Sahasra, a student of Rising Sun School in Peddapalli, has been selected for the Telangana State-Level Sub-Junior Netball Competitions after showcasing outstanding talent in the district-level tournament. The district-level sub-junior netball competitions were organized by the District Netball Association at Rising Sun School on September 30. Sahasra demonstrated excellent performance and secured selection for the state-level competitions, informed the school's Physical Education Teacher, Thaguram Tirupathi. Sahasra will participate in the state-level netball competitions scheduled to be held from the 10th to the 12th of this month at Telangana Model School in Asifabad. On this occasion, school correspondent Syed Ahmed and Headmaster Hakeem Khan congratulated Sahasra on her achievement. They expressed their confidence that she would perform exceptionally well at the state level and bring pride to the school and Peddapalli district.



Telangana Athletes Must Shine on International Platforms with Medals: Minister Ponguleti

Ashwaraopeta Mini Stadium to Be Developed into a Landmark: Minister
23.50 Crore Road Development Works Launched; State-Level Under-20 Girls' Kabaddi Tournament Begins with Teams from 33 Districts



improve traffic movement, road safety and public convenience in Ashwaraopeta town.

Grand Bathukamma Rally Marks Girls' Kabaddi Tournament

Ashwaraopeta witnessed a festive atmosphere as teams of girls from all 33 districts of Telangana arrived to participate in the state-level kabaddi tournament.

Women and sportspersons carrying Bathukamma floral arrangements participated in a grand rally from the town's main junction to the sports ground. The rally reflected Telangana's rich cultural traditions and added festive spirit to the town.

Upon reaching the stadium, Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy unfurled the National Flag and formally inaugurated the tournament by cutting the ribbon. He later joined the women and sportspersons in offering special prayers to Bathukamma and participating in the traditional celebrations.

Ashwaraopeta Mini Stadium to Become a Landmark

Addressing the gathering, Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy extended his greetings to the people on the occasions of Dasara, Navaratri and the Bathukamma festival.

He said the state government was giving priority to development programmes and the creation of sports infrastructure in tribal regions such as Ashwaraopeta. The Mini Stadium, constructed over an area of more than five acres, would be further developed into a landmark of the town, he announced.

The Minister expressed happiness over the participation of girls' kabaddi teams from all 33 districts of Telangana. He appreciated the organisers, public representatives, officials and donors for arranging accommodation and other facilities for the participating athletes despite Ashwaraopeta being a small municipality.

He also praised MLA Jare Adinarayana for his efforts to encourage athletes, drawing on his previous experience as a physical education teacher.

Emphasizing the importance of sportsmanship, the Minister said victories and defeats were natural parts of sports. He encouraged every participant to compete with determination, discipline and a positive attitude.

He urged students to excel in both academics and sports to fulfil their parents' aspirations and build a bright future.

The Minister assured that the government would provide athletes with quality coaching, necessary infrastructure and every possible form of encouragement to help Telangana achieve greater recognition in national and international sports. He expressed confidence that athletes from the state would win more medals on international platforms over the next five to six years.

Pro Kabaddi Bringing Greater Recognition to Rural Sports

Khammam MP Ram Sahayam Raghuram Reddy said organising state-level sporting events required extensive planning, coordination and hard work. He appreciated the efforts made to bring athletes from all 33 districts to a remote region like Ashwaraopeta and conduct the tournament successfully.

He observed that kabaddi was widely popular in rural areas and had gained greater national recognition through platforms such as the Pro Kabaddi League.



He advised athletes to accept both victories and defeats equally, learn valuable lessons from setbacks and continue striving towards their goals.

More Athletes from Tribal Regions Should Excel

Ashwaraopeta MLA Jare Adinarayana said it was a matter of pride to host a state-level sporting event in the tribal region. He explained that the tournament was organised with the objective of providing greater opportunities for local athletes to excel at state and national levels.

Drawing on his experience as a physical education teacher, he said he was committed to identifying talented sportspersons and providing them with suitable opportunities to demonstrate their abilities.

