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The Journalist Post

Investigative watchdog promoting transparency, accountability, justice, and informed public awareness.

inside

Government Launches Urban 'Indiramma' LIG Housing Scheme to Fulfil Homeownership Dream of the Poor



FILE PHOTO

Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy says one lakh urban houses to be built under CURE, with housing support continuing until every eligible family gets a home.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Telangana Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has reaffirmed that the state's

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Supreme Court Seeks Detailed Probe into Private Universities Across India



State governments directed to inspect private universities on nine key parameters and submit affidavits on governance, admissions, faculty, finances and regulatory compliance.

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BJP Ready to Challenge Congress and BRS in Telangana, Says Ramchander Rao



State BJP chief claims the party is organisationally strong, attacks Congress and BRS over governance, unemployment, and Hyderabad civic issues.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao on Sunday called upon party workers and the people of Telangana to prepare for a political battle against what he described as the anti-people policies of the ruling Congress and the opposition BRS, asserting that the BJP is ready to emerge as the state's alternative political force. Addressing the

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CM Revanth Reddy Cracks Whip on Congress Leaders Over SIR Campaign

Directs leaders to stay in the field until August 3, warns of action against inactive MPs and MLAs, and announces Rahul Gandhi interaction for top-performing BLAs.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday directed Congress leaders to intensify the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) campaign and warned that those failing to actively participate in the exercise would face disciplinary action. Stressing that the SIR drive is a top organisational priority, the Chief Minister instructed party leaders to remain in the field until the completion of the application process on August 3 and refrain from visiting Gandhi Bhavan during this period. Addressing a Zoom review meeting at-



FILE PHOTO

tended by Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, AICC Telangana Affairs In-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, AICC Secretary Sachin Sawant, Ministers, MPs, MLAs, MLCs, constituency in-charges and SIR coordinators, the Chief Minister said district-level leaders must focus entirely on ensuring

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Government Committed to Strengthening Singareni, Ensuring Uninterrupted Power Supply: Bhatti Vikramarka

Deputy CM says Tadicherla-II coal block secured after sustained efforts, launches Power Ambulance services, and calls for preparedness against El Niño threat.

TEKULAPALLI (BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM) | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Sunday reaffirmed the Telangana Government's commitment to strengthening Singareni Collieries and ensuring uninterrupted, quality power sup-



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ply across the State. Addressing the media at Tekulapalli in Yellandu Assembly constituency during his tour of Khammam and Bhadradri Kothagudem districts, he said the

Journalists Seek Housing Plots from Minister Ponguleti in Kothagudem



Media representatives urge early allotment of long-pending housing plots, citing years of public service and delayed implementation of the earlier land allocation proposal.

KOTHAGUDEM | JULY 19, The Journalist Post : Journalists from Kothagudem district submitted a representation to Telangana Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, requesting the allotment of housing plots for print and electronic media professionals working in Kothagudem, Lakshmidevipalli, and Chunchupalli mandals. The delegation met the Minister at his camp office in Chunchupalli during his visit to the district on Sunday and explained the long-pending demand for hous-

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DCC President Nirmala Jaggareddy Participates in Kummarla Bonalu Celebrations in Sangareddy

Kummari community offers the first 'Bonam' to FRS Yellamma as Ashada festivities begin with traditional procession and devotion.



SANGAREDDY | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : The Bonalu festivities marking the auspicious month of Ashada commenced in Sangareddy town on Sunday with the traditional offering of the first 'Bonam' to Goddess FRS Yellamma by the Kummari community. A colorful procession carrying the Bonalu was taken out from the Inspection Bungalow (IB) to the Yellamma temple amid devotional fervour and participation from devotees. District Congress Committee (DCC) President Nirmala Jaggareddy attended the celebrations as the chief guest and offered prayers to the presiding deity.

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Complete Bhadradri Temple Renovation Before Godavari Pushkaralu: Minister Ponguleti



Rs 351-crore redevelopment works to be finished 15 days before Pushkaralu; special officer appointed for regular monitoring.

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Dasoju Sravan Slams CM Revanth Reddy, Defends KCR and BRS Legacy



BRS MLC challenges government's job claims, criticizes Chief Minister's remarks on KCR, and accuses Congress of politicising Telangana icons.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : BRS MLC Dr. Dasoju Sravan on Sunday launched a sharp attack on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, accusing him of using inappropriate language in public speeches, politicising Telangana's cultural icons, and making misleading claims about employment, governance, and the previous BRS government's record. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan in Hyderabad, Dasoju Sravan alleged that the Chief Minister's recent remarks made during the birth anniversary event of noted poet Ande Sri were inappropriate and hurt the sentiments of those who admired both Ande Sri and revolutionary balladeer Gaddar. He claimed the Congress government was using the legacy of Telangana's poets and artists for political purposes. Defending former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), Dasoju described him as the embodiment of sacrifice for the Telangana movement and questioned Revanth Reddy's repeated criticism of the BRS founder. He said political differences should not diminish the respect

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EDITORIAL

"MGNREGA at 20: Rural Lifeline That Transformed India's Villages

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has completed 20 years since its launch on February 2, 2006, marking two decades as one of India's most significant social welfare programmes. Introduced from Bandlapalli village in Anantapur district, the landmark legislation has transformed rural livelihoods by guaranteeing wage employment, reducing distress migration, empowering women, and creating durable community assets across the country. Recognised as the world's largest employment guarantee programme, MGNREGA provides every rural household with a legal right to up to 100 days of wage employment annually. Over the past two decades, the scheme has emerged as a vital source of livelihood for millions of rural families, with wages directly transferred to beneficiaries' bank accounts, improving purchasing power and helping reduce poverty.

One of the programme's most significant achievements has been women's empowerment. Women now account for more than half of the workforce under MGNREGA, earning equal wages and gaining financial independence while contributing to the rural economy. The scheme has also played a major role in reducing distress migration, particularly in the Telugu states. Before its implementation, thousands of labourers from districts such as Anantapur, Kurnool, Prakasam, Mahabubnagar (Palamuru), Medak, and other drought-prone regions migrated seasonally to cities including Mumbai, Hyderabad, Surat, and Bengaluru in search of work. With employment now available within villages, migration has reportedly declined significantly, allowing families to remain together and ensuring continuity in children's education. Beyond employment generation, MGNREGA has contributed substantially to the development of rural infrastructure.

Across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the programme has supported works such as tank desilting, water conservation structures, farm ponds, irrigation channels, plantation development, village roads, rainwater harvesting systems, and community assets including Rythu Vedikas, Palle Prakruthi Vanams, Vaikuntha Dhamams, village secretariats, YSR Health Clinics, and Rythu Bharosa Kendras. The employment guarantee programme also proved crucial during the COVID-19 pandemic, when millions of migrant workers returned to their villages after losing urban employment. MGNREGA provided immediate livelihood support through expanded job opportunities and new job cards, helping rural households survive one of the country's most difficult economic crises. After two decades, MGNREGA continues to be regarded as a cornerstone of rural development by strengthening livelihoods, promoting social inclusion, improving rural infrastructure, and providing economic security to millions of India's poorest households.

Ganta Ramakrishna (DOM)

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the success of the SIR campaign. Revanth Reddy directed all in-charge Ministers to personally supervise the SIR process and announced that a comprehensive Assembly constituency-wise review meeting would be held on July 30 to assess progress. He also instructed Ministers to conduct periodic review meetings and asked MPs to continue monitoring SIR activities in their respective districts even while attending the ongoing Parliament session. Expressing dissatisfaction over the lack of field visits by some party leaders, the Chief Minister warned that nominated posts such as corporation chairmanships would not be given to leaders who remain inactive during the SIR campaign. He further cautioned MPs, MLAs, MLCs and constituency in-charges that strict action would be taken against those failing to discharge their responsibilities.

