

DIRECT VOICE

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Invest Telangana' Summit to be Held at a Global Scales Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju

Nathari Venkatesh State Bureau Chief Hyderabad, August 21 : State Chief Secretary Mr. Sanjay Jaju has directed officials to make comprehensive arrangements for the successful conduct of the 'Telangana Rising – Invest Telangana Global Summit,' a prestigious event planned by the state government. On Friday, the Chief Secretary held a high-level review meeting at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat regarding the preparations for the summit, which is scheduled to take place in Hyderabad this December. During the meeting, he reviewed various aspects of organizing the summit. The Chief Secretary suggested sending special invitations to ambassadors and high commissioners of various countries, as well as



to prominent industrialists and investors from those nations. He also directed that invitations be sent well in advance to leading industrial houses and prominent figures from sectors such as science and technology, medicine, education, and infrastructure. He advised constituting the necessary committees for the summit's efficient execution, assigning clear responsibilities to each, and ensuring coordinated functioning. Furthermore, the Chief Secretary emphasized the

need to organize sector-specific expos to showcase Telangana's potential and investment opportunities to the world, and to take steps to ensure the participation of leading companies and organizations in these events. Furthermore, officials were instructed to constitute an advisory council comprising experts and prominent figures from various sectors to provide guidance for organizing the 'Telangana Rising – Invest Telangana Global Summit.' Chief Secretary Sanjay

Jaju directed all departments to work in coordination to ensure the summit is conducted to the highest standards and to further establish Telangana as a world-class investment destination. Future City Development Authority Commissioner Mr. Shashank, Industries Department Commissioner Mr. Krishna Aditya, IT Department Joint Secretary Mr. Anudeep Durishetty, Invest Telangana CEO Mr. Ajith Reddy, Mr. Nikhil Chakravarthy, and others participated in the meeting.

TTD explores use of Robot Dog for Wildlife Monitoring and Devotee Safety

Manoj kumar State Bureau Chief Thirupathi August 21 : To strengthen real-time monitoring of wildlife movements and enhance devotee safety in forest areas around Tirumala, TTD is evaluating the use of advanced robotic technology. On Thursday, TTD Additional EO Sri Ch. Venkaiah Chowdary, accompanied by officials, reviewed the performance of a quadruped Robot (Robotic Dog) at Sri Padmavathi Guest House, Tirumala. The delegation examined the robot's suitability for surveillance in

difficult or hazardous terrain where human access is limited. The robot is equipped with optical and thermal imaging cameras, a 360° LiDAR, multiple sensors and artificial intelligence. These features enable detection and tracking of wildlife under low-visibility conditions such as darkness or fog. The AI system can classify large animals, humans, vehicles and domestic animals. On detecting wildlife movement, the system can send geo-tagged alerts and stream live video and thermal feeds to the control room and patrolling

staff for immediate response. "Priority areas include the forest stretches adjoining the Alipiri-Tirumala footpath, where early detection of leopards and other wildlife will help warn devotees and enable rapid deployment of forest, vigilance and security teams. The feasibility of using the robot's sound and light units to non-physically deter animals away from pilgrim areas was also examined to avoid direct human-wildlife confrontation." It was noted that the robot would complement not



replace existing camera traps, foot patrols and forest surveillance. It can serve as a mobile monitoring asset that can be rapidly deployed to locations with high wildlife activity as required.

SSC లో ఎంపీసీసీ 21వ సారి కూడా 100% రిజల్ట్ తో
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leged that during the previous government's tenure, the then-MLA Vinay Bhaskar wasted time by colluding with contractors. He noted that the current Congress government is undertaking development works that serve the public interest. Janga Raghava Reddy remarked that Nayini Rajender Reddy is striving for the constituency's development and that some individuals, unable to tolerate this progress, are making false allegations. He highlighted that the MLA is moving forward with the sole aim of resolving public issues and emphasized that development and public welfare are the Congress government's objectives.

the YSR Nagar colony in Kazipet. He mentioned that MLA Naini Rajender Reddy had recognized the land in the colony as government property. He said that colony residents had met the MLA to express their distress over being intimidated by certain individuals; in response, Naini advised them to immediately lodge a police complaint if they faced any attacks or threats. He added that the MLA had assured them that 'Indira mma' houses would be sanctioned for them. He stated that the government is taking steps to construct public utility facilities such as a government hospital, a degree college, a bus stop, and an ACP office on those lands. He al-

Surekha Crossed The Line..