He thanked Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, public representatives, officials, party workers, sports organisers and donors for their cooperation in organising the tournament.

Special Focus on Developing Sports Facilities

District Collector Ankit congratulated the athletes who had arrived from all 33 districts. He said hosting the state-level kabaddi tournament would provide further impetus to sporting activities in the district.

He explained that the district administration was developing sports facilities in disciplines such as archery and shooting to identify and nurture emerging talent.

He added that special coaching was being provided through summer training camps and that various sporting competitions were being organised to encourage talented athletes. He wished the participants success in the tournament.

District Superintendent of Police Rohith Raju welcomed the athletes arriving from different districts. He said participation, hard work, determination and competitive spirit were more important than victories and defeats.

He expressed hope that the visiting athletes would inspire local tribal youth to develop an interest in sports. He assured that the police department would extend full cooperation to ensure the smooth and successful conduct of the tournament.

Tribal Kabaddi Player Thodam Prasad Inspires Young Athletes

ITDA Project Officer Rahul said kabaddi had earned considerable recognition at national and international levels. He noted that the Pro Kabaddi League had created opportunities for athletes from remote areas to showcase their abilities on prominent platforms.

He highlighted the achievement of Thodam Prasad, a tribal youth from Bhadradi Kothagudem district who studied in local tribal schools and rose to the level of professional kabaddi. His achievement, he said, was an inspiration to aspiring sportspersons across the district.

He encouraged the girls representing all 33 districts to make the most of the opportunity and demonstrate their talent and sporting abilities.

Following the inaugural ceremony, Minister Ponguleti watched the kabaddi matches.

The programme was attended by Additional Collector for Local Bodies Vidya Chandana, Municipal Commissioner Dilip Reddy, public representatives, district officials, sports organisers, athletes from various districts and women.

TUWJ District President Yadagiri Extends Birthday Greetings to Collector Prateek Jain Calls for Better Public Governance and Resolution of Journalists' Issues

SANGAREDDY October 10, 2026: TUWJ (IJU) Sangareddy District President Bandaru Yadagiri has expressed hope that public governance in the district would improve further under the leadership of District Collector Prateek Jain. He urged the Collector to address the aspirations and needs of the poor, weaker sections and journalists.

On Saturday, a delegation of journalists led by Bandaru Yadagiri met Collector Prateek Jain at his camp office and extended birthday greetings to him. On the occasion, they presented books and pens to the Collector and wished him good health, happiness and continued success in serving the people.

Yadagiri appealed to the Collector to stand by the poor and underprivileged who lack support and to ensure that their needs are addressed. He also urged him to extend support to journalists in the district and cooperate in resolving their long-pending issues.

The Collector responded positively to the delegation's appeal.

TUWJ District Vice-President MA Matheen, senior journalist Masood Khan, District Organising Secretary Wilson, Small and Medium Newspapers Association District President Mohammed Siddiq, General Secretary Eshwar Chavan, Treasurer Laxman, Photo Journalists' Association President Mohd Arif, and journalists Surya Venkat and Dinesh Naik, among others, participated in the meeting.



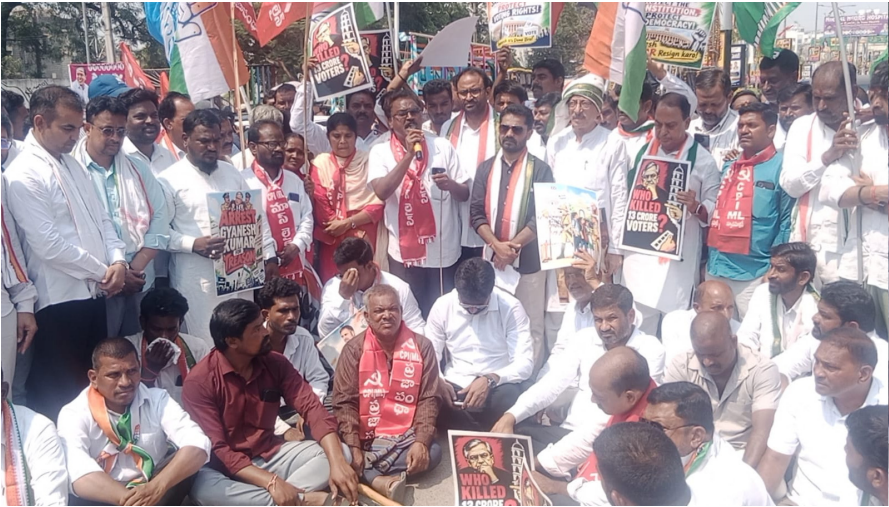
India Alliance Demands Resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar

