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# THE MUNSIF

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## IN BRIEF

### RTC Offers Monthly Pass Concessions

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Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka urged the Centre to clear Telangana's Rs 25,096-crore power-sector DPRs within 60 days. P8

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION OVERHAUL

## Cabinet Clears Women's Quota Plan, 50% Seat Expansion

Revised formula seeks to retain states' relative Lok Sabha shares until 2051; Parliament to consider bills from November 30

**Munsif News Desk, New Delhi:**

The Union Cabinet on Friday approved a revised plan to implement 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies by increasing legislative seats through delimitation, reopening a major debate over representation and federal balance.

Under the proposed Constitution (132nd Amendment) Bill, each state and Union territory would receive a uniform 50 per cent rise in its Lok Sabha seats, with similar expansion of legislative assemblies.

The formula is intended to preserve states' relative strength in Parliament until 2051, addressing concerns that population-based redistribution could disadvantage southern states, including Telangana.

The draft links the quota to the first delimitation exercise after the amendment takes effect, without waiting for a post-2026 census.



It would use the latest published census figures for drawing constituency boundaries. Reservation includes seats for women from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The government returned with the revised proposal after an earlier constitutional amendment failed to secure the required special majority in April.

The Lok Sabha is scheduled to meet from November 30, with Rajya Sabha proceedings beginning December 2. The bills have not become law. Their final impact will depend on parliamentary approval and constituency mapping.

Lawmakers must examine whether the expansion protects equitable representation while ensuring that redrawn boundaries fairly serve voters and underrepresented communities.

## Supreme Court Orders Deepam Lighting, Issues Contempt Notices to Tamil Nadu Officials

**Munsif News Desk, New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Friday ordered the Karthigai Deepam lamp to be lit at the disputed Deepathoon pillar on Madurai's Thiruparankundram hill on November 28, after its earlier direction went unimplemented.

A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and Vipul M. Pancholi suspended the trustees of Arulmigu Subramaniaswamy Temple and appointed retired High Court judges S. Vaidyanathan and V. Parthiban as receivers to oversee arrangements.

The court issued contempt notices to Tamil Nadu's Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, Madurai Collector and others over alleged disobedience of its November 20 order. The allegations remain subject to further proceedings.

The CRPF was directed to secure the temple, hill and nearby Sikandar Badusha dargah, while ensuring worshippers can access the dargah without obstruction.

The earlier permission was a one-time arrangement, not a ruling on disputed religious, customary or property rights. Authorities must implement the order peacefully while protecting both communities.

## Telangana Offers Up to Rs 1.75 Lakh for Overseas Jobs

**HYDERABAD:** Telangana announced guidelines for the Chief Minister's Overseas Employment Scheme, targeting 7,000 unemployed people from economically weaker families in 2026-27. Government Order No. 19 was issued November 19.

Implemented by TOMCOM, the scheme offers a 50 per cent subsidy up to Rs 50,000 for visa and travel costs for direct overseas placements. Those requiring foreign-language training may receive up to Rs 1.75 lakh towards eligible expenses.

Applicants aged 18 to 40 must meet income, residency and other conditions. Only one member per ration-card family can benefit. Women are allocated 33.33 per cent of places and persons with disabilities five per cent.

Applications will open through a dedicated online portal. Authorities must verify employers, disclose recruitment charges and ensure that assistance leads to safe, legitimate overseas employment.




## Former CJI Gavai Flags Bias in Judicial Appointments

**NEW DELHI:** Former Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai has written to President Droupadi Murmu alleging that recent judicial appointments and transfers favour a particular community, undermining diversity and merit.

In his November 27 letter, Gavai cited government figures showing that of 715 High Court judges appointed since 2018, only 22 belonged to Scheduled Castes, 16 to Scheduled Tribes, 89 to Other Backward Classes and 37 to minority communities.

He also questioned certain judicial transfers and sought the President's intervention, arguing that the Collegium's decisive role does not remove accountability. The allegations remain unverified. Transparent selection criteria and representation data could address concerns while safeguarding judicial independence.

## EC Issues Fresh Rules for Bengal Voters

Pending deletion appeals await tribunal decisions; final electoral rolls due February 8

**KOLKATA:** Election Commission on Friday clarified how West Bengal electoral officers must handle four categories of disputed voter entries following the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), while announcing a revised schedule for updating rolls.

Judicial officers' decisions awaiting electronic signatures can be implemented. Undecided cases must go to electoral registration officers, while fresh inclusion applications from voters appealing deletion cannot be processed until tribunals decide.

Polling station rationalisation is due December 3, with draft rolls published December 15. Voters may file claims and objections until January 14, 2027; officials must dispose of them by February 1, before final rolls appear February 8.

The Commission must ensure affected citizens can promptly learn case outcomes, receive clear written reasons, appeal decisions and correct errors without losing legitimate voting rights.

## Akasa Extends Saudi Flight Suspensions Into January

Jeddah services halted through January 10, Riyadh through January 31; refunds and free rebooking offered

**Mumbai:** Akasa Air extended its suspension of flights to and from Saudi Arabia, citing regional security concerns and disrupting travel plans for Indian passengers.

Under the revised advisory, Jeddah flights will remain cancelled through January 10, 2027, while Riyadh services are suspended through January 31. Both routes had previously been suspended until November 30.

The airline said affected customers may seek a full refund or reschedule their journeys without additional charges. Passengers who booked through travel agents should contact their booking providers for assistance.

The extension affects expatriate workers, families, business travellers and people planning Umrah. Travellers should verify flight status before travel and obtain confirmation of refund or alternative travel arrangements. Akasa said it would continue monitoring security conditions before deciding when services could safely resume.

## Hyderabad Food Raids: 858 Kg Spoiled Seafood Discarded

TG SAFE inspects 19 establishments and vendors; two closure notices issued

**Hyd:** Food safety officials discarded 858 kg of spoiled fish and prawns worth Rs 1.56 lakh following raids at Ram Nagar and Begum Bazaar markets on Friday, raising concerns over seafood safety.

TG SAFE inspected 19 establishments and street vendors. Officers reported rotten stock, rodent infestation, unclean water and ice, inadequate temperature checks and dirty storage crates. Some traders lacked mandatory FSSAI licences or registration, while stock registers, employee health records and pest-control documents were missing.

Two businesses at Ram Nagar received closure notices. Early reports cited 40 kg of discarded fish; later figures placed the overall quantity at 858 kg. Teams conducted spot tests for adulterants, including formalin, but no confirmed chemical contamination was reported.

The drive underscores the need for regular inspections, reliable cold storage, public disclosure of repeat violations and timely enforcement action. Consumers should choose hygienic sellers and report visibly spoiled seafood.



## A CHERISHED MEMBER OF THE MUNSIF FAMILY: Senior Computer Operator Abdul Qadeer Passes Away

**Hyderabad:** Abdul Qadeer, senior computer operator at The Munsif Daily, Hyderabad, passed away at Yashoda Hospital, Somajiguda, on Friday, November 27, 2026, at approximately 9:30 PM. He was 63.

A resident of Rein Bazaar, Yaqutpura, near India Function Hall, Abdul Qadeer's demise has brought sorrow to his colleagues and the newspaper fraternity.

His funeral prayers (Namaz-e-Janaza) will be offered on Saturday, November 28, after Zuhr prayers at Masjid Hadram, Wahed Colony, near India Function Hall, Yaqutpura. Zuhr prayers are scheduled for 1:30 PM.

Burial will take place at Sultan Daira Graveyard, Chhaoni, Hyderabad. For further details, contact **9848242756.**

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# Officials Review Rehabilitation Benefits for 11 Surrendered Former Naxalites in Hanumakonda



**Munsif Desk: (Hanumkakonda)**

Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai and Warangal Police Commissioner N. Shwetha, IPS, held a review meeting with senior officials of various government departments on Thursday to ensure effective implementation of the rehabilitation scheme for surrendered former Naxalites and facilitate better livelihood opportunities for them.

During the meeting, officials discussed the allotment of house sites to 11 surrendered former Naxalites eligible for rehabilitation in Hanumakonda district. The District Collector and Police Commissioner directed field-level officials to identify suitable government land for allotment to the beneficiaries. In areas where government land is unavailable, officials were instructed to explore alternative sites and prepare proposals accordingly.

The senior officials also stressed coordination among various departments to ensure that eligible beneficiaries receive assistance under government welfare schemes without delay. They directed the concerned departments to take necessary measures to extend all rehabilitation and welfare benefits to the surrendered former Naxalites.

Hanumakonda RDO Venkatesh, DRDO Mena Srinivas, Housing Department PD Siddhartha Naik, R&B Executive Engineer Devika Chauhan, ACP Jani Narasimhulu, several Tahsildars, Police Inspectors and officials from other departments attended the meeting.

# RTC Announces Special Concessions on Monthly Season Tickets

## Adilabad Depot Manager conducts public awareness campaign, highlights benefits for women and other pass holders



**Munsif Desk: (Adilabad)**

The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) has announced several concessions on Monthly Season Tickets (MST) to make public transport more affordable and convenient for passengers. As part of a public awareness initiative, Adilabad Depot Manager N. Sayanna conducted a campaign near Thakur Hotel Bus Stand on Thursday, distributing pamphlets and explaining the revised benefits to commuters and the general public.

Speaking on the occasion, Sayanna said female MST holders would now be required to pay fares for only 15 days instead of 20 days, while pass holders would be allowed to travel free of cost on Sundays in major cities, including Hyderabad, Warangal, Nizamabad, Nalgonda and Karimnagar.

He further said the fixed route restriction on MST passes had been removed and toll plaza charges would be collected for only 20 days instead of 25 days. E-ticketing facilities through MST passes have also been extended to Deluxe and Express buses. PVG pass holders can travel in Express buses by purchasing a combi ticket for an additional Rs. 20.

A 10 per cent concession will also be offered on fares in Super Luxury and higher-category buses when travelling on routes other than the designated MST route. In addition, passengers purchasing two-month and three-month MST passes will receive five and 10 extra days of validity, respectively, free of cost.

The Depot Manager also announced that special buses could be booked for pilgrimages, recreational tours, weddings and other private or religious functions. Interested persons can contact 7382840065 or 9959226002 for bookings and further details.