The Chief Minister noted that the extension of the SIR deadline to August 3 should be treated as an opportunity to reach more voters and strengthen the party's grassroots network. He revealed that the Congress has already conducted 489 SIR-related meetings across all 119 Assembly constituencies but stressed that additional efforts are needed, particularly in constituencies where progress has been slow. Revanth Reddy instructed MLAs, constituency in-charges and party chairpersons to verify reports submitted by Booth Level Agents (BLAs) instead of depending solely on Booth Level Officers (BLOs). He directed the Gandhi Bhavan team to continuously monitor reports submitted by both BLAs and BLOs to ensure accuracy and accountability.

Emphasising the importance of grassroots mobilisation, the Chief Minister made it mandatory for Ministers, MLAs, constituency in-charges, corporation chairpersons and party leaders assigned to the SIR campaign to tour Assembly constituencies over the next ten days and closely monitor the revision process. As an incentive to grassroots workers, Revanth Reddy announced that the 100 best-performing Booth Level Agents would be given an opportunity to meet Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and have a photograph taken with him in recognition of their contribution to the SIR campaign.



ing plots. They stated that journalists have consistently served as a vital bridge between the government and the public by highlighting public issues and facilitating solutions, yet many continue to face hardships due to the lack of permanent housing. The journalists (Print Electronic Media) urged the Minister to fulfill the promise made by the present government regarding the allocation of housing plots for media personnel. They recalled that nearly 10 acres of land near the Ramavaram Bridge had earlier been earmarked for journalists' housing plots, but the process remained incomplete due to unavoidable circumstances. They appealed to the Minister to revive the proposal and ensure the early



Tarak, Rajender, Babu, Shafi, Dasarath Raju, A. Manoj Kumar, N. Rajesh, Durga, M. Rajesh, Suresh, Ravi, Nageswara Rao, Santosh, Naresh, Purushotham, Naveen Reddy, and several other journalists.

BJP Ready to Challenge Congress and BRS in Telangana, Says Ramchander Rao

Hyderabad Central District Executive Committee meeting as the chief guest, Ramchander Rao said the district and division-level executive meetings are crucial for strengthening the party's organisational network and preparing for future electoral challenges. He claimed that no political party in Telangana could match the BJP's organisational strength, stating that the party has functional booth committees in nearly 31,000 of the state's 35,000 polling booths, over 42 lakh members, and active organisational units in 870 of the 920 mandals. The BJP leader alleged that both the previous BRS government and the present Congress administration had failed to address public issues. He accused the Congress of coming to power through false promises and guarantees while repeating the governance failures of the previous regime. He also alleged that the BRS had failed to fulfill its promise of providing a job to every household and blamed it for paper leak controversies and delays in filling government vacancies. Criticising the Congress government, Ramchander Rao claimed that employment opportunities were allegedly being limited to associates of ministers and ruling party leaders instead of deserving youth. He also alleged that the government had failed to issue major recruitment notifications apart from police constable posts. On Hyderabad civic administration, the BJP state president accused the Congress government of expanding the Greater Hyderabad Municipal



Journalists Allege RTC 'One-Third Fare

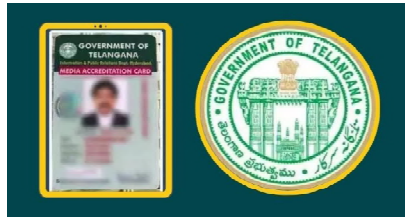
Concession' Not Being Implemented

Media associations claim accredited journalists are being charged over half the fare and seek immediate correction of ticketing software.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Journalists across Telangana have raised concerns over the implementation of concessional bus fares by the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (RTC), alleging that the long-standing one-third fare concession is not being properly extended in practice. Media organisations have urged the RTC management and the state government to immediately address the issue and ensure that accredited journalists receive the concession as prescribed. According to journalist representatives, accredited media personnel are officially entitled to travel by paying only one-third of the ticket fare under the existing concession scheme. However, they allege that conductors are collecting more than half of the fare on several services due to discrepancies in the Ticket Issuing Machine (TIM) software.

While bus passes continue to display a "1/3 Concession" endorsement, journalists claim the actual fare deducted often exceeds 50 percent. The issue is said to be more pronounced on Express and Electric bus services. Journalists allege that they are being charged around 53–55 percent of the fare on Express buses and nearly 60 percent on electric buses, substantially reducing the intended concession. Conductors reportedly attribute the discrepancy to the ticketing software, stating that they can only issue tickets based on the fare automatically calculated by the TIM devices.

This has reportedly led to confusion and frequent disputes between passengers and bus staff over the applicable concession. Journalists, particularly those covering rural and district beats, said the increased travel costs have become a significant financial burden, as frequent travel is an essential part of their profession. They noted that many reporters working on modest salaries are forced to spend a considerable share of their income on transportation. Journalist associations have demanded that the RTC immediately rectify the alleged software issues, uniformly implement the one-third fare concession across all categories of buses, including Express and Electric services, and exempt accredited journalists from any additional user charges. They have also appealed to the state government to intervene and ensure that the concession policy is implemented in both letter and spirit.



allotment of plots to all eligible journalists. Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy patiently heard the representations and assured the delegation that their concerns would be examined. The delegation included Kalloji Srinivas, Veeru Naik, Vattikonda Ravi, Nagachandra, Praveen, Paparao, Puram Srinivas,



Supreme Court Seeks Detailed Probe into Private Universities Across India

State governments directed to inspect private universities on nine key parameters and submit affidavits on governance, admissions, faculty, finances and regulatory compliance.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : The Supreme Court has sought a comprehensive review of the functioning of private universities across the country, raising questions over the objectives behind their establishment, governance practices, faculty recruitment, admission procedures, and financial transparency. Hearing the Ayesha Jain vs. Union of India case, the apex court directed all state governments to conduct detailed inspections of private universities and submit affidavits containing complete information on their operations. Acting on the Court's directions, the Telangana Government has constituted a high-level committee under the chairmanship of the Commissioner of Collegiate Education (CCE) to inspect all private universities in the State. The committee includes the Secretary of the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) as Convener, the Registrar of JNTU as Member-Convener, the Registrar of Palamuru University, the Chief Finance and Accounts Officer of Osmania University, and the Assistant Director (Academic-C) from the Department of Technical Education.

The committee has also been authorised to engage subject experts whenever necessary. The Supreme Court has directed the committee to examine nine critical aspects of private university administration. These include the purpose behind establishing the institution, whether



feasibility studies or policy assessments were conducted before approval, and whether any government land or incentives were provided along with the conditions attached to such benefits.

The Court has also sought detailed information on the management structure of private universities, including the individuals or societies running them, the selection process of governing bodies, and the transparency of their administration. Further, the inspections will scrutinise admission procedures to determine whether entrance processes comply with legal and regulatory standards and whether these mechanisms have been verified

by the respective state governments. Faculty recruitment has emerged as another major area of concern. The committee has been asked to verify whether academic staff were appointed through duly constituted selection committees in accordance with University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations and whether the recruitment process was properly validated by the government.

The Supreme Court has also directed state governments to examine the effectiveness of regulatory inspections, identify violations of university regulations, and report whether appropriate action has been taken against institutions found violating prescribed norms. Financial accountability will also be closely examined. The Court has questioned whether universities claiming to operate on a 'no-profit, no-loss' basis are adhering to that principle.