Massive Rally in Nirmal; Protest Held at Dharna Chowk

Nirmal : The INDIA Alliance organized a rally and protest in Nirmal town on Saturday, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar. Highlighting issues such as the protection of democracy, transparency in the electoral system, and safeguarding people's voting rights, alliance leaders organized the protest to express their concerns.

The rally began at the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar statue in Nirmal town, proceeded through the main streets, and reached Dharna Chowk. During the rally, the leaders expressed their dissatisfaction with the functioning of the Election Commission, stating that it has a responsibility to safeguard the democratic system.

Several political leaders participated in the protest held at Dharna Chowk, including Comrade K. Rajanna, Nirmal District Secretary of CPI (ML) Mass Line; Nandi Ramaiah, Joint Adilabad District Secretary; DCC District President and Khanapur MLA Vedma Bojju Patel; Srihari Rao; Vilas, CPI leader; Nuthan Kumar, Dis-



trict Executive Committee Member of CPI(M); Vendi Raju; and others.

Speaking on the occasion, the leaders stated that the Election Commission plays a crucial role in the country's democratic system. They emphasized that the Commission is responsible for ensuring that elections are conducted freely, fairly, impartially, and transparently. They urged the Commission to function in a manner that strengthens public confidence in the electoral process.

The leaders observed that the right to vote is one of the most valuable rights in a democracy. They stressed the importance of ensuring equal rights for every voter and maintaining public trust in the electoral system. They demanded that the Election Commission discharge its duties in accordance with constitutional values, leaving no room for doubts or concerns regarding the conduct of elections.

The leaders also called for effective measures to strengthen public confidence in the electoral system and to protect democratic values and the spirit of the Constitution. In this context, they reiterated their demand for the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

The rally and protest organized under the leadership of the INDIA Alliance witnessed the participation of leaders and activists from various political parties, who expressed their opposition and concerns. The leaders emphasized the need for political parties to unite and work together to protect democracy and uphold constitutional principles.

SP Dr. G. Janaki Sharmila Holds Video Conference with CDOs, Tech Team and CCTNS Writers



Nirmal District : Focus on speedy disposal of pending cases, quality investigations and improved conviction rates

Nirmal District Superintendent of Police Dr. G. Janaki Sharmila, IPS, conducted a video conference with police officials to ensure the effective implementation of the instructions and guidelines issued by State Director General of Police (DGP) C.V. Anand, IPS.

During the conference, the SP issued several instructions on the speedy disposal of pending cases, conducting quality investigations, expediting court trials and ensuring better coordination among police personnel to secure convictions in criminal cases.

Ensure Thorough and Quality Investigations

The SP directed police officials to ensure that every investigation is conducted thoroughly and professionally, from the registration of the First Information Report (FIR) to the filing of the charge sheet.

She instructed investigating officers to collect all relevant evidence and present it effectively before the court. She emphasized that the progress of every case must be monitored regularly to avoid negligence and unnecessary delays in investigations.

Expedite the Disposal of Pending Cases

The SP instructed officials to pay special atten-

tion to cases that have been pending for a long time. Steps must be taken to ensure that trials in cases where proceedings have not yet commenced are initiated at the earliest.

She also directed officials to expedite the disposal of PT cases, pending e-summons, petty cases and drunk-and-drive (D&D) cases.