Direct Voice State Bureau Hyderabad August 21: Congress party politics has heated up in Telangana. The comments of Minister Konda Surekha's daughter Sushmita have sparked a fire in the government, which was running peacefully until recently. The Revanth faction is angry with the Konda family for her comments on CM Revanth Reddy, his brother, Minister Ponguleti, MP Vem Narender Reddy, and Parakala MLA Revuri Prakash Reddy. Responding to the show cause notice issued on Sushmita's comments, Konda Surekha stated that her daughter's comments were personal and it was inappropriate to attribute them to her. But the fact that she did not object to her daughter's comments at the same time, and at the same time did not condemn them as unfortunate, also seems to be the reason for the anger of the Revanth faction. In this context, 18 MLAs and MLCs who met at Gandhi Bhavan on Friday lashed out at Konda Surekha's daughter's comments, as well as State Planning Commission Vice Chairman Chinna Reddy and MLA Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy. They demanded

that they be suspended from the party. Konda Surekha's comments have always been damaging to the party, her previous comments about Samantha have damaged the party, and Sushmita, who is actually a member of the Congress party, has been accused of being a member of the party. MLA Vemula Veeresham questioned what is the market culture that talks about MLAs in a roundabout way. Another MLA, Vedma Bojju, said that they believe that the comments made by Pillakaki Konda Sushmita are the words of Konda Surekha. He said that some foxes in their party are behind Konda Surekha, and it would be better if she leaves the party before expelling her, and whether she is in touch with at least one MLA in the district. However, in the meeting called in the wake of Konda Surekha's comments, there was a lot of excitement about how this matter would turn out. Today's prices are shocking. It is common for people from the same family to continue in different political parties. It is common to criticize other parties. However, Konda Surekha and Konda Murali have only



one daughter. Konda Surekha's husband Murali announced a few days ago that he will become a different MLA in the future. Konda Sushmita's comments created a stir in the wake of CM Revanth Reddy's announcement that Revuri Prakash Reddy would contest from Parakala again during his visit. Konda Surekha did not condemn her daughter's comments or express remorse. At the same time, Surekha's husband Konda Murali did not respond anywhere. At the same time, Sushmita's statement that she is committed to her comments will only intensify the controversy. It is known that

Konda Sushmita had announced that Revanth Reddy would open his account if he responded to her comments. It has become interesting to see how Konda Sushmita will respond to the comments made by Congress representatives at the recent media conference at Gandhi Bhavan. How will the high command deal with Konda Surekha? Will the Revanth faction demand that she be removed from the ministerial post? Or will Surekha resign herself? Will the party high command compromise once again without taking action in the wake of her being a BC woman? We have to wait and see.

Janga Raghava Reddy Slams Susmitha Patel's Comments Comments Against CM Revanth And MLA Revuri Are Inappropriate State Oil Corporation Chairman Janga Raghava Reddy

Direct Voice Bureau Chief Warangal August 21: Speaking without complete information is improper; political criticism is acceptable, but personal attacks are not. Facts should be presented to the public: State Oil Corporation Chairman Janga Raghava Reddy stated that the comments made by Konda Susmitha Patel regarding CM Revanth Reddy and MLA Revuri Prakash Reddy were inappropriate. He remarked that making such comments about the Chief Minister and the MLA without having full information was not right. He mentioned that Minister Konda Surekha had also clarified that those comments were made without her knowledge. He emphasized that while politics is part of the process, there should be no room for personal attacks or false propaganda.