The inspection will review audited accounts, possible diversion of funds, payments made to founders and their family members, acquisition of assets, and overall financial management. In addition, the committee has been instructed to assess whether universities have effective grievance redressal mechanisms for students and faculty, including appellate procedures, and whether complaints received have been resolved in accordance with established rules. The final aspect of the inspection concerns the welfare of teaching staff. The Court has sought verification of whether universities comply with UGC norms relating to salaries, service conditions and minimum wages, and whether any violations have been detected during inspections. The inspection reports prepared by the committee will form the basis of the affidavit to be submitted by the Telangana Government before the Supreme Court as part of the nationwide review of private universities.

H-FAST Cracks Down on Food Safety Violations; Six Apprehended in Hyderabad

Joint enforcement drive with GHMC uncovers unhygienic food practices, seized unsafe food items, and urges public to report adulteration.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : The Hyderabad Food Adulteration Surveillance Team (H-FAST) of the Hyderabad City Police, in coordination with GHMC Food Safety Officers, conducted a special enforcement drive across Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts to curb food adulteration and ensure compliance with food safety regulations. During the operation, six persons were apprehended for various violations under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The drive targeted six food business establishments, including food manufacturing units, an ice cream manufacturing unit, murukulu manufacturing units, a bakery, and a retail food outlet. Those apprehended were handed over to the concerned Food Safety Officers for

further legal action. Officials found multiple violations during the inspections, including unhygienic food preparation and storage, use of reused cook-



absence of valid FSSAI licences, improper food labelling, poor sanitation, pest infestation, inadequate food safety records, and unsafe storage practices. During the inspections, authorities seized reused cooking oil, artificial food colours, and other unsafe food items. Food samples were collected and sent for laboratory analysis, while notices were issued to



ing oil and artificial food colours, sale of expired and misbranded food products,

Safety Officers. Hyderabad City Police appealed to the public to purchase food only from licensed and hygienic establishments, verify FSSAI licences and expiry dates before buying food products, and promptly report incidents of food adulteration or unhygienic food practices through the H-FAST toll-free helpline 8712661212 for immediate action.



Jagga Reddy Hits Back at KTR, Defends Gandhi Family Over 'Death Declaration' Remarks

Congress leader accuses BRS of ingratitude towards Sonia Gandhi and says the Gandhi family honours its commitments while defending the government's employment record.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Senior Congress leader T. Jagga Reddy on Sunday strongly criticised BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) over his remarks made at the Yuva Sangrama Sabha in Saroornagar, accusing the BRS leader of using inappropriate political rhetoric against Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi. Addressing the media, Jagga Reddy questioned whether KTR's references to a "political death declaration" reflected Telangana's political culture. He said the state was formed under the leadership of former Congress president Sonia Gandhi and alleged that the BRS leadership was displaying ingratitude towards the Gandhi family despite benefiting politically after Telangana's formation. Jagga Reddy claimed that Telangana's culture is rooted in gratitude and respect and alleged that the BRS leadership had forgotten the role played by Sonia Gandhi in the creation of the state. He



recalled that BRS founder K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) had publicly expressed gratitude to Sonia Gandhi after Telangana was formed and questioned the present stand taken by the party leadership. The Congress leader also criticised the previous BRS government over employment issues, referring to the TSPSC paper leak controversy and questioning why BRS leaders did not directly address unemployed youth during their tenure. Defending the Congress government, he stated that under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, thousands of government jobs have been filled across various departments, and accused KTR of ignoring these recruitment efforts in his criticism of the government. Jagga Reddy further alleged that the Gandhi family follows value-based politics and honours its commitments, while accusing the BRS leadership of failing to fulfil promises made to the people during its tenure in office. The Congress leader reiterated that political debate should remain focused on governance, employment, and public welfare rather than personal attacks, and urged the BRS leadership to engage in constructive opposition.

Mahesh Kumar Goud Offers Bonalu Prayers for Telangana's Prosperity

TPCC chief visits Renuka Yellamma and Kota Maisamma temples in Nizamabad, prays for public welfare and the state's all-round development.

NIZAMABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : On the occasion of the Ashada Masam Bonalu festival, TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud on Sunday offered special prayers at the Sri Renuka Yellamma Temple in Ambedkar Colony and the Sri Kota Maisamma Temple in Kotagalli, Nizamabad city. During his visit, Mahesh Kumar Goud offered naivedyam to the presiding deities and prayed for the health, happiness, and prosperity of the people of Telangana. He also sought the Goddess's blessings for the state's continued progress and development across all sectors. Speaking on the occasion, the TPCC President said that Bonalu is a symbol of Telangana's rich culture and traditions and reflects the unity and spiritual heritage of the people. He emphasized the importance of preserving the state's cultural festivals while praying for peace and prosperity. Temple committee members and devotees extended a grand welcome to Mahesh Kumar Goud and presented him with teertha-prasadam and the blessings of the Goddess. The programme was attended by Nizamabad Mayor Uma Rani, DCC President Bobbili Ramakrishna, Corporation Chairpersons Shekhar Goud, Taher Bin, and Kesha Venu, along with local Congress leaders, party workers, temple committee members, and a large number of devotees.



Parliament Must Hold Comprehensive Debate on Public Issues: MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy

Bhongir MP seeks discussion on delimitation, Telangana's pending commitments, NEET paper leak, Women's Reservation Bill, and national issues during Parliament session.

NEW DELHI | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Bhongir Member of Parliament Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy on Sunday called for comprehensive discussions on major national and public issues during the ongoing Parliament session, stating that Parliament must address matters that directly impact the people and the country's future. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan in New Delhi, the Congress MP said the proposed delimitation exercise should not be implemented in a manner that disadvantages southern states. He stressed that the issue must first be debated extensively in Parliament before any legislation is introduced. He also reiterated the Congress party's full support for the Women's Reservation Bill. Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy urged the Central Government to facilitate discussions on several important issues, including the utilization of public donations collected for the Ayodhya Ram Temple, the alleged forcible hospitalization of Ladakh activist Sonam Wangchuk, the NEET question paper leak, the ongoing conflict in West Asia, the One Nation-One Election proposal, and the increasing use of ethanol in petrol. He appealed to Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju to allocate sufficient time for these debates. Holding the Union Government accountable for the NEET paper leak, the MP demanded the resignation of the Union

Education Minister and alleged that constitutional values were being undermined. He remarked that the Centre should focus on resolving people's issues rather than prioritizing foreign visits. Focusing on Telangana, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy urged the Union Government to immediately fulfill all pending commitments made under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. He demanded early approval of the Regional Ring Road (RRR), declaration of the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme as a national project, immediate clearance for Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase-II, implementation of the Musi River rejuvenation project, allocation of funds under the Urban Challenge Fund, and establishment of an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Telangana. He said these demands were aimed solely at accelerating Telangana's development and safeguarding the interests of its people. Commenting on state politics, the MP said the people had delivered a decisive verdict against the BRS in the Lok Sabha elections. He criticized BRS leaders for allegedly neglecting Telangana's interests and accused BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao of making misleading statements instead of answering for the party's performance during its decade-long rule.



DCC President Nirmala Jaggareddy Participates in Kummarla Bonalu Celebrations in Sangareddy

Addressing the gathering, she described Ashada Masam as one of the most sacred months in the Hindu calendar and said the tradition of offering Bonalu to the Goddess with faith and devotion has been preserved for



generations. She prayed for the prosperity, peace, and well-being of the people. The festival witnessed enthusiastic participation from members of the Kummari community, women devotees, and local residents, who joined the traditional procession and religious

rituals. Among those present were TPCC General Secretary Topaji Ananth Kishan, Congress Town President Kiran Goud, Councillors Shailesh Reddy, Krishna, and Ashwin, Congress leader Srisailam, along with community elders, party leaders, and a large number of women devotees. The celebrations were marked by devotional songs, cultural traditions, and vibrant festivities, heralding the beginning of Bonalu celebrations in Sangareddy.