Investigating officers and court-duty staff must work in close coordination to improve the conviction rate and ensure that offenders receive appropriate punishment, she said.

Update Case Details in CCTNS on Time

The SP instructed police personnel to regularly update details relating to cases and court proceedings in the online system and the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS).

She also directed officials to obtain the necessary CC numbers for court proceedings without delay. Police officers must take the initiative to ensure that victims receive speedy justice in every case.

Perform Duties with Responsibility

Emphasizing the importance of crime prevention, quality investigations, speedy case disposal and public safety, the SP directed every police officer to discharge their duties with dedication and responsibility.

She further instructed officials to communicate the achievements of the police department and its good initiatives to the public through the media.

The SP stressed that police personnel must provide better services to the public and strengthen people's trust and confidence in the police department.

Police Officials Participate

Bhainsa ASP Sai Kiran, IPS, Nirmal DSP P. Srinivas, Circle Inspectors, Inspectors, Station House Officers (SHOs), CCTNS writers, Tech Team members, CDOs and other police personnel participated in the video conference.

Excise Officials Conduct Major Raids in Kalavalanagaram: 800 Litres of Fermented Jaggery Wash Destroyed*

Strict Action Against Illegal Arrack Manufacturing, Transportation and Sale: Excise CI Nageswara Rao*

Karkagudem, October 10:: Excise officials intensified their crackdown on illegal arrack production in Kalavalanagaram village of Karkagudem Mandal in Bhadradi Kothagudem district. In a joint operation, teams from Manuguru Excise, Khammam Enforcement and the Kothagudem District Task Force (DTF) conducted raids and seized 800 litres of fermented jaggery wash used in the preparation of illicit liquor. The seized material was subsequently destroyed.

The joint operation was carried out as part of efforts to curb the illegal manufacture and sale of illicit liquor. During the raids, officials identified a large quantity of fermented jaggery wash and destroyed it.

Strict Action Against Illegal Arrack Activities

Speaking on the occasion, Excise Circle Inspector Nageswara Rao warned that strict legal action would be taken against anyone involved in the manufacture, transportation or sale of illicit arrack.

He made it clear that those involved in illegal liquor activities would face action under the law. The Excise Department is continuing its surveillance and enforcement measures to prevent the production of illicit liquor, which poses serious risks to public health.

The CI also urged the public to inform the authorities if they come across information regarding the illegal manufacture or sale of arrack.

The joint raids in Kalavalanagaram highlight the ongoing efforts of the Excise Department to curb illicit liquor activities in the region. Officials warned that inspections and enforcement measures would continue to prevent illegal arrack production.



Financial Support for Poor Families: Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak Cheques Distributed to 20 Beneficiaries*

Welfare of Every Eligible Family is the Priority of the People's Government: Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu

Karkagudem, October 10: Pinapaka MLA and Chairman of the ST Welfare Committee Payam Venkateswarlu stated that the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes are providing financial support to poor families and helping them meet the expenses of their daughters' marriages.

On Saturday, at the Tahsildar Office in Karkagudem Mandal of Bhadradi Kothagudem district, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu distributed cheques to 20 beneficiaries under the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes. On the occasion, he congratulated the beneficiaries and urged them to make effective use of government welfare schemes.

Speaking at the programme, the MLA said that the people's government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Enumul Revanth Reddy, was giving the highest priority to the welfare of poor and middle-class families. He stated that the government was committed to ensuring that the benefits of welfare schemes reached every eligible family.

Financial Assistance for Daughters' Marriages

The MLA explained that the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes were being implemented with the objective of extending financial assistance to eligible families during their daughters' marriages. These schemes help reduce the financial burden on families and provide much-needed support to par-



ents during marriage ceremonies, he said.

He further stated that providing financial assistance to eligible beneficiaries at the right time would strengthen their financial security and bring relief to their families.

Welfare and Development Remain Key Priorities

MLA Payam Venkateswarlu said that the state government was moving forward with a focus on public welfare and development by identifying and addressing people's needs. Women's empowerment, financial assistance to poor families and ensuring that eligible beneficiaries receive government scheme benefits were among the government's key priorities, he added.