Janga Raghava Reddy advised presenting facts to the public rather than engaging in campaigns that mislead them. He noted that while there is nothing wrong with expressing criticism or opinions on political issues, personal attacks can create misconceptions among the public. He stressed the need to act responsibly. "Do Not Politicize Sudarshan Reddy's Death" Janga Raghava Reddy stated that it is inappropriate to exploit the death of former MLA Peddi Sudarshan Reddy for political gain. Expressing deep condolences over Sudar-

shan Reddy's death, he opined that the political campaigning by Harish Rao and KTR was undermining the sympathy Sudarshan Reddy rightfully deserved. He suggested presenting the facts to the public rather than exploiting the death for political gain. He mentioned that Donthi Madhava Reddy had consulted doctors at Rohini Hospital to ascertain details regarding Sudarshan Reddy's health condition. He noted that when the patient was being shifted to Hyderabad for advanced medical care, Madhava Reddy spoke to CM Revan-

th Reddy and facilitated the creation of a green corridor. He criticized BRS leaders for taking out a funeral procession featuring Donthi Madhava Reddy's photograph, disregarding the assistance he had provided. He remarked that the people of Narsampet would deliver a verdict ensuring a massive victory for the candidate whether it was Donthi Madhava Reddy himself or his son contesting as an MLA. Public Utility Structures on YSR Nagar Lands Janga Raghava Reddy stated that it was the Congress party that established



Is That The Strategy Behind Direct Elections?

Preparations for local body elections are in full swing in the state. The state government has started organizing these elections as there is a risk that the 15th Finance Commission funds for local bodies will be stopped if these elections are not held by October. During the hearing held in the High Court on the same issue, the Advocate General assured the court on behalf of the state government that the election process will be completed by October. At the same time, the state government has also issued a GO, ordering the start of election arrangements in one hundred municipalities where there are no disputes in the first phase. It is preparing to take appropriate action immediately in the case of 23 municipalities and corporations where there are court cases and disputes. The state cabinet meeting held two days ago discussed the issue of local elections. Starting with the municipal elections, it was broadly decided to hold ZPTC, MPTC, Zilla Parishad.. and finally the Sarpanch elections. However, a key decision taken in the cabinet meeting has now become a topic of discussion in all circles. The cabinet has decided to conduct direct elections for the posts of municipal corporations, corporations, Zilla Parishad and MPP presidents instead of the indirect system that has existed so far. What are the benefits of the direct system? Why did they not want the indirect system? What are the disadvantages of the indirect election system that has been in force for a few decades except for a short period in between? Various analyses are being heard on these questions. In fact, the indirect election system continued in the state for a long time. However, when the Telugu Desam Party first came to power, the late N.T. Rama Rao, who was the Chief Minister, undertook reforms in local bodies. The Samiti and Taluka systems were abolished and the dialect system was implemented. In that order, changes were made so that the presidents of local bodies would be elected directly by the people. These changes were implemented in the Panchayati Raj and municipal systems for the first time in the country in 1986. Accordingly, in the local elections held in 1987, the presidents of municipalities and Zilla Parishads were elected directly by the people through public vote. This means that just as voters cast one vote for an MLA and one vote for an MP in the general elections, in local elections they have to cast one vote for the president and one vote for a ward member or local representative. Thus, the direct election system is such that whoever gets the most votes from the people, regardless of the majority of the members of the local bodies, takes over the presidency. In the direct election system, since the people directly elect the local bodies without the involvement of the members of the respective bodies, there is no room for horse trading or other temptations to gather the majority of members required to elect the presidents. In the current system, in cases where there is a majority of eight, parties are tempting the ZP TCs and buying the chairmen and councilors and electing their own as municipal chairmen. There are allegations that the parties in power in the state are especially leading in this matter. There is no room for these immoral and undemocratic acts by electing the presidents through direct elections. Presidents who are directly elected by the people are able to take independent decisions in governance without depending on the goodwill of the members. In the indirect election system, they have to seek the goodwill of the members even during their tenure. Otherwise, they have to face the scourge of no-confidence motions. The fact that 40 municipalities have faced no-confidence motions in the last five years is evidence of this situation. This makes it impossible for the administration to run smoothly. The direct election system eliminates these. The Congress government that was in power between 1990-92 abolished the direct election system for the posts of presidents of local bodies. Even though the 73rd Constitutional Amendment came into effect in 1994 and the Panchayat Raj system became a five-tier system with MPTC and ZPTC, the indirect election system continued for the presidents of Zilla Parishad and Mandal Parishad. The governments of that time also made some arguments in favor of this system. Those who support the indirect system argue that if a party candidate is elected as the president under the direct election system and the number of members of that party in the organization is low, there will be difficulties in governance. For example, if the majority of members in a district council or municipality are elected from one party and the president is elected from another party, the governance in that organization will be paralyzed. They say that there is a risk of a crisis if the issues of governance and development cannot be approved. Since each voter has to cast two votes in direct elections, the cost of elections increases. Irregularities also increase. If the president acts arbitrarily, the members have the opportunity to remove him through a no-confidence motion under the indirect system. But there is no possibility of removing the president elected by the people through a no-confidence motion during his term except by defeating him in the elections. Those who oppose the direct system argue that this ultimately risks leading to dictatorship. They say that Chandrababu's real strategy behind the direct elections is to secure a higher quota in seat sharing with allies. His prediction seems to be that allies who are unable to win directly at the municipal and district levels will insist on more seats.