Agrasen Co-operative Urban Bank a Model Institution Built on Public Trust: Mahesh Kumar Goud

TPCC President lauds the bank's transparent governance, digital banking services, and role in supporting small traders and entrepreneurs at its Annual General Meeting.

NIZAMABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud on Sunday praised Agrasen Co-operative Urban Bank for emerging as a model co-operative banking institution built on transparency and public confidence. He was addressing the bank's Annual General Meeting (AGM) as the chief guest. Expressing happiness over participating in the AGM, Mahesh Kumar Goud said the bank, established in 1998, has successfully maintained the trust of the public for 27 years. He noted that the institution, which began its journey in Hyderabad, has steadily grown into one of the state's leading co-operative banks through disciplined management and customer-centric services. He congratulated the bank's Chairman, Board of Directors, management, and staff for their dedicated efforts and stated that the confidence reposed by over 10,000 shareholders reflects the institution's transparent governance and credibility. The TPCC President appreciated the bank for providing quality banking services to people from all sections of society and welcomed the introduction of modern Core Banking Solution (CBS)-based



digital banking services. He expressed hope that the bank, which currently operates 10 branches, would continue its expansion by opening more branches to serve a larger customer base.

Highlighting the importance of the co-operative banking sector, Mahesh Kumar Goud said co-operative banks form the backbone of the country's economy by extending financial support to small traders, self-employed individuals, and middle-class families. He noted that Telangana is creating a favourable ecosystem for investments and industrial growth, which will further strengthen financial institutions. He stressed that digital services, transparency, and public trust are the three pillars of a successful banking institution. He also called for greater financial support to young entrepreneurs, startups, and women entrepreneurs, stating that such initiatives would contribute significantly to economic development and employment generation. Concluding his address, Mahesh Kumar Goud expressed confidence that Agrasen Co-operative Urban Bank would continue its journey of growth through financial discipline, social responsibility, and customer service, and hoped it would emerge as one of the finest co-operative banks in the country.

Government Launches Urban 'Indiramma' LIG Housing Scheme to Fulfil Homeownership Dream of the Poor

'Indiramma' Housing Scheme will continue as an ongoing mission to ensure every eligible homeless family receives a dignified home. He said the programme reflects the commitment of the people's government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to make homeownership a reality for the poor across Telangana. Reviewing preparations for the launch of the Low-Income Group (LIG) Indiramma Housing Scheme under the Comprehensive Urban Expansion

and Renewal (CURE) initiative, the Minister held a teleconference with senior officials on Sunday. The scheme will be formally launched at the State Secretariat on Monday. Ponguleti said the government has already sanctioned 4.50 lakh Indiramma houses across the state in the first phase, with nearly two lakh houses completed and occupied by beneficiaries, while construction of the remaining houses is progressing rapidly. The second phase has already begun with the sanction of 2.50 lakh houses in districts outside Hyderabad.

The Minister announced that the government is now extending the scheme to urban areas, including Hyderabad, with a target of constructing one lakh LIG houses. In the first phase, 500 houses will be taken up in each Assembly

Minister Seethakka Orders Probe into Podu Land Dispute in Bhadradri Kothagudem

Directs officials to resolve the issue peacefully, protect tribal rights and act against excesses while preventing fresh encroachments.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Telangana Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and Women & Child Welfare Dr. Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka) has taken serious note of the Podu land dispute reported from Manubothlagudem village in Ashwaraopet Mandal of Bhadradri Kothagudem district, directing officials to resolve the issue amicably while safeguarding the rights of tribal communities. After learning about the incident, the Minister spoke with the District Collector and Superintendent of Police to obtain detailed information.



She also discussed the matter with Forests, Environment and Endowments Minister Konda Surekha to review the situation and ensure appropriate action. Seethakka instructed officials to handle the matter with sensitivity, taking local conditions into consideration, and directed that action be initiated against any personnel found to have acted beyond their authority during the incident.

The Minister reiterated that the state government remains committed to protecting the rights of Adivasi and tribal families over Podu lands cultivated by them for generations and is continuing to grant legal rights to eligible beneficiaries. At the same time, she clarified that the government would not encourage any fresh encroachments on forest lands, stressing that protecting forest resources and safeguarding the legitimate rights of tribal communities must go hand in hand.

constituency within the city limits. He said the application process, eligibility criteria, and programme guidelines would be released at 11:30 a.m. on Monday at the State Secretariat by Ministers Ponnamm Prabhakar, Duddilla Sridhar Babu, and Mohammed Ali.

Ponguleti stated that the government has identified prime land parcels ranging from one to five acres across the city to build multi-storey residential complexes of up to ten floors equipped with modern amenities. Unlike previous housing programmes, he said, the new projects are being developed close to beneficiaries' existing localities to ensure livelihoods, education, and employment remain unaffected. The Minister urged eligible urban residents to submit applications in their respective Assembly constituencies. He added that the government aims to construct 3.50 lakh new houses during the current financial year—2.50 lakh in rural areas and one lakh in urban areas—taking the total number of houses sanctioned under the Indiramma programme to over eight lakh, marking one of the state's largest housing initiatives for economically weaker families.

Kavitha Targets Congress, BRS; Unveils Five-Point Welfare Vision at Korutla Meeting

Telangana Rakshana Sena chief promises free education, healthcare, youth support and farmer welfare, while alleging corruption and warning over water security.



KORUTLA|JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Telangana Rakshana Sena (TRS) chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Sunday launched a sharp attack on both the Congress and BRS, alleging that political parties had failed to address the aspirations of Telangana's people and accusing the state government of ignoring warnings about a possible "Super El Niño" and the state's water security.Addressing the 'Panchajanya Sankalpa Sabha' in Korutla, where senior BJP leader Dr. Raghu joined the Telangana Rakshana Sena, Kavitha said she founded the party to safeguard Telangana's identity and serve the people after being "forced out" of the BRS for raising issues related to corruption and the welfare of Backward Classes.She alleged that despite repeated warnings from scientists regarding a possible Super El Niño, the government had failed to ensure adequate water storage, claiming that the Godavari currently holds only 93 TMC of water against its full capacity. She also accused both the Congress and the BRS of indulging in politics over the Kaleshwaram project instead of exploring alternative methods to lift water independent of the Medigadda barrage. Presenting her party's five-point agenda under the "Panchajanya" initiative, Kavitha promised free



quality education, universal healthcare, collateral-free loans ranging from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 20 crore for youth entrepreneurs, farmer-centric governance, and social justice for all sections of society. She claimed that quality education and comprehensive healthcare could be provided within the existing government budget if corruption was eliminated. Kavitha also promised that her party would bear the educational expenses of students studying in reputed institutions and provide free medical treatment for all diseases, irrespective of cost. On agriculture, she alleged that the government had failed to fulfil its farm loan waiver promise and criticised the system for creating hurdles in urea distribution. She assured that, if voted to power, her party would establish dedicated service counters for farmers in every government office. Kavitha further asserted that Telangana's youth deserve greater encouragement and financial support, promising collateral-free assistance to aspiring entrepreneurs to help them establish globally competitive companies. She concluded by stating that the Telangana Rakshana Sena was formed to bring meaningful change to the lives of ordinary people and to ensure transparent, accountable, and welfare-oriented governance in the state.