RTC Controller Sambanna and Conductor Satish participated in the awareness campaign and addressed passengers' queries.

# Special Camps for Graduate Voter Registration on November 28, 29, December 5 and 6



**Munsif Desk: (Mulugu)** Special camps will be conducted across Mulugu district in two phases to enrol eligible graduates as voters in the Warangal–Khammam–Nalgonda Graduates Legislative Council constituency, District Election Officer and Collector Borkhada Hemant Sahadeva Rao said on Friday.

He stated that the draft electoral roll had been prepared with November 1, 2026, as the qualifying date. Applications and objections can be submitted from November 25 to December 10.

The special camps will be held at designated polling stations on November 28 and 29, followed by December 5 and 6. Graduates have been urged to verify their names and details in the draft electoral roll.

Form-18 is meant for fresh registration, Form-7 for deletion of names or objections, and Form-8 for corrections in existing entries.

The Collector directed AEROs and designated officials to remain available at polling stations to receive applications and objections. He urged eligible graduates to utilise the special camps and complete registration before the December 10 deadline.

## Collector Calls for Strict Implementation of National Food Security Act

**Munsif Desk: (Asifabad)** District Collector K. Haritha has directed officials to work in coordination for the effective implementation of the National Food Security Act.

Speaking at a District-Level Vigilance Monitoring Committee meeting on Friday, she stressed the need for regular monitoring to ensure food security for poor and vulnerable families. Additional Collectors Yuvraj Marmat and M. David, and RDO Lokeshwar Rao attended.

The Collector directed officials to ensure quality fine rice is distributed through food security cards and supplied on time to Gurukul schools, hostels, Anganwadi centres, Kasturba Gandhi schools and other educational institutions.

She also called for strict measures to prevent the diversion and black marketing of subsidised rice, directing vigilance committees at divisional and mandal levels to hold regular meetings and take necessary action.

## Sinkaru Shivaji Appointed to CCRUM Governing Body



**Munsif Desk: (Hyderabad)** Shiv Sena Telangana State President Sinkaru Shivaji has been appointed as a member of the Governing Body of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) under the Union Ministry of Ayush. The appointment notification was issued on November 26 by Director General and Member Secretary Zaheer Ahmed.

Shivaji thanked Union Minister for Ayush Prataprao Jadhav for entrusting him with the responsibility. He said he would work to strengthen research in Unani and other traditional medical systems and improve access to healthcare services for people in both rural and urban areas.

# Collective Efforts Needed to Combat Bonded Labour and Human Trafficking: Warangal Collector



**Munsif Desk: (Warangal)** : Warangal District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada stressed the need for coordinated efforts by government departments and voluntary organisations to eradicate bonded labour and human trafficking, stating that identifying victims, ensuring their protection and safeguarding their constitutional rights were the responsibility of officials.

She was speaking at a training programme on the prevention of bonded labour and human trafficking organised by FMM Social Service Organisation at the District Collectorate conference hall on Friday.

The Collector said victims must be made aware of their legal rights and the authorities they could approach for assistance. Despite technological advancements, bonded labour and human trafficking continued as organised crimes. She called for special awareness programmes and warned people against fraudulent employment offers, pointing out that even acquaintances and relatives could be involved in exploiting victims.

Central Zone Deputy Commissioner of Police Dara Kavitha said children, women and adults were being subjected to labour exploitation. Several children had been rescued through Operation Smile and Operation Muskan. She also revealed that cases had been registered against those luring young women with employment promises and pushing them into illegal prostitution. She warned that stringent action would be taken against those involved in such crimes.

District Additional Collector (Revenue) Kishore Kumar said a special action plan would be prepared and implemented in coordination with various departments to eradicate bonded labour and human trafficking.

FMM Social Service Organisation Director Sister Sahay, High Court Advocate Merakamani, International Justice Mission Division Head Dr. Anand, Assistant Labour Commissioner Bhargav, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit Sub-Inspector Sudhakar, police and revenue officials, ICDS Supervisors and NGO representatives attended the programme.

# Assessment Camp Held to Provide Assistive Devices to Eligible Beneficiaries

## *Hanumakonda Collector inaugurates camp organised with ALIMCO at Mulkanur*



**Munsif Desk: (Hanamakonda)** : Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai said assessment camps are being organised to identify eligible beneficiaries and provide them with free assistive devices, including women, children, persons with disabilities and senior citizens.

The Collector inaugurated an assessment camp at Sai Gardens in Mulkanur village of Bheemadevarpally Mandal on Friday. The camp was organised by the District Department of Women, Children, Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens Welfare in association with the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), following the directions of State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar.

During her visit, Chahat Bajpai inspected the medical assessment process and enquired with officials about the arrangements made for beneficiaries arriving from various villages of the mandal. She said the assessments were being conducted to identify those eligible for different assistive devices based on their requirements.

The Collector urged eligible persons to utilise the opportunity and undergo the necessary assessments. She assured that steps would be taken to distribute the required assistive devices to beneficiaries identified through the assessment process.

She also instructed officials to set up additional counters and ensure that the assessment process was conducted smoothly without causing inconvenience to those attending the camp.

Village Sarpanch Pramod Reddy, Zilla Parishad Deputy CEO Srinivasa Rao, District Welfare Officer Vishwaja, Mandal Special Officer Kamalakar Reddy, Tahsildar Rajesh, MPDO Veereshm, CDPOs Swaroopa and Sindhu Rani, FRO Ravi Krishna, other officials and ALIMCO representatives attended the programme.

# Police Commissioner Presents Medals to Archery Winners at Telangana State Police Games




**Mohammed Baleeg Ahmed: (Nizamabad)**

Nizamabad, November 27: Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, presented medals and prizes to the winners of archery competitions held as part of the 5th Telangana State Police Games and Sports Meet–2026, being organised within the Nizamabad Police Commissionerate limits.

Congratulating the winners, the Commissioner said discipline, determination, regular practice and concentration were essential for success in sports. He observed that participation in sports alongside police duties helps personnel maintain physical fitness, mental well-being and self-confidence.

# TWO SADASIVPET MUNICIPALITY OFFICIALS CAUGHT ACCEPTING Rs.15,000 BRIBE

**NSS: (Hyderabad)** Two officials of Sadasivpet Municipality in Sangareddy district were caught red-handed by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Friday while allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs.15,000 for processing a contractor's bill.

Assistant Engineer (Public Health) A. Rajesh Kumar and outsourced Work Inspector A. Shiva Reddy were trapped at their office around 2.30 pm on November 27.

According to the ACB, Rajesh Kumar allegedly demanded Rs.15,000 from the complainant for an official favour relating to a Rs.24.50 lakh contract bill for desilting work at Uba Cheruvu in Sangareddy town during the 2025 Ganesh immersion programme. The bill had already been sanctioned and processed.

The Assistant Engineer allegedly accepted the bribe and handed it over to Shiva Reddy for safekeeping. The tainted amount was subsequently recovered from the Work Inspector.

The ACB said both officials had acted improperly and dishonestly to obtain undue advantage. They are being arrested and produced before the II Additional Special Judge for Trial of SPE and ACB Cases Court in Hyderabad.

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## TOMCOM Offers Free Training to Youth for Overseas Job Opportunities




**Mohammed Baleeg Ahmed:**

**(Nizamabad)** : Government Advisor P. Sudarshan Reddy has urged unemployed youth and students to make use of free training programmes offered through the Telangana Overseas Manpower Company (TOMCOM) to secure overseas employment with attractive salaries.

He was speaking at an awareness seminar organised for Polytechnic and ITI students at the Government Boys Polytechnic College auditorium on Friday. Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi also attended the programme.

Sudarshan Reddy said the State Government was facilitating overseas job opportunities in countries including Germany, Australia, Japan, Ireland, Israel, the UK and Saudi Arabia through TOMCOM. He said there was considerable demand for skilled workers in fields such as nursing, carpentry and physiotherapy.

He explained that candidates were being provided free training in German and other foreign languages. Those who successfully complete the training and meet the required qualifications would be facilitated with visas and overseas employment opportunities. He urged unemployed youth to utilise the facilities and assured them of necessary support from the government.

Collector Ila Tripathi stressed the importance of language proficiency in securing employment and achieving career growth abroad. Sharing her experience of learning Telugu to serve the people effectively, she encouraged students to develop language skills. She also directed officials to establish a help desk at the Polytechnic College to provide information about TOMCOM training programmes and employment opportunities.

State Urdu Academy Chairman Taher Bin Hamdan, State Agriculture Commission Member Gadugu Gangadhar, Additional Collector Bhujanga Rao, NUDA Chairman Kesha Venu, Telangana University Governing Council Member CH. Rajinikanth, District Library Organisation Chairman Anthireddy Rajireddy, District Employment Generation and Training Officer Vijetha, German language instructor Dheeraj and faculty members of Polytechnic and ITI colleges attended the seminar.

## Winners of State-Level Swimming Competitions Honoured at Telangana Police Sports Meet



**Mohammed Baleeg Ahmed:** **(Nizamabad)**

IGP (Sports and Welfare, P&L) Dr. Gajarao Bhupal, IPS, presented prizes and medals to the winners of the state-level swimming competitions held as part of the 5th Telangana State Police Sports and Games Meet–2026 in Nizamabad.

Dr. Bhupal congratulated the police personnel who excelled in various swimming categories and advised them to accept victories and defeats as part of sports, while pursuing their goals with discipline, determination and regular practice.

He said the Police Department gives special importance to sports as they help improve physical fitness, mental well-being, self-confidence, teamwork and competitive spirit. The discipline, punctuality and determination developed through sports also play an important role in discharging professional duties, he added. He appreciated the enthusiastic participation of police personnel from various units across Telangana and expressed hope that they would achieve greater success at national and international levels, bringing recognition to the Telangana Police Department.

The 5th Telangana State Police Sports and Games Meet is being organised in Nizamabad with coordinated arrangements by the Police Department. The competitions provide a platform for police personnel to showcase their sporting abilities and promote a healthy competitive spirit.

Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, Additional DCP (Administration) N. Shubham Prakash, ACPs, CIs, senior police officials, sports organisers, swimming coaches, participants and staff attended the programme.