Misinformation Being Spread On Vizag Data Centres: Nara Lokesh



Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh IT Minister Nara Lokesh on Wednesday defended the state government's decision to establish data centres in Visakhapatnam, and said deliberate misinformation was being spread over their environmental and water requirements. Addressing the Assembly, the IT Minister said Google's decision to invest in Visakhapatnam had sparked broader interest among other IT companies in the city. "Deliberate misinformation was being spread over their (data centres) environmental and water requirements," said Lokesh, replying to a question. Lokesh said data centres are critical to the AI-driven digital economy and India's data sovereignty, particularly amid emerging geo-political challenges. He explained that once the proposed data-centre ecosystem reaches the targeted 6.5

GW capacity, it is estimated to require around 3 TMC (thousand million cubic ft) of water annually based on current technology. However, he stressed that newer cooling technologies are expected to reduce water consumption further.

Lokesh said water for data centres would come from the industrial allocation of Polavaram Project water, without diverting water meant for the port city's residents. He noted that the government is committed to meeting Visakhapatnam's urban water requirements through the Polavaram Project, with gravity-based supply expected within 18 months. Dedicated pipelines would be provided for data centres, he said.

Comparing water consumption, Lokesh said a 1 GW thermal power plant consumes nearly 10 times more water annually than a data centre, questioning why protests over water usage were focused only on data centres. According to Lokesh, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu had set a clear ceiling of 6.5 GW for data-centre allocations, and declared that the target has now been fully achieved. He said the government would prioritise companies that demonstrate strong environmental responsibility



Engage With Youth, BJP Chief Nitin Nabin Tells Party Workers

VISAKHAPATNAM: In the backdrop of youth agitation across the country that cost union Education minister Dharmendra Pradhan his post, BJP national president Nitin Nabin on Tuesday called upon party leaders and workers to actively engage with young people and deal with their aspirations.

Addressing the BJP state executive meeting in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday, Nabin said the country's future rests with its youth. BJP cadres must build stronger connections with them. He asked party workers to understand aspirations and ideas of the younger generation and provide them with opportunities to contribute to nation-building.

"BJP leaders and workers must connect with the youth, encourage their ideas and inspire them to participate in building a Viksit Bharat and a Viksit Andhra Pradesh," the BJP party chief underlined.

He asserted that the BJP, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is committed to empowering young people through development, employment opportunities, and good governance. He urged party workers to take the central government's development initiatives to the grassroots and ensure that the benefits of welfare and infrastructure projects reach every section of the society.

Nabin declared that the BJP is the world's largest political party. He asked workers to draw inspiration from former Indian Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu's journey from a grassroots activist to a national leader.

He maintained that the party works to spread its ideology rather than electoral gains. He thanked the people of Andhra Pradesh for supporting the NDA alliance and expressed confidence that the coalition government led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan would continue to accelerate the state's development.

The BJP chief criticised the Congress, alleging that the opposition's approach is irresponsible and is disrupting the country's progress.

Earlier, state BJP chief P.V.N. Madhav said the party, along with its NDA allies, is gearing up for the upcoming local body elections with the sole objective of securing victory. He asked party leaders and workers to intensify their outreach at grassroots levels across the state.

Madhav emphasised that the Narendra Modi-led government has ushered in development across every village in the country. He called upon party workers to ensure the BJP flag flies in every village and locality. He said the BJP would contest the local body elections in alliance with its coalition partners. A committee headed by Health minister Satya Kumar Yadav has been constituted to coordinate election preparations.

The state BJP chief highlighted the centre's achievements in Andhra Pradesh, including South Coast Railway Zone with Visakhapatnam as headquarters, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and the Polavaram project.