Government Committed to Strengthening Singareni, Ensuring Uninterrupted Power Supply: Bhatti

government is simultaneously focusing on energy security, tribal welfare, and infrastructure development while preparing for challenges arising from the possible El Niño phenomenon.The Deputy Chief Minister alleged that the previous BRS government neglected Singareni for a decade by failing to secure new coal blocks despite knowing that existing reserves were gradually depleting. He said the previous administration neither participated in coal block auctions nor took timely measures to ensure the future of the State-owned coal mining company, forcing Singareni to face operational challenges. He credited the dedication of Singareni employees for keeping the organisation strong despite these setbacks.Bhatti Vikramarka said the present government reopened pending files immediately after assuming office and successfully fought with the Central Government to secure the long-pending Tadicherla-II coal block. He recalled that the block had originally been allotted to Singareni by the UPA Government in 2013 but remained stalled for nearly a decade. He also said he personally visited Odisha to expedite environmental and forest clearances for the Naini coal block to strengthen the company's long-term production capacity.Criticising the previous government for allowing the Sathupalli and Koyagudem coal blocks to slip into private hands, the Deputy Chief Minister maintained that coal mining in Scheduled Areas should remain under public sector organisations or tribal communities in accordance with the provisions of the 1/70 Regulation. He said the State Government is continuing its legal battle against the Centre's decision on the issue.Assuring justice to families displaced by mining projects, Bhatti Vikramarka said the government understands the emotional attachment of farmers to their lands and would adopt a humane approach while addressing rehabilitation concerns. He reiterated the government's commitment to the welfare of nearly 45,000 permanent employees and 35,000 contract and outsourcing workers dependent on Singareni for their livelihood.Highlighting employee welfare measures, the Deputy Chief Minister said Telangana was the first State



to introduce accidental insurance of Rs 1 crore for Singareni employees, which was later extended to employees of power utilities including SPDCL, NPDCL, GENCO and TRANSCO. He announced that the insurance coverage has now been enhanced to Rs1.20 crore for all State Government employees.He also announced the implementation of the Indira Soura Giri Jala Vikasam scheme to support tribal farmers who received podu land titles. Under the initiative, eligible farmers will receive free solar-powered irrigation facilities, including borewells, pump sets, sprinkler systems and drip irrigation systems to improve agricultural productivity and livelihoods.Expressing concern over the sharp rise in electricity demand, Bhatti Vikramarka said power consumption had surged from the usual July peak of around 11,000 MW to nearly 16,600 MW within a week due to unusual climatic conditions. Despite the unprecedented demand, he said officials have been directed to ensure uninterrupted 24x7 electricity supply across the State.The Deputy Chief Minister highlighted the introduction of the 1912 power helpline and the newly launched Power Ambulance service, modelled on the 108 emergency response system. He said specially equipped vehicles carrying engineers, technicians, transformers and repair equipment are dispatched immediately upon receiving complaints to restore power supply. A total of 165 Power Ambulances have already been deployed across Telangana.Warning about the possible impact of the global El Niño phenomenon, Bhatti Vikramarka said scientists have cautioned that prolonged drought conditions could affect agriculture, forests, wildlife and drinking water availability. He appealed to the media and citizens to create awareness about the potential challenges and support the government's preparedness measures to mitigate the impact of drought.

Dasoju Sravan Slams CM Revanth Reddy, Defends KCR and BRS Legacy



BRS MLC challenges government's job claims, criticizes Chief Minister's remarks on KCR, and accuses Congress of politicising Telangana icons.

due to leaders who played a key role in the state's formation. The BRS leader also rejected the Congress government's claim of providing 70,000 government jobs, alleging that the actual number of appointments was much lower. He challenged the Chief Minister to an open debate on recruitment figures and asserted that providing employment is the government's responsibility rather than an achievement deserving political credit. Dasoju Sravan further accused the Congress government of irregularities in the Group-I recruitment process, inadequate recruitment notifications for police constable vacancies, and injustice to backward classes through GO 29. He alleged that industries were shifting away from Telangana under the present administration and claimed the state government was spreading misinformation regarding the debt incurred during the previous BRS regime. Referring to the Telangana movement, he credited the BRS government under KCR with strengthening infrastructure, improving electricity supply, and expanding agricultural development. He also defended the TS-iPASS industrial policy, claiming it had attracted significant investments that were appreciated by national institutions. The BRS MLC urged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to uphold the dignity of the constitutional office he occupies and refrain from using personal attacks in political discourse. He said public debates should focus on governance and development rather than inflammatory rhetoric. BRS leaders Chirumalla Rakesh Kumar, Upendra Chari, and Arpita Prakash were also present at the press conference.

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కరీంనాగర్ ఖామ్మం మీ పేట్కుంట్ల, శ్రీకాకాపాడు భవ్యశివైన రాబడి

హం సెం ట్రాక్ షిట్



Kavitha Demands Dependent Jobs for Singareni Workers' Families, Warns of Agitation

Telangana Rakshana Sena chief alleges delays in Medical Board process and calls for twice-monthly boards to clear pending cases.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Sunday demanded that dependent jobs be provided to the descendants of nearly 2,000 Singareni workers who have applied under the medical unfit category, warning that her party would intensify its agitation until all eligible families receive justice. Addressing the media, Kavitha alleged that the government convened the Medical Board for only two days after the Telangana Rakshana Sena threatened an indefinite hunger strike. She claimed that despite around 2,000 workers awaiting Medical Board examinations, only 120 names were announced, and several workers were not even informed about their scheduled examinations. She further alleged that only about 20 per cent of those examined were declared medically unfit and accused the government of deliberately slowing the process. Kavitha claimed that the present administration lacked commitment to protecting Singareni and safeguarding the interests of its employees. The Telangana Rakshana Sena chief alleged that the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister were weakening the Singareni Collieries by altering the existing medical unfit process. She demanded that the earlier system be restored and urged the government to conduct Medical Board examinations twice every month to clear the back-



log of pending applications. Kavitha also criticized Congress MLAs representing the Singareni coal belt constituencies, alleging that they had failed to protect the interests of workers despite being elected with their support. She called upon them to press the government to resolve the issue and appealed to members of the HMS union and Telangana Rakshana Sena cadres to launch democratic protests until dependent employment is provided to all eligible families.

Madhu Yaskhi Goud Distributes CM Relief Fund Cheques to Beneficiaries

Former MP says the scheme eases medical expenses for poor families and reflects the Congress government's commitment to public welfare.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : TPCC Campaign Committee Chairman and former MP Madhu Yaskhi Goud distributed Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques to beneficiaries at his camp office in Hayathnagar on Sunday, stating that the scheme has become a vital source of financial assistance for economically weaker families undergoing medical treatment. Addressing the gathering, Madhu Yaskhi Goud said the CM Relief Fund significantly reduces the financial burden on poor patients receiving treatment in private hospitals. He noted that several beneficiaries had approached him after facing severe financial hardship due to medical expenses, following which he facilitated the sanction of financial assistance from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The beneficiaries included Apsa (Rs 60,000), Lingam Chandana Priya (Rs 39,000), Paila Anji Reddy (Rs 42,500), and Immandi Venkanna (Rs 60,000) from



Hayathnagar, Venkata Satya Nagamani (Rs 60,000) from BN Reddy Nagar, Gadde Prabhakar (Rs 45,000) from Vanasthalipuram, and Mohammed Aslam Baba (Rs 51,000) from Bandlaguda. Madhu Yaskhi Goud said the Congress government remains committed to supporting the poor through welfare initiatives and added that the CM Relief Fund has provided timely assistance to many families facing medical emergencies. Congress leaders, including Division Presidents Chennagoni Ravinder Goud and Kutla Narasimha Yadav, Market Committee Directors Nelapati Rama Rao and Meghavath Ganesh Naik, Hanuman Temple Director Balakrishna, and party leaders Bhimidi Ramakrishna Reddy, Pidugu Subhash, Pidugu Srinivas, Sahadev, Dindu Praveen Goud, Kondoju Srinivas, Damu Mahender Yadav, and Derangula Krishna, among others, attended the programme.