## Nizamabad Records 189.78% Credit-Deposit Ratio

*Joint Collector reviews banking performance, urges banks to speed up agricultural and priority-sector lending*




**Mohammed Baleeg Ahmed:**

**(Nizamabad)** : The District Consultative Committee (DCC) and District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting for the quarter ending September 2026 was held at the Nizamabad District Collectorate on Friday under the chairmanship of Joint Collector B. Raja Goud. The meeting reviewed the performance of banks and implementation of various government-sponsored loan schemes. Officials said the district had 296 bank branches and 2,495 banking correspondent points. As of September 30, total deposits stood at Rs. 13,924.54 crore, while advances amounted to Rs. 26,426.40 crore, taking the Credit-Deposit (CD) ratio to 189.78%.

Against the annual credit target of Rs. 19,943 crore for 2026-27, banks achieved Rs. 10,518.77 crore, accounting for 52.74 per cent, by September. Under the priority sector, loans worth Rs. 7,285.83 crore were sanctioned. Reviewing agricultural lending, officials said Rs. 2,487.14 crore had been disbursed to 1,31,506 farmers against the Kharif crop loan target of Rs. 3,158 crore. Banks were directed to accelerate lending and achieve the full Rabi target of Rs. 2,105.63 crore. Special awareness programmes were also ordered in 18 drought-affected mandals to inform farmers about loan rescheduling facilities.

In the MSME sector, banks achieved 38 per cent of the annual target, sanctioning Rs. 1,666.18 crore. Loans worth Rs. 245.06 crore were sanctioned under PM Mudra Yojana and Rs. 11.82 crore under Stand Up India, while 6,650 applications were approved under PM Vishwakarma.

The meeting also reviewed lending to Self-Help Groups and street vendors. Loans of Rs. 596.72 crore were provided through IKP and Rs. 111 crore through MEPMA. Under PM SVANidhi, achievement stood at 72 per cent in the first tranche, 76 per cent in the second and 93 per cent in the third. Joint Collector Raja Goud directed officials to revive 42 inactive banking correspondent points and organise monthly financial literacy camps in rural and semi-urban areas. The Agriculture Department was asked to conduct awareness programmes in drought-affected mandals and facilitate loan rescheduling for eligible farmers. Fisheries officials were instructed to clear 79 pending Kisan Credit Card applications within 15 days.

Officials were also directed to expedite pending loans under the SC Action Plan, PMFME and other government schemes and improve credit support for SC/ST and women entrepreneurs.

SBI Lead District Manager, RBI Lead District Officer Ramulu, NABARD DDM Praveen and representatives of various government departments and banks attended the meeting.



*Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi and Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya welcome Telangana DGP C.V. Anand on his arrival in Nizamabad on Friday.*

## Ministers Lay Foundation Stone for Rs. 50 Crore BT Road in Gadwal

**Munsif Desk:** **(Gadwal)** State Ministers Seethakka and Vakiti Srihari, Nagarkurnool MP Mallu Ravi and other public representatives laid the foundation stone for a BT road to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 50 crore from Pacharla village in Rajoli mandal to Pedda Tandrapadu village in Gadwal district on Friday.

The ministers received a warm welcome from the public upon their arrival at Shanti Nagar Municipality in an open vehicle. Supporters and local residents greeted them enthusiastically.

The public representatives also laid the foundation stone for road development works in Shanti Nagar town with Rs. 5 crore allocated under the CRR (Comprehensive Road Repair) scheme. Special puja rituals were performed on the occasion.

Later, representatives of various associations submitted petitions to the ministers, highlighting local issues and seeking solutions.

Gadwal District Collector Rizwan Basha Shaik, Alampur MLA Vijayudu, State Sheep and Goat Development Corporation Chairperson Sreetha Tirupataiah, District Library Chairman Srinivasulu, former MLA Sampath Kumar, DCC President Rajiv Reddy, Sarpanch Kashapogu Baby, Subba Reddy, other public representatives and officials attended the programme.

## Seethakka Lauds Rural Development, Urges Youth to Utilise Training Opportunities



**Munsif Desk:** **(Gadwal)** : State Panchayat Raj, Women and Child Welfare Minister Seethakka appreciated the contribution of the state government and voluntary organisations towards rural development and urged youth and women to make use of skill development and employment training programmes.

The Minister, along with Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Minister Vakiti Srihari, Nagarkurnool MP Mallu Ravi and Alampur MLA Vijayudu, laid foundation stones for various development works at Kanchupadu village in Undavelli mandal of Gadwal district on Friday.

The works include a BT road from National Highway 44 to Kanchupadu. Development works worth Rs. 3.23 crore are also being taken up at various locations in the Alampur constituency, while Rs. 30.22 crore has been allocated under the VB-G RAM G scheme.

Later, the public representatives visited the Suravaram Venkata Ram Reddy Knowledge Centre in the village and inspected the Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy Hall, library, sports facilities and skill development training sections.

Speaking on the occasion, Seethakka said the Suravaram family was nationally recognised and appreciated its service activities in Kanchupadu. She praised the Knowledge Centre, supported by the Ramananda Tirtha Trust, for providing sports training to youth and tailoring and other livelihood skills to women.

She also encouraged students, unemployed youth and villagers to make effective use of the library and training facilities to improve their knowledge and employment prospects.

Gadwal District Collector Rizwan Basha Shaik, State Sheep and Goat Development Corporation Chairperson Sreetha, former MLA Sampath Kumar, village Sarpanch Naga Lakshmamma, Knowledge Centre representative Vijayalakshmi, public representatives and officials attended the programme.

## Wanaparthy MLA Sanctions Rs. 75,000 LOC for Poor Patient's Medical Treatment




**Munsif Desk:** **(Wanaparthy)** MLA T. Megha Reddy extended financial assistance to a financially distressed family by facilitating a Letter of Credit (LOC) worth Rs. 75,000 for the medical treatment of a patient suffering from illness. According to details, Maisala Bhadrayya, a resident of Mamidimada village in Khilla Ghanpur mandal of Wanaparthy district, was unable to afford proper medical treatment due to his family's financial difficulties. His family approached MLA T. Megha Reddy and requested financial assistance through an LOC. Responding promptly, the MLA took steps to sanction an LOC worth Rs. 75,000. He handed over the approved document to Bhadrayya's family at his office in Madhapur, Hyderabad.

The family expressed gratitude to the MLA for extending support during their difficult time and helping them arrange medical treatment.

## Officials Inspect Road Widening Works in Kagaznagar



**Munsif Desk:** **(Kagaznagar)** Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Yuvraj Marmat, IAS, along with Sub-Collector Harsha Choudhary, IAS, inspected the main road widening works from the Bus Stand to Telangana Thalli Junction in Kagaznagar town. During the visit, they reviewed the progress of the ongoing works and examined the proposed road improvements.

Municipal Commissioner B. Tirupathi, Town Planning Officer Yashwanth, Town Planning Building Officer Preetham and other municipal staff were present.

## District Police Conduct Simultaneous Raids on High-Interest Moneylenders and Illegal Chit Fund Operators

Sixteen cases registered as officers seize loan documents during districtwide crackdown




**Kagaznagar (Munsif Bureau):** I Police conducted simultaneous raids at the homes of 57 suspected high-interest moneylenders and unauthorised chit fund operators across Kumuram Bheem Asifabad district on Friday, registering 16 cases amid complaints of harassment.

The operation, ordered by Superintendent of Police Nitika Pant, was supervised by Asifabad DSP B. Ashok and Kagaznagar DSP Wahiduddin. Officers examined loan records, chit fund documents, promissory notes and cheque books, seizing 102 promissory notes and 63 blank cheque books for investigation.

Police said some lenders allegedly exploited farmers and households struggling with poor rainfall and financial pressure, charging excessive interest and using threats to recover debts. The allegations remain under investigation.

Pant warned of strict action against illegal lending, intimidation and fraudulent chit schemes. She urged victims to report harassment at their nearest police station, promising confidentiality and police assistance.

The district police said inspections and surveillance would continue to protect vulnerable borrowers.

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## At a Glance



### Veteran Congress Leader Peerzada Muhammad Syed Dies at 73

**(IANS) Srinagar,** Veteran Congress leader and sitting J&K MLA Peerzada Muhammad Syed died at the age of 73 on Thursday evening, family sources said.

Representing Anantnag, he defeated PDP candidate Mehboob Beg in the 2024 Assembly elections by over 1,600 votes. He earlier represented Kokernag three times and served as Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee president.

He held several ministerial portfolios, including Education and Rural Development, under successive coalition governments. His funeral prayers will be offered at Damhala Achabal in Anantnag.

### Tharoor Questions DMK's Stand on Delimitation Bill

**(IANS) New Delhi,** Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Friday expressed disappointment over the DMK's reported support for the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, alleging that the party was falling into a trap set by the BJP-led Centre.

Speaking to reporters, Tharoor said the DMK was accepting the argument of proportional increase in parliamentary seats without considering its wider implications for southern states.

He questioned the need to expand the Lok Sabha to 850 members and criticised the Centre for failing to hold meaningful consultations on the proposed legislation. He also cited the US House of Representatives as an example of a legislature that had retained its strength at 435 seats despite population growth.

## Over 200 Stakeholders Offer Growth Ideas at Pre-Budget Consultations



**(IANS) New Delhi,** More than 200 stakeholders representing 13 sectors and groups participated in pre-Budget consultations with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, putting forward recommendations to promote innovation-led growth, generate employment and strengthen India's economic and social infrastructure.

According to an official statement, participants included industry associations, experts, business leaders, academics, youth representatives and practitioners from sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, MSMEs, startups, banking, information technology, infrastructure, energy, healthcare, education, housing and employment.

Anuradha Thakur, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Chief Economic Adviser V. Anantha Nageswaran, senior Finance Ministry officials and Secretaries of concerned ministries and departments also attended the discussions.

Stakeholders emphasised the need for reforms to accelerate economic growth while ensuring inclusive development. Their recommendations covered human capital, innovation, manufacturing competitiveness, agricultural productivity, housing security and educational outcomes.

Among the key suggestions were promoting domestic manufacturing of biofertilisers and advanced biotechnology-based agricultural inputs, developing sector-specific artificial intelligence models using locally available hardware, and strengthening cyber-hygiene awareness among MSMEs and smaller financial institutions.

Participants also proposed targeted programmes to help rural youth and workers move into productive non-farm employment and sustainable enterprises.