He urged eligible people to make proper use of the welfare schemes being implemented by the government and advised applicants to submit the required documents while applying for benefits.

The MLA assured that he would continue working for the welfare and development of the people of the Pinapaka constituency.

Officials and Public Representatives Attend

The programme was attended by the MRO, MPDO, Housing AE, concerned officials, mandal-level presidents, senior district leaders, sarpanches, deputy sarpanches, ward members, former public representatives, women leaders, Congress party leaders, party workers and others.

Congress Leaders Felicitate RTC United Front Leaders on Election Victory

Congress Leaders Appreciate CM Revanth Reddy for Two Increments, Government Merger Initiative and Democratic RTC Elections INTC-Backed United Front Leaders Honoured at District Congress Office in Kothagudem

Kothagudem, October 10:: Congress leaders in Bhadradi Kothagudem district felicitated the leaders of the INTUC-led United Front following their victory in the prestigious Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) elections. The leaders were honoured with shawls at the District Congress Party office in Vidyanagar Colony, Kothagudem, on Saturday.

The United Front secured victories at the Kothagudem Depot and several depots across the erstwhile Khammam district, earning recognition across the region. Congress leaders congratulated the winners and expressed happiness over the electoral outcome.

The felicitation programme was attended by District Congress Committee (DCC) President Thota Devi Prasanna and State Congress leader Alla Murali, who addressed the gathering and spoke about the welfare of RTC employees.

Congress Leaders Criticise Previous BRS Government

Speaking on the occasion, DCC President Thota Devi Prasanna and State Congress leader Alla Murali alleged that RTC employees had faced several difficulties during the ten-year rule of the previous BRS government.

They claimed that employees had not received even a single increment during that period and alleged that concerns over the possible privatisation of RTC had created anxiety among workers.

The leaders said that employee welfare and the protection of workers' rights should remain priorities for the gov-



ernment.

Appreciation for CM Revanth Reddy

The Congress leaders appreciated Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for the steps taken by the state government concerning RTC employees, including the provision of two increments and initiatives towards the merger of RTC with the government.

They also welcomed the conduct of RTC elections through a democratic process, stating that such elections provide employees with an opportunity to choose their representatives.

The leaders expressed their appreciation to the Chief Minister for conducting the elections and emphasised the importance of addressing the long-standing issues of RTC employees.

Call for Continued Efforts Towards Employee Welfare

The Congress leaders congratulated the INTUC-led United Front leaders on their electoral success and urged them to work sincerely for the welfare of RTC employees.

They said the newly elected representatives should uphold the trust placed in them by the workforce and focus on resolving employee grievances, protecting workers' rights and improving their welfare.

The leaders further expressed hope that unity among RTC employees would help strengthen their collective efforts towards achieving their demands.

Congress and INTUC Leaders Participate

Those who attended the felicitation programme included INTUC district leader Razak, Congress district official spokesperson Y. Srinivas Reddy, district vice-president S.K. Jani Pasha, district secretaries Anthoti Paul, Nukala Rangarao, Bhuvana Sundar Reddy, Jalli Kiran, Chiranjeevi, Chari and Ramesh.

Corporator K.K. Srinivas, Jalli Srilakshmi, Dr. Swapna, Kaparathi Venkata Chari, Vijay, M.D. Dawood and leaders of the INTUC-CITU United Front were also present.

Unity among RTC employees, recognition of workers' rights and continued efforts towards employee welfare remained the central themes of the felicitation programme.