The BJP state executive meeting later passed resolutions on completion of irrigation projects and work on water security.

Cyber Fraud Solved In 10 Days, Police Return Rs 1 Cr To Victim

Hyderabad: Hyderabad Cyber Crime Police have arrested an accused in connection with a major cyber fraud in which criminals allegedly impersonated a saree shop owner on WhatsApp and duped the shop's accountant of Rs. One crore. Sharing the details with the media, Cyberabad Police Commissioner Ramesh on Wednesday stated that the case was solved in 10 days and the amount was returned to the victim. According to the police, the fraudsters used the saree shop owner's name and display picture on WhatsApp and sent fake messages to the accountant, asking him to transfer a large sum of money. Believing the messages to be genuine, the accountant transferred Rs. 1 crore.

During the investigation, the Cyber Crime Police found that the transferred amount had been routed through a corporate current account maintained in the name of Royal Moda



Pvt. Ltd., which was allegedly being used as a mule account for routing fraudulent proceeds. Police arrested Deepak Kumar (37), who was engaged in a water-plant business and a resident of Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, in connection with the case. He was produced before a Court at Lucknow, where transit remand was obtained, and he was brought to Cyberabad and produced before the IX Additional Metropolitan Magistrate, Kukatpally, Cyberabad, who remanded him to judicial custody. With court orders and police intervention, the entire amount was recovered and returned to the victim within just 10 days. Further investigation is in progress to identify the remaining accused persons, ascertain their respective roles and trace the complete money trail. The Police Commissioner cautioned people against transferring large amounts of money merely based on WhatsApp names or display pictures. He advised users to independently verify the identity of anyone requesting money through different communication channels before making a transaction. Those who fall victim to cyber fraud should immediately call the 1930 cybercrime helpline or lodge a complaint through the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, he reiterated.

Jupally Promises Restoration, Safe Preservation of 2,500-BCE Egyptian Mummy

Hyderabad: Tourism and Archaeology Minister Jupally Krishna Rao visited Dr. YSR State Archaeology Museum at Public Gardens in Nampally here on Wednesday.

He inspected the Egyptian mummy from 2500 BCE, along with the bronze, Buddhist, sculpture, fire-arms, and painting galleries.

The minister stated that the museum, which has faced neglect and indifference for years, will be restored. He said measures will be taken to swiftly release funds for the museum's restoration.

He specified that the Egyptian mummy from 2500 BCE will be safely preserved. Based on the Ger-



man experts' report, proposals will be prepared for mummy preservation at an estimated cost of Rs.82 lakh.

He asked that estimates be prepared for the museum's reconstruction, building maintenance, and painting works. He instructed Archaeology department officials to submit the estimates within a week. Several senior officials, public representatives, and others participated in this program.

Bar Council of India Chairman Must Resign Lawyers Protest Outside Warangal Court

Yamsani Sai, Warangal Bureau Chief – August 21: Lawyers from Warangal and Hanamkonda districts staged a protest and dharna in front of the main court gate, demanding the resignation of Bar Council of India (BCI) Chairman Manan Kumar Mishra. They argued that the BCI has lost its prestige, credibility, and institutional stature due to the Chairman's inappropriate actions; they asserted that his resignation is necessary to restore these qualities and ensure the BCI operates legally in accordance with the Advocates Act. Leaders from the Indian Legal Professionals Association, the Indian Association of Lawyers, and the Congress Legal Cell participated in the protest held in Hanamkonda on Friday, which was part of a nationwide agitation organized by the All India Lawyers Union (AILU). Speaking on the occasion, AILU State Treasurer Ennamshetti Venugopala Rao stated that Chairman Manan Kumar Mishra is ruining the BCI organization meant to be a truly democratic, independent, and representative body for lawyers committed to upholding the constitutional values of the legal profession and noted that unilateral decisions have left lawyers without adequate protection. Demands were



raised for the immediate resignation of Manan Kumar Mishra, Chairman of the Bar Council of India (BCI), accusing him of attempting to jeopardize the future of aspiring lawyers many of whom studied at the prestigious NALSAR University. It was stated that Manan Kumar is unfit for the chairmanship, noting that he had previously apologized to students for engaging in inappropriate conduct. Critics alleged that he has held the chairmanship for 14 years by leveraging his dominance, influence, and BJP backing, while undermining democratic values through unilateral decisions made for personal gain. Despite being elected to the Rajya Sabha representing the BJP, he has refused to step down as BCI Chairman, thereby devaluing the legal profession itself. Furthermore, it was argued that his statements on issues