In education, stakeholders recommended launching a nationwide reading movement to ensure every child could read and understand a newspaper by the end of Grade 5.

The housing sector recommendations highlighted rental housing as an important avenue for expanding affordable accommodation in urban areas.

Stakeholders also called for accelerating the development of Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities to create more opportunities for young people transitioning from education to employment and entrepreneurship.

The recommendations aim to support a resilient, competitive and future-ready Indian economy.

## India Plans Financial Crackdown to Dismantle Overseas Terror Networks



**(IANS) New Delhi,** Indian security agencies are planning to target the financial infrastructure of terror and criminal networks operating abroad to disrupt their activities and funding channels.

The strategy, which combines operational action with financial investigations, is aimed at dismantling entire networks rather than targeting individual operatives. Agencies are also tracking operatives using foreign SIM cards to communicate with handlers abroad and associates in India.

An official said targeting the financial support system was the most effective way to deal with operatives based overseas, as their networks depended on groups managing funds.

A similar approach was adopted in Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370, when the police, Army, National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) acted against terror operatives and financial networks.

Officials said the proposed strategy would focus on coordinated investigations by local police and a central agency, including tracing communications, tracking funds and identifying properties linked to overseas networks.

An Intelligence Bureau official said involving multiple agencies without proper coordination could lead to duplication and weaken investigations. The new approach aims to streamline operations and eliminate gaps.

The agencies will also seek to strengthen extradition cases through coordinated investigations and stronger evidence, improving India's prospects before Interpol and foreign governments.

Officials said the strategy would also target foreign-based criminal syndicates allegedly supporting Khalistani groups. They believe disrupting the financial and operational links of such networks could weaken their activities.

## Chandrababu Naidu to Meet NDA Leaders in Delhi Amid Delimitation Push



**(IANS) Amaravati,** Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) president N. Chandrababu Naidu will meet NDA leaders in New Delhi on Friday evening amid efforts by the ruling coalition to secure support for the proposed Delimitation Bill.

Naidu will leave for the national capital after the State Cabinet meeting, according to an official statement. The TDP said he would jointly address the media along with Janata Dal-Secular president and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy.

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan is also likely to travel to Delhi. The visits are reportedly at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The NDA partners are expected to discuss their strategy for the proposed special sitting of Parliament, likely to be held next week, to consider the Constitutional Amendment Bill and the Delimitation Bill.

The ruling coalition is reportedly making efforts to secure the support of 360 MPs in the Lok Sabha to ensure the passage of the proposed legislation. It is also reaching out to the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), which has four MPs.

YSRCP president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is expected to take a decision after examining the text of the Bill.

The Constitutional Amendment Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha in April but failed to secure the required two-thirds majority. With 528 members present and voting, the government needed 352 votes but received only 298, falling short by 54 votes. As many as 230 MPs voted against the Bill.

## Centre's renewed push on delimitation to hike LS seats by 50 percent, impose 25-year freeze



**(IANS) New Delhi,** The Union Cabinet on Friday cleared the amendments to the Constitutional Amendment Bill, linked to the proposed delimitation and women reservation legislation.

This paves the way for an increase in the legislative strength of the Lok Sabha, effectively taking it from the existing 543 to around 815 seats. Also, according to multiple TV reports, the increased strength of the Lower House will remain frozen for the next 25 years, i.e. till 2051.

The details or the contours of the delimitation bill are yet to be revealed, but reports suggest that the proportional share of all the states will be retained, to pacify the Opposition-ruled and Southern states, in particular, as they have repeatedly flagged getting treated 'unfairly' due to an increase in LS seats.

Being short of numbers, the BJP has been lobbying for support of many 'neutral and unaligned' parties for the delimitation legislation. Many parties, including the DMK, have raised concerns over alleged injustice to the Southern states due to a lower population ratio as compared to their Northern counterparts. The formula of a flat 50 per cent hike is seen as an attempt to address their concerns.

The cabinet approval comes just ahead of the special sitting of Parliament, beginning on November 30, where the government is expected to make a fresh push for allowing delimitation of constituencies and 33 per cent reservation for women in the legislative bodies, including the Lok Sabha.

The government is yet to reveal the agenda for the special sitting of Parliament, commencing from November 30, but Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju told the newsmen today that "very important issues" will be taken up for discussion and also advised the Opposition to refrain from making "frivolous" statements.

Meanwhile, the INDIA bloc is set to hold a huddle at Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge's residence at 11 a.m. on Saturday to strategise and chalk out its plan on opposing the proposed delimitation bill.

The Congress has sought participation of all opposition parties to devise a joint strategy against the Centre's fresh attempt to push the delimitation bill.

Earlier in the day, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav termed the delimitation move "BJP's biggest mistake", suggesting that it was being pushed to influence the elections in India's most populous state.

Notably, the delimitation bill, aiming to increase the strength of the Lok Sabha from the existing 543 to around 850 seats, had fallen flat in April this year, as the Centre failed to muster a two-thirds majority.

## UP Gives 9.45 Lakh Jobs in 10 Years, Says CM Yogi at Appointment Letter Event



**(IANS) Lucknow,** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday handed over appointment letters to 1,594 newly selected candidates of the Uttar Pradesh Subordinate Services Selection Commission (UPSSSC), asserting that transparency and impartiality had become the state's identity in recruitment.

Addressing the candidates, Adityanath said the selection process was free from bribery, threats and political interference. He alleged that recruitment under previous governments before 2017 was marred by irregularities and claimed that deserving candidates had often been denied opportunities.

Referring to the 2015-16 Public Service Commission examination, he questioned how a candidate with third-division marks in school and graduation examinations had topped the state-level competitive test, alleging that the result had been manipulated.

The Chief Minister said his government had created a system in which young people could secure jobs on merit without paying bribes. He claimed that around 9.45 lakh youths had received employment in the state over the past nine-and-a-half years.

Comparing his government's record with those of previous administrations, Adityanath said the number of appointment letters issued during his tenure exceeded the combined total under the seven years of Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party rule.

He also highlighted the state's economic growth, claiming that its economy had tripled from around Rs 12.5 lakh crore to Rs 36 lakh crore. Per capita income had also increased threefold, while the annual budget had risen to Rs 9.7 lakh crore, he said.

## SP Misleading Youth and Farmers With False Promises, Says UP Minister



**(IANS) Lucknow,** Uttar Pradesh Minister Anil Rajbhar on Friday criticised the Samajwadi Party's (SP) manifesto for the 2027 Assembly elections, alleging that its promises on employment and farmers' welfare were unrealistic and aimed at misleading voters.

Questioning the SP's employment record, Rajbhar said the Akhilesh Yadav-led government had provided only 1.38 lakh government jobs during its five-year tenure from 2012 to 2017, despite making promises to the youth.

"In the last nine years, the Yogi Adityanath-led BJP government has provided nine lakh government jobs to the youth of Uttar Pradesh," he said.

Rajbhar alleged that the SP had failed to fulfil even 25 per cent of the commitments made in its previous manifestos and had not explained how it would mobilise resources to implement its latest promises.

He also accused the previous SP government of removing B.R. Ambedkar's name from Kannauj Medical College and referred to alleged derogatory remarks about the Dalit icon by former SP leader Azam Khan. He demanded an apology from SP leaders.

Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak had also criticised the manifesto, alleging that the party had repackaged its earlier promises with a few additions.

SP president Akhilesh Yadav recently unveiled the manifesto, focusing on employment, reservation, social justice and economic security.

The party has promised to reopen 26,000 closed primary schools, provide laptops to Class 12 pass-outs and introduce a new education policy. Its proposals also include an Urban Employment Guarantee Act, residential hostels and skill development initiatives.

For farmers, the SP has promised a farm loan waiver, a legal guarantee of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 23 crops and milk, compensation for crop losses and a Rs 15,000 crore fund to clear pending sugarcane dues within 24 hours.

It has also proposed an investment of Rs 1.5 lakh crore to strengthen the rural economy through infrastructure development and new village clusters.



## New Zealand PM says coalition negotiations could take time after election deadlock

**(IANS) Wellington,** New Zealand caretaker Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said formal talks with the Opportunity Party would begin after final election results confirmed a hung parliament, warning negotiations could still take time.

The National-led coalition, comprising the National Party, ACT New Zealand and New Zealand First, needs Opportunity Party support for a parliamentary majority after National lost two seats in the final count.

Luxon, who had ruled out working with the party during the campaign, softened his position after preliminary results. He said voters wanted cross-party cooperation and leaders to find common ground.

He said he had also spoken with the leaders of New Zealand First, ACT and the Opportunity Party, and formal negotiations would begin. Luxon cautioned that talks would be challenging and said he did not want to rush into an agreement that might collapse or trigger another election.

He said various arrangements were possible under the mixed-member proportional (MMP) system and that he wanted a stable government to complete the three-year parliamentary term.

Opportunity Party leader Qiulae Wong said her party wanted a stable government but had not ruled out another election. She said talks with other parties were still needed.

Under MMP, voters cast two ballots: one for a party and another for a local electorate candidate. Governments generally need two or more parties to secure a parliamentary majority.

## Trump tells US troops 'victory at hand' over Iran



**(IANS) Washington,** US President Donald Trump has told American troops that "victory at hand" in the conflict with Iran, saying Washington was giving Tehran every opportunity to reach a deal and save lives.

Trump made the remarks during Thanksgiving calls to US service members from his Mar-a-Lago residence in Palm Beach, Florida, on Thursday. First Lady Melania Trump joined him.

"We have victory at hand. It's going to be whenever, sort of, whatever I want it to be," Trump said during a call with an Army unit involved in Operation Epic Fury.

"We're giving them every chance to make a deal and save a lot of lives. But I'm not sure if they are going to take advantage of that," he added.

Trump reiterated that Iran would never be allowed to acquire nuclear weapons, describing the objective as central to the military mission.

During another call, he spoke to an Air Force lieutenant colonel based in Saudi Arabia who operates F-16 fighter aircraft. Trump asked whether the officer was facing a "much tamer enemy". The officer agreed, saying Iran appeared to be running short of resources, according to a pool report.

Trump also spoke to personnel aboard the USS Portland, deployed in the Indo-Pacific, and praised the naval blockade of Iran, calling it the most successful in naval history without offering supporting details.