Rural Development Department Unveils Action Plan to Combat El Niño Impact

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : The Telangana Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department has prepared a comprehensive action plan to mitigate the impact of the anticipated El Niño conditions, with a strong focus on employment generation, water conservation, groundwater recharge, and drought preparedness across rural areas. Acting on the directives of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Danasari Anasuya Seethakka, the department will conduct awareness programmes across all districts on Monday. Special Chief Secretary Dana Kishore reviewed the preparedness with senior officials and instructed district administrations to ensure the timely execution of the planned works.



Minister Seethakka directs priority for employment generation, water conservation and awareness drives to safeguard rural livelihoods.

to increase from 2.5 lakh workers to 5 lakh workers, providing additional livelihood opportunities in rural areas. To strengthen water security, the government plans to undertake large-scale conservation works over the next three months, including the construction of 9.60 lakh soak pits, 25,000 farm ponds, 5,000 spring-fed ponds, and 5,000 borewell recharge structures. Construction of Gram Panchayat buildings, Village Organisation (VO) buildings, Anganwadi centres, and plantation activities under Vanamahotsavam will also be accelerated.

Under the Telangana Jalasiri programme, the department will prioritise groundwater recharge through household soak pits, rainwater harvesting structures, farm ponds, and borewell recharge facilities in every village. Training programmes have already been conducted for officials, Sarpanches, and Panchayat Secretaries, with Minister Seethakka directing that additional training be organised wherever necessary. The department stated that the initiative aims to minimise the impact of drought while ensuring sustainable water resources and livelihood security for rural communities across Telangana.

THE JOURNALIST POST TRUSTED, BALANCED, IMPARTIAL

TODAY'S GOLD, SILVER & DIAMOND RATES - INDIA

DATELINE: HYDERABAD / NEW DELHI

GOLD RATES (Per 10 Grams)			SILVER RATES (Per 1 Kilogram)		DIAMOND RATES (INDICATIVE RETAIL PRICE)	
CITY	24 CARAT (99.99%)	22 CARAT (95.9%)	CITY	SILVER (1 KG)	DIAMOND SIZE	APPROX. PRICE
HYDERABAD (TELANGANA)	₹1,47,750	₹1,35,500	HYDERABAD	₹2,48,000	0.25 CARAT	₹20,000 - ₹60,000
VIJAYAWADA (ANDHRA PRADESH)	₹1,47,750	₹1,35,500	VIJAYAWADA	₹2,48,000	0.50 CARAT	₹60,000 - ₹2,00,000
MUMBAI	₹1,47,850	₹1,35,600	MUMBAI	₹2,43,000	1.00 CARAT	₹2,00,000 - ₹10,00,000+
DELHI	₹1,48,000	₹1,35,800	DELHI	₹2,43,000		

*Prices may vary slightly between jewellers and include GST. **Prices are indicative and subject to change. Please check with local jewellers for exact prices.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Gold prices remain firm on strong domestic demand and global uncertainties.
- Silver prices supported by industrial demand and tight supply.
- Diamond prices vary based on the 4Cs - Cut, Clarity, Colour & Carat.

INDIAN SHARE MARKET UPDATE (Previous Trading Day)

INDEX	VALUE	CHANGE
BSE SENSEX	80,105.67	▲489.12 (+0.61%)
NSE NIFTY 50	25,612.40	▲176.65 (+0.70%)

Indian markets closed higher with gains in banking, IT and auto stocks. Investors remain optimistic on economic growth outlook and corporate earnings.

SOURCE: BLS, GoodReturns | Market Updates

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హైదరాబాద్ మరియు చుట్టుపక్కల ప్రాంతాల్లో మీ

- పీస్స్ ప్లాట్లు
- అపార్ట్మెంట్ ప్లాట్లు
- ఇండిపెండ్ హౌస్లు
- విల్లాలు
- స్మార్ట్ ల్యాండ్

ఏ రకమైన ప్రాపర్టీ అయినా అమ్మాలనుకుంటున్నారా?

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వేగవంతమైన ప్రమాఫన్ ఎక్స్ పోజర్ మంది కొనుగోలుదారులకు చేరువే అన్ని రకాల ప్రాపర్టీలకు ప్రచారం

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వనం రియల్ ఎస్టేట్ టీవీ | మీ ప్రాపర్టీ ప్రమాఫన్ నకు నమ్మకమైన వేదిక

THE JOURNALIST POST WEATHER REPORT | JULY 20, 2026

Active Southwest Monsoon: Heavy Rain Alerts Across Many States

HIGHLIGHTS

- Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely over Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhatis, Central India, Assam, Meghalaya, Jharkhand & West Bengal.
- Thunderstorms with lightning & gusty winds expected over Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala & Lakshadweep.
- Landslide & flash flood risk over Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh & Jammu & Kashmir.
- Humid conditions along coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu & Kerala, with heavy rain over parts of Rajasthan.

SUNRISE & SUNSET

CITY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Hyderabad	5:48 AM	6:59 PM

INDIA WEATHER MAP

RAINFALL ALERT

- Very Heavy (15 - 254 mm)
- Heavy (64 - 115 mm)
- Moderate (16 - 64 mm)
- Light (< 16 mm)

MAJOR CITIES WEATHER

CITY	WEATHER	MAX / MIN
New Delhi	Thunderstorms	27° / 35°
Mumbai	Heavy Rain	29° / 30°
Bengaluru	Moderate Rain	20° / 27°
Hyderabad	Moderate Rain	24° / 31°
Chennai	Heavy Clouds with Rain	27° / 32°
Kolkata	Heavy Rain	26° / 32°
Jodhpur	Thunderstorms	28° / 39°
Ahmedabad	Heavy Rain	26° / 33°
Pune	Moderate Rain	22° / 28°

AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI)

CITY	AQI
Hyderabad	100
Mumbai	100
Bengaluru	100
Chennai	100

STATE ALERTS

- Red Alert:** Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Gujarat
- Orange Alert:** Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Jharkhand
- Yellow Alert:** Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh
- Green Alert:** Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa, Tripura, Mizoram

Note: Forecast and warnings are subject to change. Please check local updates for more details.

Updated: July 20, 2026 | 06:00 AM IST

Telangana Plans New Financial Model to Strengthen Irrigation Corporations

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy directs officials to prepare debt restructuring and funding roadmap within 10 days.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : The

Telangana Government is preparing a comprehensive financial restructuring plan to strengthen irrigation corporations, reduce borrowing costs, and make them financially self-reliant. Reviewing the corporations' financial status on Sunday, Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to submit a detailed funding roadmap within 10 days and engage financial experts for debt restructuring and long-term funding strategies. The Minister proposed generating revenue through solar power projects on unused irrigation lands while ensuring no additional burden on farmers. Officials were also instructed to complete pending statutory audits, prepare detailed financial statements for every irrigation project, and prioritize projects nearing completion. Loan restructuring from interest rates of around 11.4% to 8.4% could potentially save the state nearly Rs 250 crore annually. The government will also identify a debt-free corporation to raise fresh funds and create a model for other irrigation corporations.



Winner-takes-all clash at the Home of Cricket as both teams look to seal the three-match ODI series.