outside his jurisdiction such as the Citizenship Amendment Act, the abrogation of Article 370, and protests regarding anti-farmer laws and the plight of agricultural workers have tarnished the BCI's reputation. Speaking at the event, ILPA State Vice-President Teegala Jeevan Goud and General Secretary Sainy Narender criticized the ruling BJP government for exerting control over institutions that ought to function constitutionally. They demanded the immediate resignation of Chairman Manan Kumar, accusing him of ruining the BCI by acting as a mouthpiece for the BJP's oppressive governance. They also called for a nationwide agitation to continue until Manan Kumar steps down. It was stated that the Bar Council of India (BCI) a statutory body established under the Advo-

cates Act, 196 is constitutionally mandated to function in a manner that upholds and protects the rights of advocates; however, Chairman Manan Kumar has been acting contrary to this, causing concern among lawyers across the country. It was further alleged that the BCI Chairman, who is expected to lead lawyers holding diverse political views, is misusing his authority by aligning himself with a specific political party and ideology while continuing to hold office. They condemned the act of labeling students protesting at Jantar Mantar as "anti-national forces" and "traitors" as despicable, stating that the person responsible should immediately resign and become a servile lackey of the BJP. Participants in the event included AILU State Committee member Sarampalli Madhusudan Reddy;

ILPA State General Secretary Sainy Narender; State Vice-President Teegala Jeevan Goud; State Committee member Jannu Padma; district leaders Pendyala Anil and Jannu Prabhakar; Hanamkonda Bar Association Vice-President Raghu pati; IAL State General Secretary Beem anantham Srinivas; State Committee members Kotha palli Chiranjeevi, Chandramouli, Medarapu Ranjith, and Pamuramesh; and advocates Abdul Nabi, Anand, Ganji Ramesh, Gandham Shiva, Purnachander, Bhavani Prasad, Prabhakaran, Pusapalli Srinivas, Yakaswamy, Bandi Mogili, Ijjigiri Suresh, Mallash, Vishnu Vardhan, Vemula Ramesh, Bandi Harish, Gurimilla Raju, Marri Raju, Banoth Vijay, and Mekala Ranjith, among others.

ECI Secretary Visits Polling Stations



Bureau Chief Warangal August 21 : Election Commission of India Secretary Naveen Kumar, who came to inspect the ongoing comprehensive voter survey process in Warangal district, visited several polling stations in the district. On this occasion, he inspected the ongoing voter survey process at the polling stations and the duties being performed by the Booth Level Officers (BLOs). He inquired about the collection and verification of voter details and other issues with the BLOs. Later, in a review meeting held at the District Collectorate Conference Hall, Election Commission of India Secretary Naveen Kumar participated with District Collector Dr. Satya Sarada and reviewed the conduct of the compre-

hensive voter survey with the EROs and AEROs of Warangal East, Vardhanapet and Narsampet constituencies in the district. Speaking on the occasion, Election Commission of India Secretary Naveen Kumar said that BLOs should be appointed and trained in the newly established polling stations. The officials were instructed to send proposals to appoint additional AEROs to issue notices to voters in the district who are in no mapping anomalies. The notices issued to the voters should be accepted after thorough examination. "The officials were instructed to conduct the comprehensive voter survey process in a transparent and organized manner as per the rules and to take steps to ensure that there is no

room for any mistakes in the verification and verification of voter details." Speaking on the occasion, District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada explained to the Chairman of the Election Commission of India, Naveen Kumar, through a PPT, the manner in which the special comprehensive voter survey was conducted in the district. Additional Collector Revenue G Sandhyarani, Warangal East Constituency ERO Additional Collector Local Body YV Ganesh, Narsampet RDO and ERO RDO Umarani, Vardhanapet ERO and Warangal RDO Suma, DRO Vijaya Lakshmi, 13 mandal EROs and Tahsildars, Election Superintendent Rajini and others participated in the program.