Asked about his vision for future US relations in the Middle East, Trump said he wanted peace in the region but would not allow Iran to obtain nuclear weapons.

The calls came a day after Trump met NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte at Mar-a-Lago. A NATO statement said discussions covered the Russia-Ukraine war, the Iran conflict, efforts to prevent further escalation and increased defence spending.

Trump credited himself with securing NATO allies' commitment to higher defence spending. Under the 2025 Hague summit declaration, alliance members agreed to spend 5 per cent of GDP annually on defence and related security needs by 2035.

Speaking to reporters after the calls, Trump said his meeting with Rutte had focused mainly on Russia and Ukraine. He expressed confidence that Russian President Vladimir Putin wanted the war to end, but announced no new agreement.

## Iran says its air defences forced US F-16 to leave airspace



**(IANS) Tehran,** Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said Friday that its air defence systems had forced a US F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft to change course and move away from Iran's southern airspace earlier in the day.

The fighter jet had approached Iranian airspace southeast of Hengam Island while escorting and providing air cover for vessels that the IRGC described as "violating" maritime regulations, according to a statement published on the IRGC's official news outlet, Sepah News.

The aircraft changed course with a "harsh manoeuvre" and moved away from Iranian airspace after the IRGC's aerospace force fired warning shots, the statement said, describing the air defence systems as "modern and advanced."

The IRGC warned that any attempt to circumvent regulations governing maritime traffic in the Strait of Hormuz was "unacceptable," adding that continued violations could result in heavier losses for those involved and the military forces supporting them, Xinhua news agency reported.

It also warned US military commanders that Iranian airspace was a red line for the country's armed forces, saying any further attempts by US fighter jets to violate the country's airspace would be met with a "decisive" air defence response.

Meanwhile, Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi said the country has no involvement in a drone attack that killed two Italians in Kuwait earlier on Thursday, saying Tehran is ready to cooperate with Kuwait and Italy to investigate.

Araghchi made the remarks in separate phone calls with Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Italy's Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani.

In the calls, the Iranian foreign minister emphasised that Iran "had no role or involvement whatsoever in the occurrence of this event," saying Iran is prepared to conduct a joint investigation with Kuwait and Italy to examine the details of the incident and identify its origin and the parties involved.

Araghchi expressed regret to his Kuwaiti counterpart over the casualties and damage caused by the attack.

## Airstrike kills 11, mostly children, in Yemen's Taiz: Houthi media



**(IANS) Sanaa,** Yemen's Houthi group said Friday that an airstrike attributed to Saudi Arabia had killed 11 people, most of them children, in the southwestern province of Taiz.

Houthi-run al-Masirah TV reported on Friday that the strike hit a residential building in Al-Turbah, an administrative centre in southern Taiz, and rescue teams recovered eight bodies.

A local source told on Friday that the site served as accommodation for ice cream vendors, saying "most of those killed were children." Footage circulating on social media showed residents searching through the rubble for victims.

Continued military aircraft activity over the area was hampering rescue efforts and preventing teams from reaching the remaining victims, it said.

The Houthi-run channel also reported three airstrikes on Mocha district along Yemen's Red Sea coast and another on Al-Qabbaytah district in the neighbouring southern province of Lahj, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The Saudi-led coalition in Yemen said it had intercepted and destroyed three missiles launched by Yemen's Houthi group toward Saudi Arabia, including the capital Riyadh, overnight Wednesday.

Coalition spokesman Turki Al-Maliki said early Thursday in a statement on social media platform X that air defences had intercepted two ballistic missiles fired toward Riyadh, where loud explosions were heard in the city centre.

Late Wednesday, Al-Maliki said on X that the coalition had intercepted a cruise missile launched toward the kingdom's western region, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The reported strikes came amid intensifying hostilities between Yemen's Houthi group and government forces supported by the Saudi-led coalition. In recent days, the Houthis have claimed repeated attacks on Saudi ports and energy facilities, while Houthi media have reported intensified Saudi airstrikes across Yemen.

Yemen has been mired in conflict since late 2014, when the Houthis seized Sanaa and much of northern Yemen, prompting Saudi-led military intervention in 2015 in support of the internationally recognised government.

## Indian American leaders share Thanksgiving messages



**(IANS) Washington,** Indian American leaders marked Thanksgiving with messages of gratitude, service and asks for compassion among communities.

Congresswoman-elect Pia Dandiya, elected from Florida's 22nd Congressional District, recalled her family's Thanksgiving meals combining traditional dishes with Indian food.

"I used to resent the sneaking in of Indian dishes into this meal, but now it represents the best of Thanksgiving to me," she wrote.

She said the combination reflected her family's pride in its Indian roots and its future in the United States.

California Congressman Ami Bera urged people to remember families struggling with food, heating and housing costs.

New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani highlighted people missing loved ones and neighbours unsure of having a safe place to eat.

"May this Thanksgiving remind us not only of what we have, but of what we're capable of changing together," he wrote.

Congressmen Ro Khanna and Raja Krishnamoorthi thanked their communities and urged support for those in need. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal wished people joy, a good meal and rest.

Michigan Congressman Shri Thanedar thanked his family. Virginia Congressman Suhas Subramanyam shared a family photograph, while Congressman-elect Amish Shah of Arizona expressed gratitude for calling the state home.

Maryland Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller thanked families, neighbours, volunteers and public servants. Virginia Lieutenant Governor Ghazala Hashmi offered comfort to those grieving loved ones.

FBI Director Kash Patel thanked bureau personnel, law enforcement partners, first responders and military members serving away from their families, and acknowledged their families' support.

Second Lady Usha Vance shared Vice President JD Vance's greeting.

Former Vice President Kamala Harris shared a Thanksgiving cooking video. Former assistant attorney general Harmeet K. Dhillon called it her favourite holiday.

The Indian Embassy in Washington and diaspora organisation Indiaspora extended greetings. Google CEO Sundar Pichai shared his dessert-stacking game, One More Pie, on Thanksgiving Eve.

## China's response to Iran-US war pragmatic and opportunistic



**(IANS) Beijing,** China's response to the US-Iran conflict has been pragmatic and opportunistic, protecting its economic interests while boosting its image in the Global South, the Lowy Institute report said.

Grace Wermenbol, a senior visiting fellow at the German Marshall Fund, said Beijing was unlikely to act as a mediator because the conflict carries high risks and little chance of success.

She said a meeting involving Chinese President Xi Jinping, US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin in Shenzhen produced no security commitments. The joint declaration did not mention the wars in Iran or Ukraine.

The report said China had called for peace talks and a ceasefire, while allegations had emerged that it supplied Iran with missile systems and dual-use components for drone production. It also cited claims that Chinese satellite imagery and intelligence helped Iran target ships in the Strait of Hormuz and US bases in West Asia.

Wermenbol said Beijing did not intend to assume a security role in the region. Its approach favoured symbolic diplomacy while limiting political risks, as seen in its role in the 2023 Saudi-Iran rapprochement.

China may share Washington's interest in preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, but could benefit from US attention shifting from the Asia-Pacific, the analysis said.

Wermenbol said Beijing's ability to influence Tehran and secure a settlement remained uncertain. Trump would have to find an exit without Xi's mediation, she wrote.

## Uganda to Pull Troops Out of DR Congo

**(IANS) Kinshasa,** Uganda will withdraw its troops from Lubero in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo within two weeks, handing security duties to Congolese forces, the Defence Ministry said Friday.

Acting director Chris Magezi said Ugandan troops had been in the North Kivu town since January 2025 to pursue the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), an armed group of Ugandan origin affiliated with Islamic State.

The move also comes amid tense ties between Kampala and Kinshasa. The DRC summoned Uganda's head of mission Tuesday over social media posts by Uganda's army chief, Muhoozi Kainerugaba, son of President Yoweri Museveni.

Uganda did not say whether the withdrawal was linked to diplomatic tensions, or provide troop numbers and handover details.

**PERSPECTIVE | Beyond the Headlines.** Context. Clarity. Consequence.

COMMENTARY | MINORITY WELFARE | SECULARISM & GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

# SECULARISM UNDER SCRUTINY: Telangana's Minority Welfare Funding Crisis

**By: Shujath Ali Sufi**

When the Congress government assumed power in Telangana, Muslims and other minority communities hoped that its commitment to secularism and social justice would translate into meaningful improvements in education, employment, welfare and economic opportunities.

The party had made several electoral promises concerning minority development. However, concerns over inadequate utilisation of welfare funds, delayed educational assistance and the treatment of Urdu newspapers have raised serious questions about the implementation of those commitments.

The fundamental issue is whether allocating substantial funds in government budgets is sufficient, or whether timely disbursement and effective utilisation should constitute the real measure of administrative responsibility.

### The Growing Gap Between Allocations and Expenditure

Reports based on Right to Information disclosures reveal significant differences between budgetary allocations, fund releases and actual expenditure.

According to an April 6, 2026, report in Hyderabad Mail, Telangana's Minorities Welfare Department received an allocation of Rs. 2,997.02 crore in 2024–25. Of this, Rs. 2,750.47 crore was released, but actual expenditure amounted to only Rs. 1,602.88 crore, approximately 58 per cent of released funds.

For 2025–26, expenditure stood at Rs. 1,703.30 crore against releases of Rs. 3,015.33 crore as of March 25, 2026.

More recently, a Telangana Assembly committee reviewing minority welfare expenditure on November 25 reportedly questioned the pace of spending during 2026–27, seeking detailed explanations from officials.

These figures demand greater transparency regarding administrative delays, implementation difficulties and the ultimate delivery of benefits.

### Educational Assistance Must Reach Students

Education remains the foundation of social and economic advancement. Scholarships, fee reimbursement, residential schools and higher education support are particularly important for financially disadvantaged students.

Yet reports indicate troubling gaps in expenditure.

Telangana Today reported on May 28, 2026, that only Rs. 1.20 crore had been spent against a Rs. 120 crore allocation for post-matric scholarship assistance during 2025–26.

Similarly, tuition fee reimbursement expenditure was approximately Rs. 68.77 crore against an allocation of Rs. 300 crore.

Delayed payments can impose considerable hardship upon students, parents and educational institutions.

Families may struggle to arrange tuition fees, while institutions face difficulties maintaining academic facilities and essential services.