Nabha Natesh Embraces Traditional Elegance in a Festive Saree Look

Illuminated by warm fairy lights, Nabha Natesh radiates traditional elegance and joy in a festive indoor setting. Dressed in an olive-green saree adorned with classic dark floral borders, paired with a subtle cream patterned blouse, her sweet smile, delicate bindi, and traditional jhumkas showcase timeless South Indian grace. Nabha made her feature film debut in the 2015 Kannada action drama Vajrakaya opposite Shiva Rajkumar, earning a Filmfare Award nomination. She subsequently entered Telugu cinema with the 2018 romantic comedy Nannu Dochukunduvate. Her career reached massive commercial height with Puri Jagannadh's cult sci-fi action entertainer iSmart Shankar (2019), where her iconic performance earned her the popular moniker "iSmart Beauty." Over the years, she has impressed audiences with versatility in films like Disco Raja, Solo Brathuke So Better, Alludu Adhurs, Maestro, and Darling. Expanding her footprint in multi-lingual pan-Indian cinema, Nabha's recent and upcoming lineup features the period action adventure Nagabandham: The Secret Treasure and the multi-lingual epic Swayambhu.

Katrina Kaif shares why emotional independence matters in relationships

Katrina Kaif has reflected on lessons from her past relationships, saying no one else should be responsible for an individual's happiness. The actor believes the strongest relationships are based on admiration, respect, companionship and emotional independence rather than dependence

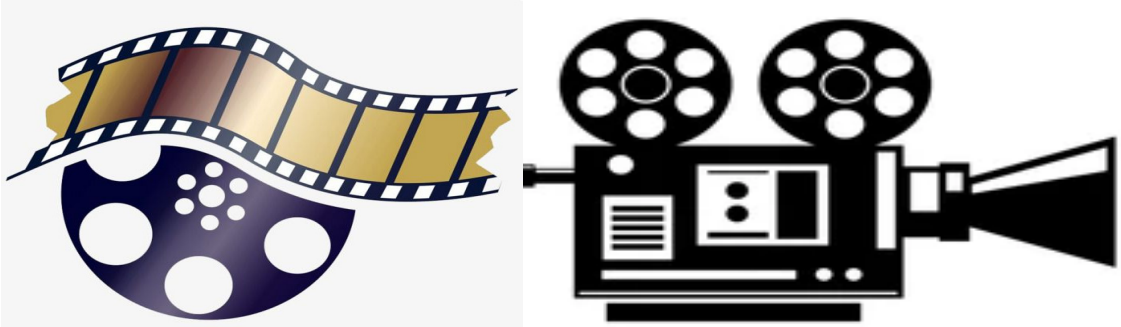
Mumbai: Actress Katrina Kaif has opened up about the biggest lessons she has learnt from her relationships over the years, saying that



no one else should be held responsible for one's happiness. During an interaction with host and filmmaker Karan Johar on the chat show Koffee with Karan Season 6, Katrina said she had realised that people should not depend on others for their happiness. She added that, in her view, the best relationships are built not on dependence but on admiration, respect and companionship.

The Tiger Zinda Hai actress said, "I had this discussion, not long back, with a few friends. They felt most women need men or it's necessary to have a man. I really don't think that's true for everyone. I can't speak for women as a collective, but it's definitely not true for me being single. I'm becoming comfortable with who I am, which I don't think I was for a large part of my life because you somehow judge yourself based on how much love or attention you get from your partner. When your relationship is amazing, you feel great about yourself. Your relationship suffers a little bit; your self-esteem and image take a beating, which is not a good thing." Sharing her idea of a healthy relationship, Katrina added, "My biggest learning from my relationships is, 'Nobody else is responsible for your happiness.' You shouldn't give away your power because you are burdening that person with responsibility. Nobody can take that responsibility for a long period of time. At some point they are going to let you down, or you let them down, and that's when the relationship suffers. The most beautiful kind of love is when neither of you need each other. There's no great dependence on the other person, there's admiration, respect, companionship, and there's a space of ease between you."

Katrina is married to actor Vicky Kaushal, and the couple have a son, Vihaan.



CINEMA

Jailer 2 gets U/A certificate ahead of October 15 worldwide release

Rajinikanth-starrer Jailer 2, directed by Nelson Dilipkumar, has received a U/A certificate from the CBFC. Produced by Sun Pictures, the action entertainer is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release on October 15 and has generated strong expectations among fans

Chennai: The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has now cleared director Nelson Dilipkumar's eagerly awaited action entertainer 'Jailer 2', featuring Superstar Rajinikanth in the lead, for release with a U/A certificate.