Jindal Steel, IIT Hyderabad to Establish Centre of Excellence for Advanced Steel Solutions



Bureau Chief SANGA REDDY August 21: Jindal Steel and the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the Jindal Steel Centre of Excellence (CoE) for High-Strength, Value-Added and Value-Engineered Steel Products and Solutions on the IIT Hyderabad campus. "The first-of-its-kind centre will focus on accelerating the application and adoption of advanced steel solutions across infrastructure, engineering, construction and strategic industrial sectors. It will combine IITH's technical capabilities with Jindal Steel's manufacturing, metallurgical and engineering expertise to develop and demonstrate applications for high-strength, value-engineered steels. The solutions are expected to offer higher performance, lower material consumption, reduced weight, faster execution, im-

proved durability and better lifecycle economics. Applications will include buildings and bridges, penstocks and large-diameter pipes, defence equipment, heavy machinery, power plants, refineries, transportation and other critical industrial sectors. "Jindal Steel will invest in developing the physical centre on the IIT Hyderabad campus. The facility will serve as a hub for application development, technical demonstrations, training, industry engagement and knowledge sharing." IIT Hyderabad Director Prof. B.S. Murty said the centre would strengthen IITH's role in promoting advanced steel solutions across India's engineering, infrastructure and industrial sectors. He added that the initiative would enable faculty and students to work closely with industry on real-world applications, demonstrating how high-strength, value-engineered steels can im-

prove efficiency, performance and sustainability. "Jindal Steel Managing Director V.R. Sharma said the partnership would help expand the use of high-strength, value-engineered steel across India. He said the centre would showcase solutions that are stronger, lighter, faster and more efficient across a wide range of applications, and would accelerate their adoption in real-world projects. "The partnership will also include application development programmes, workshops, symposia, industry-academia training, demonstration projects, student internships and placements, academic modules and other industry engagement initiatives. The centre will work with industry stakeholders, government agencies and end users to support technical evaluation and facilitate the large-scale adoption of advanced steel solutions.

Coordinate with Farmers in Land Acquisition Process: Collector Ankit Complete Land Survey Within a Week

S.Giri Prasad Bureau Chief Bhadradi AUGUST 21: District Collector Ankit has directed officials to expedite and complete the land acquisition and land survey works required for the construction of the distributary canal under the Seetharama Lift Irrigation Project. He stressed that officials must coordinate closely with farmers and ensure that the survey process is completed within the stipulated timeframe. "On Friday, the Collector conducted a field-level inspection of the ongoing land survey works in Hemachandrapuram and Karukonda revenue villages of Lakshmi devipalli mandal. He reviewed the survey areas and enquired about land details, survey progress and the proposed alignment of the distributary canal. Officials informed the Collector that around 191.25 acres of land need to be surveyed in the limits of Hemachandrapuram and Karuko

nda villages and that a distributary canal would be constructed for a distance of approximately 7.50 kilometres. "Reviewing the progress of the land survey, the officials informed the Collector that survey work covering nearly six acres had been completed so far. Collector Ankit directed the officials to speed up the survey of the remaining land and ensure that there is no delay in the process. He instructed the survey teams to begin work every day at 8 a.m. and remain available in the field continuously. Necessary staff should be coordinated and deployed to ensure uninterrupted progress, he said, directing officials to complete the entire land survey within one week. "The Collector further instructed officials to review the progress of the survey on a daily basis and take all necessary measures to achieve the target within the deadline. Land boundaries,



extent and other relevant details should be thoroughly verified and properly recorded during the survey, he added. Farmers' Issues Should Be Resolved at the Field Level Collector Ankit said that officials should work in coordination with farmers so that they do not face any inconvenience during the land acquisition process. Any doubts or problems raised by farmers regarding the land survey should be addressed and resolved at

the field level itself, he instructed. Later, the Collector interacted with farmers and appealed to them to cooperate with the land survey process. He requested them to provide the necessary information to the officials during the survey and extend their cooperation for the smooth completion of land acquisition, keeping in view the importance of the project. The Collector said that land acquisition and land survey are crucial components

in the works aimed at expanding irrigation facilities under the Seetharama Lift Irrigation Project. He directed officials of all concerned departments to work in close coordination and complete the works within the prescribed schedule. Kothagudem RDO Madhu, Lakshmi devipalli Tahsildar Sirisha, survey officials, irrigation officials, other department officials and farmers were present during the inspection.