Financial assistance intended for deserving students should never become trapped in prolonged administrative procedures.

### Minority Institutions Await Greater Support

Several minority educational and welfare institutions require financial assistance for infrastructure, libraries, laboratories, hostels and other developmental facilities.

When approved funding is delayed, institutional development suffers and students ultimately bear the consequences.

The government should publish institution-wise details of sanctioned funds, amounts released, expenditure incurred and projects completed.

Special review meetings could help identify administrative obstacles and accelerate pending development works.

> **"Minority institutions need timely funding, transparency and accountability—not merely budget promises."**

### Urdu Journalism and Equal Advertising

Another serious concern involves the allocation of government advertisements to Urdu newspapers.

Urdu journalism serves an important public function by communicating government schemes, civic information and social issues to Urdu-speaking citizens.

In March 2025, The Munsif Daily published a blank editorial protesting what it described as the withdrawal of government advertisements.

The incident attracted national media attention and raised questions concerning press freedom and fair treatment.

The government, however, indicated that newspaper advertisement expenditure had been reduced more broadly.

The issue therefore requires transparent disclosure rather than assumptions about administrative motives.

Government advertisements should be distributed according to clear, objective and publicly available criteria, including circulation, readership, publication standards and applicable policies.

No publication should face arbitrary exclusion because of its language or independent editorial position.

> **"Fair govt advertising safeguards press freedom and Urdu journalism."**

### Secularism Must Be Reflected in Governance

Congress has traditionally associated its political identity with secularism, constitutional equality and social justice.

These commitments must be demonstrated through effective governance rather than confined to election manifestos and political speeches.

Minority welfare is not a concession granted by political leadership. It is part of the government's broader responsibility to ensure equitable opportunities and fair administration.

Demanding justice for minorities does not diminish the rights of other communities. Equal treatment strengthens democratic institutions and benefits society as a whole.

> **"Secularism is measured not by political promises, but by fairness in governance and opportunities delivered to every community."**

### From Political Promises to Administrative Action

The Telangana government must clarify the reasons behind underutilised welfare funds, establish deadlines for pending scholarships and reimbursements, and expedite financial assistance to eligible institutions.

It should also disclose language-wise and newspaper-wise government advertising allocations and establish transparent mechanisms for addressing grievances.

Public monitoring of welfare expenditure would strengthen accountability and restore confidence among beneficiaries.

The government's responsibility extends beyond announcing financial provisions. It must ensure that resources reach the institutions, students and families for whom they are intended.

Telangana's Muslims have contributed significantly to the state's education, economy, culture and social development. Their legitimate concerns deserve serious institutional attention.

Ultimately, the credibility of secular governance depends upon equal opportunity, transparent administration and the willingness to address shortcomings.

The time for announcements alone has passed. What minorities seek is not charity or political favour, but their rightful share of opportunities, dignity and justice.

***"True secularism is measured not by promises, but by equal rights, fair opportunities and justice delivered to every community."***

IN FOCUS | ISLAMIC TEACHINGS | SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# MURDER: One of The Gravest Crimes Against Humanity

**By: Maulana Hafiz-o-Qari Syed Sagheer Ahmed Naqshbandi Mujaddidi Qadri**
Sheikh-ul-Hadith, Jamia Nizamia, Hyderabad

Hyderabad has historically been recognised as a city of learning, culture, religious scholarship and peaceful coexistence. Its traditions of mutual respect and communal harmony have contributed significantly to its distinguished identity.

However, increasing reports of violent confrontations, personal disputes and incidents of murder raise serious concerns about declining tolerance and the weakening of moral values.

Minor disagreements, financial disputes and personal rivalries sometimes escalate into violence, destroying families and disturbing social harmony. Such developments demand serious reflection upon the sanctity of human life and the moral responsibilities emphasised in Islam.

### The Sanctity of Human Life in Islam

Islam regards human life as a sacred trust bestowed by Almighty Allah. No individual possesses the right to unlawfully take another person's life.

The Holy Quran explicitly condemns unjustified killing and emphasises the extraordinary value of preserving human life.

**In Surah Al-Ma'idah (5:32), Almighty Allah declares:**

> **"Whoever kills a soul unjustly, it is as though he has killed all mankind." — Holy Quran, Surah Al-Ma'idah (5:32), excerpt**

This profound teaching establishes the moral gravity of murder and reminds humanity that every innocent life deserves protection.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ repeatedly warned against unlawful bloodshed, describing the killing of an innocent person as an exceptionally grave sin.

Islamic teachings make clear that personal anger, revenge, jealousy or worldly disagreements can never justify murder.

### Brotherhood and the Responsibility to Protect Others

The teachings of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ emphasise kindness, mercy and consideration towards fellow human beings.

A Muslim is expected to protect others from harm through both words and actions.

**The Holy Prophet ﷺ taught:**

> **"A Muslim is one from whose tongue and hand other Muslims are safe."**
> **— Sahih al-Bukhari**

This teaching highlights the importance of controlling harmful speech, aggression and destructive behaviour.

Islamic brotherhood requires believers to respect one another's dignity, protect their rights and avoid actions that create hostility.

Differences of opinion, social status or personal interests should never become excuses for hatred and violence.

### The Dangers of Anger and Intoxication

Uncontrolled anger is among the major causes of destructive behaviour. A moment of rage can lead to consequences that affect several generations.

Islam therefore encourages patience, forgiveness and self-restraint, particularly during disagreements.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ strongly discouraged intoxicants because they impair judgment, weaken self-control and expose individuals to harmful actions.

Alcohol and other intoxicating substances can contribute to reckless behaviour, family disputes and criminal violence.

Young people must be educated about these dangers and encouraged to develop discipline, responsibility and respect for others.

Families and educational institutions have an important role in guiding individuals away from addiction, aggression and destructive influences.

### Suicide and the Value of Every Life

Islam also regards suicide as a grave prohibition, emphasising that human life is an invaluable trust from Almighty Allah.

However, individuals experiencing despair, emotional distress or overwhelming personal difficulties require compassion, understanding and appropriate assistance.

Families and communities should provide encouragement, emotional support and access to professional care rather than responding with condemnation.

The preservation of life must remain the highest priority.

### Reconciliation as the Foundation of Peace

The Holy Quran encourages believers to resolve disputes through justice, forgiveness and reconciliation.

Personal disagreements should be addressed through dialogue and lawful procedures rather than retaliation or violence.

Community elders, religious scholars and responsible citizens should actively encourage peaceful settlements wherever appropriate.

The Islamic principle of Sulh, or reconciliation, promotes mutual understanding and helps prevent disputes from escalating into serious conflicts.

A peaceful society requires individuals who value forgiveness over revenge and justice over personal hostility.

### The Responsibility of Religious and Community Leaders

Religious scholars, teachers, parents and community leaders must strengthen awareness about the consequences of unlawful violence.

Mosques, educational institutions and community organisations can conduct awareness programmes highlighting Islamic teachings concerning human dignity, tolerance and social responsibility.

Special attention should be given to young people who may be influenced by harmful social environments, substance abuse or irresponsible behaviour.

Moral education, constructive guidance and opportunities for meaningful engagement can help prevent destructive choices.

**"Moral education & compassionate guidance build peaceful, responsible future generations."**

### Preserving Peace Through Islamic Values

The growing incidence of violence reminds us that social progress cannot be measured merely through economic prosperity or material advancement.

A truly civilised society protects human life, respects individual dignity and resolves disagreements through lawful and peaceful means.

Islam calls upon believers to demonstrate patience, mercy, forgiveness and justice in their everyday conduct.

> **"The true strength of a community lies in protecting human life, preserving brotherhood and resolving differences through compassion."**

Ultimately, the message of Islam is unmistakable: murder destroys not merely an individual life but the peace and stability of entire families and communities.

By following the noble teachings of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, respecting the sanctity of life and promoting reconciliation, society can strengthen the foundations of lasting peace and harmony.

# 'One odd bad day,' says Tilak Varma after India A crash out of Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars



**(IANS) Doha,** India A captain Tilak Varma described his team's defeat in the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars 2026 semi-final as "one odd bad day", after Sri Lanka A chased a target of 318 with eight wickets to spare at the West End Park International Cricket Stadium in Doha on Thursday.

India A scored 317/8 after being asked to bat first, with Abhishek Sharma top-scoring with 78. Varma contributed 53, while Shahbaz Ahmed remained unbeaten on 54. Sri Lanka A's opening pair, Lasith Croospulle and Sineth Jayawardena, put on 174 runs to take control of the chase.

Speaking after the match, Varma credited the Sri Lankan batters and admitted that his bowlers had failed to carry out the team's plans.

"Credit goes to them. Both the openers played really well. But at the same point again, I was trying all the bowlers, but one bad day for us. I couldn't get any help. But it's fine. One odd bad day, but credit to Sri Lankan batsmen," he said.

Varma said India A had identified the first 15 overs of the chase as crucial. The plan was to keep Sri Lanka A's scoring rate to around six runs an over, expecting the pitch to become slower and offer more assistance to the bowlers as the innings progressed.

"I was telling my boys that initially first 15 overs will be very crucial. If we restrict them anything six per over, it will be very good for us. Later on, the wicket gets slightly slower side. That's what we planned, but unfortunately we haven't executed," he said.

The captain also pointed to the middle-order collapse during India A's innings. After reaching 197/2, India A lost four wickets for 38 runs. Shahbaz and Tanush Kotian then added 73 runs for the seventh wicket to help the side recover and post 317.

Varma felt the total was competitive, given the way the pitch changed during the innings. He said the ball had initially come on to the bat well, but the surface slowed down after the first 20 overs, with some deliveries gripping and keeping low.

"We thought that around 320, 330 will be a good score on the board. ... Initially, first 20 overs, it was nicely coming onto the bat. But after that, slightly slower side. Few balls were gripping and staying low," he said, adding that the partnership between Kotian and Shahbaz had helped India A reach a good total.

Despite the semi-final exit, Varma said the performances of the younger players were encouraging. He singled out Shahbaz and Kotian, noting their ability to contribute in both departments and strengthen the team's depth.