Sun Pictures, which is producing the film, took to its social media timelines to share the update. It wrote, "#Jailer2 is censored U/A!"

It may be recalled that the makers of the film had only recently released a trailer of the film, much to the delight of fans.

The trailer released begins with actor Suraj Venjaramoodu's character questioning a person he has kept hostage. "In these two months, you must have learnt something about the person who did this, right?" The hostage replies, "Not just me, even you won't be able to find him."

The trailer then shows that not just Suraj Venjaramoodu's character but a whole lot of villains are wondering who is behind certain developments.

It is then that Rajinikanth as Tiger Muthuvel Pandian makes an appearance.

At one point, a weary Suraj Venjaramoodu is seen asking his accomplices, "Have you managed to find him or not?"

For a minute, one is led to believe that Tiger Muthuvel Pandian has gone into hiding but almost immediately, the trailer clears the confusion.

It shows that Tiger Muthuvel Pandian has chosen to go off radar by pretending to be a driver and he has chosen to lie low to find out if the chain of command among the villains goes any higher.

The trailer also gives away the fact that Tiger Muthuvel Pandian has used snipers to attack his enemies and one among them, played by S J Suryah, says that even they can retort in kind.

The trailer also has an interesting conversation between the characters played by Rajinikanth and Vidya Balan. She asks him if he wants tea or coffee and he politely refuses. She responds saying, "The choice is between tea or coffee. It is not between whether to drink or not."

A person warns Tiger Muthuvel Pandian about the dreaded "Kalpaks", who, he says, will not allow anyone to live. Muthuvel Pandian smiles and replies, "Oh dear, I didn't know. Shall we see?"

He then issues a warning to Kalpaks himself. Listing out ways and



means used by thugs to strike terror in the hearts of victims, he tells Kalpaks," All this is the style employed in the time of your father. Now, getting all your enemies to one place and bombing that place is what is the present trend."

For the unaware, the film is slated to hit screens worldwide on October 15 this year.

The film has triggered huge expectations among fans and the general public ever since the project was first announced.

In April this year, the makers had announced that the unit had wrapped up the film's shooting. The makers had then shared pictures of a cake cutting ceremony that had taken place to mark the completion of filming.

TOLLYWOOD FILMMAKERS FEAR SOCIAL MEDIA TROLLS



tion between his character and his on-screen father, played by Rajendra Prasad, touches upon Twitter fan wars. Ravi Teja's character strongly criticises anonymous users who hide behind fake identities while spreading negativity, questioning what social media has become and taking aim at those who indulge in toxic and baseless trolling.

Producer M. S. Raju too believes that social media negativity has become a serious problem. "I don't want to take names, but many filmmakers are genuinely worried about the growing negativity on social media. Unfortunately, there is very little we can do to control it," he says.

He feels that the increasing toxicity surrounding fan wars is also affecting the theatrical life of films. "Fan wars have turned quite ugly, and the hatred is spilling over into films, cutting short their lifespan. Earlier, big films used to run for 100 or even 175 days, but now their fate is often decided within five or six days because of negativity on social media," he laments.

Fan rivalries have always existed in the Telugu film industry, but social media has given them a much larger and faster platform. Fans naturally want their favourite stars to succeed, but the rivalry can sometimes extend to attacking competing actors and their films, even before a movie reaches theatres.

"Fan wars on social media are unavoidable. Fans want their respective stars to shine while undermining their rivals. Trolls often begin even before the first show hits theatres. Though star rivalries are hurting cinema, good films are still managing to overcome this menace and emerge as blockbusters," points out M. S. Raju.

Even films like Vishwabhara, Devara, Peddi, Toxic and The Paradise among others suffered social media criticism for one issue or another. "For filmmakers, the challenge now is to distinguish between genuine and fake criticism which are affecting the collections of movies to some extent and naturally sending shivers down the spine of filmmakers," adds Ashok Teja..