LONDON | JULY 19 : India and England are all set for a thrilling finale to their three-match One-Day International series as they take on each other in the decisive third ODI at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground in London. With the series locked at 1-1, the match promises to be a high-intensity contest, with



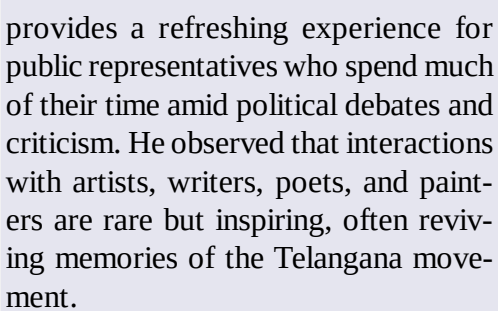
ing attack, featuring a blend of pace and spin, will be aiming to make early breakthroughs and keep England's powerful batting lineup under pressure. Team management has stressed the importance of disciplined bowling and sharp fielding, particularly in the middle overs, where the previous match slipped away from the visitors. England, meanwhile, will take confidence from their impressive comeback in the second ODI. Led by captain Harry Brook, the hosts will rely on experienced players such as Joe Root, Ben Duckett, and Jos Buttler to anchor the batting, while their pace attack will look to exploit the conditions at Lord's and restrict India's batting lineup. The historic Lord's Cricket Ground, often referred to as the "Home of Cricket," is expected to witness another memorable encounter as thousands of fans gather to support their teams. With the series on the line, every session of play will be crucial, making this one of the most eagerly anticipated ODI matches of the year. Cricket experts expect a closely fought battle between two evenly matched sides, with individual brilliance, tactical decisions, and composure under pressure likely to determine the outcome. The winning team will not only lift the ODI series trophy but also gain a significant psychological advantage ahead of future international competitions.

— THE JOURNALIST POST

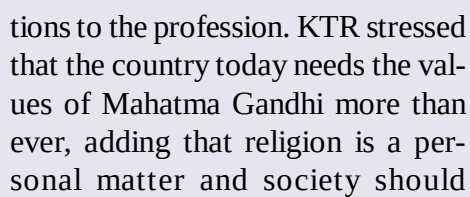
— THE JOURNALIST POST

BRS Working President says encouraging art and recognising creative talent is society's responsibility while honouring winners of the Shekhar Memorial Awards 2026.

HYDERABAD | JULY 19, THE JOURNALIST POST : BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Sunday said encouraging artists and recognising creative talent is the collective responsibility of society. He was speaking at the Cartoonist Shekhar Memorial Awards-2026 presentation ceremony held at the Press Club in Somajiguda, Hyderabad, in memory of noted cartoonist Shekhar. KTR attended the event as the chief guest and presented the memorial awards to cartoonist M. Naru in the cartoon category and artist Kurella Srinivas in the artist category. Addressing the gathering, KTR said that participating in literary and artistic forums



Highlighting the importance of cartoons in shaping public opinion, KTR referred to the saying, "A picture is worth a thousand words," and noted that cartoons have played a significant role in influencing society and politics. He paid tribute to legendary Indian cartoonist R.K. Laxman, appreciated internationally acclaimed cartoonist Bill Watterson, creator of Calvin and Hobbes, and praised Telugu cartoonists including Sridhar of Eenadu and Shankar of Sakshi for their contribu-



progress with mutual respect and harmony. He also remarked that victory and defeat are natural in public life and that elected representatives must continue serving the people regardless of whether they are in power. Recalling the legacy of the late cartoonist Shekhar, KTR said his cartoons on contemporary issues and the Telangana movement inspired countless people and strengthened the spirit of the statehood struggle.

He noted that although he never had the opportunity to meet Shekhar personally, he was deeply moved by the cartoonist's determination to visit Gun Park despite ill health on the day the Telangana Bill was passed. KTR expressed regret that Shekhar passed away before witnessing the official formation of Telangana on June 2, 2014. Appreciating Shekhar's family members and friends for organizing the memorial awards for the past six years, KTR assured his full support to expand the event from next year. He proposed organising the awards ceremony at Ravindra Bharati on a larger scale and reiterated the need to continuously encourage artists, writers, and creative personalities for their invaluable contributions to society.

Indian badminton star ends title drought with a commanding performance to capture her first-ever Japan Open crown.



TOKYO | JULY 19 : Indian badminton ace P.V. Sindhu scripted history by winning her first-ever Japan Open title, producing a brilliant display in the women's singles final to lift one of the most prestigious trophies on the BWF World Tour. The victory marks a significant milestone in Sindhu's illustrious career and serves as a major confidence boost ahead of the upcoming BWF World Championships. Sindhu showcased exceptional consistency throughout the tournament, defeating several top-ranked opponents with a combination of powerful smashes, precise court coverage, and tactical discipline. In the final, the two-time Olympic medallist dominated from the outset, maintaining control of the rallies and capitalising on crucial points to secure a memorable straight-games victory. The triumph ended Sindhu's wait for a Japan Open crown and added another prestigious title to her impressive list of international achievements, which already includes the World Championship, Commonwealth Games, and Olympic medals. Her performance also underlined her return to top form after battling injuries and inconsistent results in recent seasons. Speaking after the victory, Sindhu expressed her delight at achieving the long-awaited milestone.

"Winning the Japan Open has always been one of my goals. It feels special to finally lift this trophy. This victory gives me tremendous confidence heading into the World Championships, and I thank my coaches, support staff, family, and fans for believing in me throughout this journey. The Badminton Association of India (BAI), fellow athletes, and fans across the country congratulated Sindhu on her historic achievement, describing it as another proud moment for Indian badminton. Sports experts believe the title will provide valuable momentum as India prepares for the season's biggest international competitions. With her remarkable victory in Tokyo, P.V. Sindhu has once again reaffirmed her status as one of the world's finest badminton players and strengthened India's hopes of securing more international honours in the months ahead.

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla & Telangan CM Revanth Reddy Congratulates PV Sindhu on Historic Japan Open Title

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy congratulated ace badminton player PV Sindhu on creating history by becoming the first Indian to win the prestigious Japan Open title. “In a congratulatory message, the Governor described Sindhu’s remarkable achievement as a moment of immense pride for the nation. He praised her exceptional talent, unwavering dedication, and indomitable spirit, stating that her historic victory would inspire countless young sportspersons to pursue excellence with determination and discipline. The Governor wished Sindhu continued success in her sporting career and expressed confidence that she would bring many more laurels to India on the international stage. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy also extended his heartfelt congratulations, applauding Sindhu’s outstanding accomplishment and stating that her triumph has once again elevated Telangana and India’s sporting prestige at the global level.

— THE JOURNALIST POST

BHADRACHALAM | JULY 19, THE JOUR-

NALIST POST : Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has directed officials to complete the comprehensive renovation and development of the Sri Sitaramachandra Swamy Temple at Bhadrachalam well before the upcoming Godavari Pushkaralu, ensuring all works are finished at least 15 days prior to the religious event. During his visit to the temple on Sunday, the Minister offered special prayers to Lord Sri Rama, inspected the ongoing development works, and held a detailed review meeting with officials from the Endowments and Engineering Departments at the Sub-Collector's office.