"There are so many youngsters who have first time playing, especially Shahbaz and Tanush. ... Shahbaz ... has a handy bowling and also he can bat down the order. It's really positive thing. And also Tanush, he's also an allrounder," he said.

arma acknowledged that the bowling unit would need to review its performance. He said the players would assess what went wrong before returning stronger, while maintaining that India A had done well with the bat during the campaign overall.

# Obviously, it hurts...': Kartik, Rahane react as Siraj appears emotional in TV visuals after 2nd Test snub



**(IANS) Christchurch,** Former Indian cricketers Murali Kartik and Ajinkya Rahane reacted to Mohammed Siraj's continued absence from the Indian Test team as he missed out on the Playing XI for the second Test against New Zealand here at Hagley Oval.

Siraj has not been picked for any of the two Test matches in New Zealand despite India going with four pace options. He was seen covering his eyes with sunglasses after being left out for the second match.

Kartik and Rahane were quick to notice as they reacted to his omission. "These visuals," Rahane said on Sony Sports, before Kartik asked, "Is he crying?"

"Obviously, it hurts. He certainly looks quite emotional to me, because he is an emotional person. Because he was benched in the ODIs as well, and even during the West Indies tour that happened in India, he was only given a chance in the final match when they didn't want to play anyone else. This hurts a player.

"With the numbers you've seen so far, I am surprised. For what reason? Either don't keep him in the team at all then. If you feel his form isn't good, or he's not bowling well in the nets, or whatever, the thinking might be, then don't take him on the tour at all. Don't take him, what's the point then?" Kartik further said.

Siraj has been India's leading wicket-taker in the ongoing World Test Championship with 43 scalps from 11 matches. He was also the cornerstone in their drawn 2-2 series in England in mid-2025.

Meanwhile, former cricketer Mohammad Kaif also sympathised with Siraj's continued absence. "Hard to believe as one of India's premier fast bowlers, Mohammed Siraj is dropped again," Kaif wrote on X. "Siraj should be one of the first names considered in India's overseas Test bowling attack, alongside Bumrah. Interestingly, bowling coach Morne Morkel himself called Siraj a world-class bowler and said he was bowling well."

# 2nd Test: Blundell's fifty lifts NZ to 246/5 at stumps on Day 1



**(IANS) Christchurch,** Tom Blundell's unbeaten half-century helped New Zealand recover from a middle-order collapse to reach 246/5 at stumps on the opening day of the second and final Test against India at Hagley Oval in Christchurch on Friday.

Debutant Gurnoor Brar claimed his maiden Test wicket, while Akash Deep and Anshul Kamboj struck after lunch to reduce the hosts to 110/4. However, Blundell and Glenn Phillips added an unbeaten 62 for the sixth wicket to revive the innings once again.

Asked to bat first after India captain Shubman Gill won the toss and elected to field, New Zealand made a steady start. Tom Latham and Devon Conway shared a 77-run opening stand.

Latham was unbeaten on 42 at lunch, while Conway had made 31. Brar struck on the final ball before the interval, trapping Conway lbw. A review confirmed the ball was hitting the top of leg stump. New Zealand went to lunch at 77/1.

India took control after the break as Akash Deep dismissed Latham for 59. Kamboj removed Henry Nicholls for 16 before Akash Deep sent Rachin Ravindra back without scoring. New Zealand lost three wickets without adding to their total and slipped to 110/4.

Blundell and Daryl Mitchell steadied the innings before tea, taking the score to 131/4. Blundell was unbeaten on eight and Mitchell on six.

The pair added further runs in the final session. Mitchell made 31 off 74 balls, with four boundaries, before Washington Sundar broke the stand. Mitchell edged an attempted flick and Dhruv Jurel took a sharp catch at leg slip, leaving New Zealand at 184/5.

Blundell, playing his 50th Test, reached his half-century off 117 deliveries. He and Phillips then batted through the remaining overs, taking the hosts to 246/5 at the close.

Phillips was unbeaten on 36 off 64 balls, while Blundell had made 53 from 117 deliveries. Akash Deep led India's attack with 2-52. Brar, Kamboj and Sundar took one wicket each, while Jasprit Bumrah went wicketless, conceding 37 runs in 19 overs.

Brief scores: New Zealand 246/5 in 85 overs (Tom Latham 59, Tom Blundell 53 not out; Akash Deep 2-52, Gurnoor Brar 1-52) against India.

# South Africa U19 Women Begin Final World Cup Preparations

**(IANS) Tshwane,** South Africa's U19 women have begun their camp ahead of the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup in Bangladesh and Nepal from January 21 to February 7, 2027.

Twenty players are competing for 15 squad places at the eight-day camp, organised by Cricket South Africa (CSA) with SA20. It began on Wednesday at the CSA Centre of Excellence in Tshwane and runs until December 3.

Head coach Dinesha Devnarain said the camp would fine-tune preparations and combinations, while giving every player a chance to stake a claim.

The team won a Youth T20I series against Pakistan in July. After the camp, players will return to their provinces for the CSA national youth weeks in December before regrouping in January.

Sessions at this camp will focus on skills, tactics and match execution, alongside media training to prepare players for the tournament.

South Africa were runners-up in Malaysia in 2025. In 2027, they are in Group B with New Zealand, Pakistan and Samoa.

SA20 head of cricket operations Stephen Cook said the camp reflected the league's commitment to growing women's cricket and preparing players for the World Cup.

The 20 players are Ashley Barnard, Chris-Mari Bezuidenhout, Daneli Boshoff, Melissa van der Merwe, Reabetswe Dithupe, Diedre van Rensburg, Jae-Leigh Filander, Miya Lalor, Bruzaan Goosen, Siphokuhle Masilela, Kananelo Mokoena, Ashleigh van Wyk, Respect Mabasa, Sinothando Matamela, Lungile Ncgobo, Shreeya Subbiah, Karabo Meso, Mieke van Voorst, Chanel Venter and Cayleigh Wanckel.

# Rohit Sharma returns as Mumbai Indians skipper ahead of IPL 2027



**(IANS) Mumbai,** ARohit Sharma has been reappointed captain of Mumbai Indians for IPL 2027, the franchise said on Friday. His return follows Hardik Pandya's move to Punjab Kings this month. Pandya led MI from 2024 to 2026.

IANS reported on November 3 and 26 that Rohit could regain the role. The 2027 season will be Mumbai's 20th in the IPL.

Rohit joined MI in 2011 and led the franchise to five IPL titles, in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2020. The announcement came nine years after he was first named India's a standin captain for the ODI series against Sri Lanka on November 27, 2017.

Rohit said leading Mumbai had always been a matter of pride and that he was excited about the season ahead. Nita Ambani said he had helped build MI's winning culture since joining in 2011.

Rohit captained MI in 163 matches across the IPL and Champions League T20, winning 91, losing 68 and tying four. Mumbai won five IPL finals they reached under him. The team missed the playoffs in 2021 and 2022, and lost to Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 2 in 2023, his final season as captain.

MI have revamped their coaching staff, appointing Kieron Pollard as head coach. Akash Ambani said the franchise was excited about the new season.

Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Varma and Jasprit Bumrah were among the candidates. IANS understands MI may not name a vice-captain for IPL 2027, in keeping with its policy across teams.

# Prabhudeva plays Babootty, A R Rahman plays an 'angry' film director in 'Moonwalk'!




**(IANS) Chennai,** Prabhudeva plays Babootty, while Oscar-winning composer A.R. Rahman appears as an angry film director in 'Moonwalk', directed by Manoj NS.

The makers released the trailer on Friday. Babootty is caught between two women, Nagma and Smitha, while Yogi Babu plays many roles, including Babootty's in-laws.

The film marks Rahman's acting debut and reunites him with Prabhudeva after 30 years. Rahman has also composed the music. Sources said Yogi Babu appears in 16 roles.

'Moonwalk' will release on December 24, after its original Deepavali release plan was changed. The film will hit screens simultaneously in Tamil, Telugu and Hindi.

Cast includes Aju Varghese, Arjun Ashokan, Satz, Nishma, Sushmitha, Redin Kingsley, Mottai Rajendran and others.

Manoj NS, Divya Manoj and Praveen Elak produced the film under Behindwoods Productions. Romeo Pictures holds worldwide distribution rights and Lahari has acquired the music rights.

# Saif Ali Khan shares throwback pictures capturing his style, memories through eras



**(IANS) Mumbai,** Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan shared throwback pictures on Instagram on Friday, taking followers through his style and memories over the years.

The actor posted old magazine covers featuring him in different outfits. Reflecting on the photographs, he called the post a "trip down memory lane", recalling "different times, different looks". He said the covers brought back memories.

Saif apparently deleted the post before reposting it, but followers quickly noticed. Asked why he had shared it again, the actor said the song accompanying the post was not playing properly.

"Sorry! Good question... something wrong with the way the song was playing, should have left it... but wanted to fix it," he replied.

Users welcomed the actor's posts. One praised his social media team, while another said his updates made their day. A follower compared his posting style to that of the early 2000s, saying he was making the internet fun again.

Saif joined Instagram relatively late but now regularly shares glimpses of his life and memories from the past.

## Komatireddy extends 6 lakh aid to stranded student in Germany

**Hyderabad (NSS)** :Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has once again stepped in to support a student from an economically weaker background pursuing higher education abroad, extending immediate financial assistance of ₹6 lakh to help her tide over a crisis in Germany.

The beneficiary, Parimala, had earlier received ₹10 lakh through the Komatireddy Pratheek Foundation to pursue her higher studies in Germany. At the time, the Minister had assured her that he would take complete responsibility for her education until its completion.

Encouraged by his support, Parimala travelled to Germany. However, upon arrival, she ran into documentation hurdles that temporarily stalled her university enrolment. Compounding her troubles, her Expatrio blocked account was frozen, leaving her unable to access her funds and struggling to meet day-to-day living expenses in a foreign country.

When Parimala brought her plight to the Minister's notice, he responded promptly by releasing an additional ₹6 lakh, honouring his earlier commitment.

In a video message released from Germany, an emotional Parimala thanked the Minister for standing by her during a difficult period, noting that the funds would cover her living expenses for the next two to three months until her documentation is cleared.