Ponguleti said the state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, had sanctioned Rs 351 crore for the temple's renovation and expansion, of which Rs 75 crore has already been spent on land acquisition to facilitate the project. The Minister instructed officials to execute all works strictly in accordance with Agama Shastra, preserving the historical and spiritual significance of the ancient temple structures and gopurams. He directed that additional skilled sculptors and workers be deployed wherever necessary to speed up construction while maintaining quality



standards. Emphasising close supervision, Ponguleti ordered the appointment of a special engineering officer to oversee the project and instructed the Endowments



along the Godavari River and additional pilgrim amenities created. He stressed that inter-departmental coordination should be strengthened to prevent delays in technical approvals and construction. District Collector Ankit, Bhadrachalam MLA Tellam Venkatrao, Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu, District SP Rohit Raju, ITDA Project Officer Rahul, Sub-Collector Mrunal Shrestha, temple Executive Officer Damodara Rao, public representatives, and senior officials participated in the review and inspection.

'418' Locks Theatrical Release Date; Prashanth Neel-Presented Horror Thriller Raises Expectations

HYDERABAD, July 19: The makers of the upcoming Telugu horror thriller 418 have officially announced the film's theatrical release date, generating excitement among movie enthusiasts and fans of suspense cinema. Presented by acclaimed filmmaker Prashanth Neel, known for blockbuster hits such as KGF and Salaar, the film is already creating significant buzz due to its intriguing concept and association with one of Indian cinema's most successful directors. Along with the release date announcement, the production team unveiled a new poster that hints at the film's dark and mysterious atmosphere. The poster features eerie visuals and a haunting design, setting the tone for what promises to be an intense horror experience. Since its release, the poster has attracted widespread attention on social media, with fans praising its unique look and building anticipation for the film. Although Prashanth Neel is presenting the project and not directing it, his involvement has considerably increased public interest.

The filmmaker's reputation for delivering technically polished and commercially successful films has raised expectations for 418, with many moviegoers hoping for a fresh addition to the Telugu horror genre. According to the makers, 418 combines supernatural horror, psychological suspense, and mystery, offering audiences an engaging cinematic experience filled with unexpected twists and chilling moments. The film aims to move



beyond conventional horror by focusing on a gripping narrative supported by atmospheric visuals and strong performances. The production team has reportedly invested heavily in creating realistic visual effects, immersive sound design, and detailed production values to enhance the horror experience. Industry insiders believe the technical quality of the film could become one of its biggest strengths, especially with horror films increasingly attracting younger audiences. The announcement has been welcomed by fans who are eager to see more experimental storytelling in Telugu cinema. Horror and thriller films have gained popularity in recent years, and 418 is expected to capitalize on this growing audience interest by delivering a fresh and suspenseful theatrical experience.

Trade analysts note that the film will face competition from several major releases later this year but believe its unique genre and Prashanth Neel's backing could help it stand out at the box office. Promotional activities, including the teaser, trailer, music launch, and interviews with the cast and crew, are expected to begin soon. As excitement continues to build, 418 has emerged as one of the most anticipated Telugu horror releases of the year. Movie lovers are now eagerly awaiting the first teaser to get a closer look at the mysterious world the filmmakers have created. With its intriguing premise, high production values, and the support of Prashanth Neel, 418 is poised to become a noteworthy addition to Tollywood's growing lineup of content-driven thrillers.

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HYDERABAD, July 19 : Tollywood remained in the spotlight with several exciting updates today. Prabhas' Fauzi continues to generate massive buzz ahead of its December release, while Akhil Akkineni's Lenin is maintaining a steady box-office run with extra shows in several centres. Samantha Ruth Prabhu's Maa Inti Bangaaram is winning appreciation after its OTT premiere, attracting strong digital viewership. Meanwhile, Oh..! Sukumari has opened in theatres with positive responses from family audiences, and the horror thriller 418, presented by Prashanth Neel, has announced its theatrical release date, creating fresh excitement among movie lovers.

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'Oh..! Sukumari' Opens in Theatres; Romantic Family Entertainer Receives Warm Audience Response

HYDERABAD, July 19: The Telugu romantic family entertainer Oh..! Sukumari has officially hit theatres this week, bringing a refreshing blend of romance, emotions, comedy, and family values to the big screen. Starring Thiruveer and Aishwarya Rajesh in the lead roles, the film has generated positive buzz among moviegoers looking for a light-hearted entertainer amid a packed July release schedule. Directed with a focus on emotional storytelling, Oh..! Sukumari revolves around the journey of two young individuals whose lives intertwine through unexpected circumstances.

Their relationship gradually develops into a heartfelt romance while exploring themes of family bonds, trust, dreams, and personal growth. The film balances romance and comedy with emotional moments, making it suitable for audiences of all age groups. Lead actor Thiruveer delivers a sincere performance, portraying his character with natural charm and relatable emotions. Aishwarya Rajesh once again impresses with her graceful screen presence and expressive performance, adding depth to the film's emotional narrative. The chemistry between the lead pair has emerged as one of the movie's biggest highlights.



The supporting cast contributes effectively, providing humour and emotional support that strengthen the overall storytelling. Family-oriented scenes and clean entertainment have been appreciated by viewers, making the film an attractive choice for weekend audiences. Technically, Oh..! Sukumari benefits from pleasant cinematography, melodious music, and colourful visuals that complement its romantic atmosphere. The soundtrack blends well with the narrative, while the background score enhances several emotional sequences. Early audience reactions indicate that the film has connected well with families and young viewers. Many have praised its simple yet heartwarming story, relatable characters, and feel-good moments. Although some critics have pointed out that the narrative follows familiar storytelling patterns, the film's emotional appeal and engaging performances help maintain audience interest.

Trade analysts believe Oh..! Sukumari could enjoy a steady theatrical run through positive word-of-mouth, especially among viewers who prefer clean family entertainers over high-octane action films. With July witnessing several major releases across different genres, Oh..! Sukumari has successfully carved out its own space by offering wholesome entertainment filled with romance, laughter, and heartfelt emotions.

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Samantha's 'Maa Inti Bangaaram' Wins OTT Audience After Successful Theatrical Run

HYDERABAD, July 19: Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu continues to impress audiences as her latest film Maa Inti Bangaaram has made a successful transition from theatres to digital platforms. Following its encouraging performance at the box office, the emotional family drama is now streaming on OTT, where it has been receiving a positive response from viewers across the country.

The film, which features Samantha in a powerful and emotionally driven role, has attracted significant attention from audiences who missed its theatrical release. Within days of its digital premiere, Maa Inti Bangaaram has emerged as one of the most-watched South Indian titles on OTT, with viewers praising its heartfelt story, strong performances, and family-oriented message. Directed as an emotional entertainer, the film explores themes of love, sacrifice, family relationships, and resilience. Samantha's performance has been widely appreciated for its emotional depth and screen presence, with critics and audiences alike calling it one of her most mature performances in recent

years. Apart from Samantha's acting, the film has earned praise for its engaging screenplay, soulful music, impressive cinematography, and well-crafted emotional moments. The supporting cast has also been appreciated for delivering convincing performances that add strength to the narrative. Industry analysts note that the film's successful OTT debut reflects the growing demand for quality South Indian content on digital platforms. Regional films are increasingly finding wider audiences through streaming services, allowing viewers from across India and overseas to enjoy Telugu cinema with dubbed versions and subtitles.

The positive response to Maa Inti Bangaaram has further strengthened Samantha's reputation as one of the leading actresses in Indian cinema. Her ability to balance commercial entertainers with content-driven films continues to win appreciation from fans and critics alike. Trade experts believe the film's digital success will further enhance its popularity and extend its reach beyond theatres, proving once again that strong storytelling and emotional performances continue to resonate with audiences regardless of the viewing platform. With encouraging viewership numbers and positive word-of-mouth, Maa Inti Bangaaram is expected to remain one of the standout South Indian OTT releases of the season, offering viewers a heartwarming cinematic experience.

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