# Bhatti urges Centre to clear 25,096-cr power DPRs within 60 days

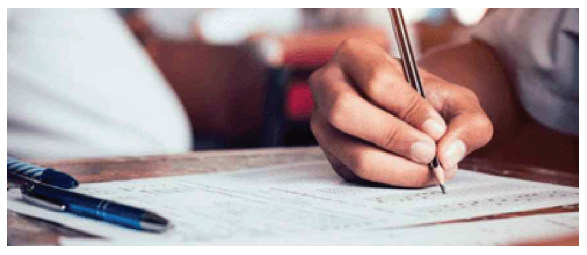
**Hyderabad (NSS)** :Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka has urged the Union government to extend full support to strengthen Telangana's power generation, transmission, and distribution infrastructure in line with the State's rapidly growing electricity demand. Participating in the Conference of State Power Ministers chaired by Union Minister for Power, Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal in New Delhi on Friday, Bhatti Vikramarka flagged several pressing issues concerning Telangana's power sector. He noted that the State government is committed to accelerating smart meter installations, curbing distribution losses, solarising agricultural feeders, clearing pending government electricity dues, and expanding energy storage capacity—all of which require timely policy and financial backing from the Centre.




The Deputy Chief Minister pointed out that Telangana had submitted Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) worth ₹25,096 crore to the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) on May 27 under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) for smart metering, loss reduction, and network modernisation. However, the State has received only ₹72 crore in budgetary support under the scheme so far.

Highlighting that the billing efficiency of Telangana's power distribution companies has steadily improved over the past three years, Bhatti Vikramarka urged the Centre to clear the pending DPRs within 60 days and extend the implementation deadline for RDSS works until March 31, 2028.

## CYBERABAD IMPOSES RESTRICTIONS AROUND SI RECRUITMENT EXAM CENTRES



**Hyderabad (NSS)** :Cyberabad Police have imposed prohibitory orders around examination centres hosting the PRBT-2026 examination for SCT Sub-Inspectors (Civil) and equivalent posts scheduled for November 29.

Cyberabad Police Commissioner M. Ramesh, exercising powers under Section 163 of the BNSS, prohibited assemblies of five or more persons within a 200-metre radius of examination centres to prevent disturbances and ensure smooth conduct of the examination.

Xerox and internet centres within a 100-metre radius of the examination centres have also been ordered to remain closed during the examination. The restrictions will be in force from 6 am to 6 pm on November 29. Police officers on duty, military personnel, Home Guards, Education department flying squads and funeral processions are exempted from the order. Violators will face prosecution under relevant provisions of law, police said.

## Singareni extends 61.44 crore support for school breakfast scheme

**Hyderabad (NSS)** : The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) is extending financial assistance of ₹61.44 crore under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative to support the Telangana government's breakfast scheme.

The funds are being utilised to establish nine state-of-the-art centralised kitchens that will provide free, nutritious breakfast daily to over four lakh students across nearly 8,000 government schools and colleges.

Implemented under the guidance of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, the centralised kitchens are managed by the Hare Krishna Foundation across Singareni's operational areas and other key locations in the state.

In the first phase, SCCL sanctioned ₹2 crore for a centralised kitchen at Kodangal, which was inaugurated by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and currently serves students in and around the constituency.

In the subsequent phase, kitchens were established at Madhira, Manthani, and Mancherial at a combined cost of ₹21.03 crore.

Additionally, the public sector undertaking has allocated ₹38.41 crore for upcoming centralised kitchens in Singareni, Kothagudem, Bhupalpally, Kagaznagar, and Munagala (Suryapet).

## "Constitution in hand, Rowdyism in heart": BRS slams cong over attack on youth leaders

**Hyderabad (Munif Desk)** : BRS MLC Dasoju Sravan on Friday accused the Congress government of suppressing democratic protests while preaching constitutional values, alleging that party activists attacked BRS youth leaders during a satirical protest over unfulfilled job promises.

Addressing a press conference here at Telangana Bhavan alongside BRS youth leaders, Sravan condemned the alleged attack on protesters who had staged a symbolic biryani protest with Rahul Gandhi's portrait at Bawarchi Restaurant, recalling his visit to Ashok Nagar during the 2023 Assembly election campaign.

The BRS leader alleged that Congress had betrayed unemployed youth after promising two lakh government jobs in the first year, a job calendar every June 2 and a monthly unemployment allowance of Rs.4,000. The protest was intended to remind Rahul Gandhi of these promises, but Congress activists allegedly attacked the demonstrators, injuring Dinesh.

Questioning the Congress's commitment to democracy, Sravan said the party championed protests against the BJP in Delhi but resorted to violence against dissenters in Telangana. "Is Telangana governed by Ambedkar's Constitution or 'Anumula's Constitution?" he asked, targeting Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.

He also accused the government of neglecting fee reimbursement dues, mishandling recruitment examinations and failing to implement its promise of 75 per cent reservation for Telangana youth in private companies receiving government incentives. Sravan challenged Revanth Reddy to join him for an open debate at Bawarchi Restaurant on employment promises and the Youth Declaration, asserting that attacks and intimidation would not deter the BRS from fighting for unemployed youth.




## CS calls for inter-departmental coordination for Global Summit, Khelo India Games



**Hyderabad (NSS)** :Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Friday directed officials to ensure close inter-departmental coordination for the successful conduct of the Invest Telangana Global Summit and the Khelo India Youth Games, scheduled in the state next month.

Reviewing arrangements for both events with senior officials at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat, Sanjay Jaju emphasised seamless execution across all departments. He proposed mobilising a large number of students to Bharat Future City on December 8 to witness special attractions including the Raksha Expo (defence exhibition) and an air show held alongside the Global Summit.

He also instructed officials to ensure a substantial student turnout for the Khelo India Youth Games inauguration on December 11. Exposure to the summit would familiarise students with modern technology, India's advancements in the defence sector, and global investment opportunities, the Chief Secretary noted. Similarly, attending the sporting events would instil discipline, determination, and sportsmanship among the youth, inspiring them to pursue higher goals, he added.

To facilitate smooth logistics, Sanjay Jaju directed Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) officials to draft a comprehensive transport action plan and deploy dedicated buses proportionate to student numbers, ensuring hassle-free travel to and from the venues.

## HC clears way for auction of 3.15 acres at Moosapet Truck Yard

**Hyderabad, (NSS):** The Telangana High Court on Friday cleared the way for the auction of 3.15 acres of land belonging to the Moosapet Truck Yard at Kukatpally by dismissing two Public Interest Litigations (PILs) challenging the sale.

The petitions, filed by Kukatpally MLA Madhavaram Krishna Rao and social activist Kantha Rao, sought to halt the proposed auction. With the dismissal of both pleas, all legal hurdles have been removed, allowing authorities to proceed with the land sale process.

## HYDERABAD CP REVIEWS SECURITY AT CHARMINAR, MECCA MASJID



**Hyderabad (NSS)** : Hyderabad Police Commissioner Mahesh Muralidhar Bhagwat on Friday inspected security and traffic arrangements in the Charminar Zone and around Mecca Masjid in view of Friday prayers.

The Commissioner reviewed police deployment, CCTV surveillance, mobile patrolling and traffic management to ensure peaceful prayers and public safety.

He directed officials to ensure smooth traffic diversions and prevent inconvenience to devotees. SHE Teams and intelligence personnel were asked to maintain vigilance in crowded market areas to prevent pickpocketing and eve-teasing.

Appreciating the cooperation of community leaders and citizens, Bhagwat urged the public to report suspicious persons or unattended objects through Dial 100 or the local police. The inspection was attended by Charminar Zone DCP Kare Kiran, Additional DCP, ACPs, Inspectors and other senior officers.

## Gym Trainer Sentenced to 20 Years for Sexual Assault

**Hyderabad, (NSS):** Hyderabad, Nov. 27 (NSS): A court sentenced gym trainer Mohd. Mouzam Ali (39) to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and fined him Rs.8,000 for sexually assaulting and harassing a woman over several years.

The accused, who worked at Ramky Towers, Gachibowli, was convicted in a 2017 case registered at Raidurgam Police Station. The verdict was delivered by XIII Additional District and Sessions Judge M. Vani.

## Poultry India Expo 2026 Draws 60,000 Visitors, Concludes on a High Note in Hyderabad

**Hyderabad (Munsif Desk) :**

The 18th edition of Poultry India Expo 2026 concluded successfully at the HITEX Exhibition Centre on Thursday, attracting around 60,000 visitors over three days from November 25 to 27.

Uday Singh Bayas, President of IPEMA–Poultry India, described the response as overwhelming and said the expo had strengthened its position as a major international platform for the poultry industry. The event brought together poultry farmers, manufacturers, entrepreneurs and industry representatives from across India and overseas.

The exhibition showcased advanced technologies, modern equipment and innovative solutions across the poultry value chain, while providing opportunities for business networking, knowledge sharing and industry collaboration.




Ahead of the expo, Poultry Knowledge Day 2026 was organised on November 24 and inaugurated by Union Minister of State Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel. Experts and industry leaders discussed developments in poultry nutrition, artificial intelligence-based health management, vaccination technologies and automated poultry housing systems.

Bayas welcomed Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's assurance of support to the poultry sector and said it would encourage investment, infrastructure development and industry expansion. He reiterated IPEMA's commitment to developing Telangana into one of India's leading poultry hubs.

He thanked the Telangana government, exhibitors, poultry farmers, industry stakeholders, visitors and media representatives for contributing to the success of the expo.

## Telangana's land resurvey to be a role model for country: Ponguleti

**Hyderabad (NSS)** : Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has asserted that the Telangana government's comprehensive land resurvey aimed at permanently resolving land disputes—will emerge as a role model for the entire country.

Speaking to the media representatives at the Secretariat on Friday, the Minister said the initiative aligns with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's vision to scientifically survey every inch of land in the State. He stated that the government plans to complete the statewide exercise within 18 months and issue new QR-coded passbooks to farmers.

Detailing the rollout, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy noted that the first phase is currently underway in 373 villages lacking revenue maps—covering roughly 70 villages per district—with a target to wrap up this phase by the end of December. He added that he has already toured nine erstwhile districts to review implementation with local public representatives.

Taking aim at the BJP-led Union government for alleged discrimination against Telangana, the Minister pointed out that the Centre sanctioned only two lakh houses against the State's request for 13 lakh units. He also dismissed the BRS's hopes of returning to power as "daydreams," reiterating that the Congress government has no intention of indulging in vendetta politics.

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