Three Accused Arrested in Murder Case P. Prashanth Reddy, Assistant Commissioner of Police



Kazipet Reporter Boddu Sarath Kumar, Dharmasagar, August 21: Police have arrested three individuals in connection with the murder of Polu Venkateswarlu (alias Venkanna) within the limits of the Dharmasagar Police Station. Items seized from the accused include the weapon used in the murder, a mobile phone, and a two-wheeler. The arrested accused are: A1: Ambati Paramesh (Father: Late Komuraiah, Age: 56, Occupation: Agriculture, Residence: Chilpur Village & Mandal, Jangaon District); A2: Damera Sampath (Father: Mallaiiah, Age: 41, Occupation: Construction Supervisor/Maistry, Residence: Chilpur Palle, Chilpur Mandal, Jangaon District); A3: Chilumula Venkataswamy (Father: Late Chandraiah, Age: 53, Occupation: Painting Work, Residence: Rampur Village, Kazipet Mandal, Hanamkonda District). "Case Details: Vinay, the son of Ambati Paramesh, had a love marriage with Ramya, the daughter of the deceased Polu Venkateswarlu (alias Venkanna), in 2022. After some time, differences arose between the couple, leading to their separation. Several mediations took place between the two parties regarding this issue. During one such mediation in 2023, Ambati Paramesh developed a grudge against the de-

ceased, Venkateswarlu (alias Venkanna), because the latter had verbally abused him. From that point on, Paramesh resolved to kill Venkateswarlu. Against this backdrop, on August 17, 2026, Paramesh summoned an acquaintance, Damera Sampath, to his home and asked for his assistance in luring Venkateswarlu out for drinks, stating that he intended to kill him afterward. That same day, Paramesh also spoke to Chilumula Venkataswamy over the phone, requesting his cooperation in the murder. The investigation revealed that Venkataswamy had assured Paramesh he would handle any legal matters arising after the killing. "Acting on Paramesh's instructions, Sampath brought Venkateswarlu out and had him consume alcohol; Paramesh later joined them for drinks. Subsequently, Paramesh took the deceased on his two-wheeler to an open area near the Madelaya temple on the outskirts of Rampur village. The accused's confession and the investigation findings revealed that Paramesh threw chili powder at Venkateswarlu who was intoxicated and then slit his throat with a knife, killing him. "After the murder, Paramesh called Venkataswamy to inform him of the incident; the investigation revealed that Venkataswamy then visited the

scene and viewed the body. Subsequently, the police discovered that the knife used in Paramesh's murder had been hidden inside cement pipes near the Madelaya temple. "The accused have been arrested, and the investigation is ongoing. Further evidence is being gathered, and subsequent legal actions are being initiated. "Regarding A1 (Ambati Paramesh), the following cases were previously registered against him: 1) Cr. No. 179/2002 (Sections 420, 422, 421 IPC) at Jangaon PS; 2) Cr. No. 31/2010 (Sections 420, 120(b) IPC) at Kothapally PS (Ramagundam); 3) Cr. No. 399/2014 (Sections 290, 332, 506 r/w 34 IPC) at Ghanpur PS; 4) Cr. No. 27/2002 (Sections 489, 420 IPC; Section 25 of the Arms Act) at Mulkanoor PS; 5) Cr. No. 399/2014 (Sections 290, 332, 506 r/w 34 IPC) at Ghanpur PS; and 6) Cr. No. 53/2005 (Sections 457, 380 IPC) at Ghanpur PS. A 'suspect sheet' regarding him is also maintained at Chilpur PS. "Regarding A2 (Damera Sampath), Cr. No. 227/2011 (Section 304(B) IPC) at Ghanpur PS is registered against him. There are two cases against A3, Chilumula Venkataswamy: 1) Crime No. 42/1999 under Section 384 of the IPC (Dharmasagar Police Station), and 2) Crime No. 20/2019 under Sections 294(b), 427, and 506 read with Section 34 of the IPC (Dharmasagar Police Station).

CKM College Ground to Host 'Muslim Fakhir BC E4' Cricket Tournament

Warangal, August 21: Preparations have been completed for the 'Muslim Fakhir BC E4' cricket tournament, which will be held at the CKM College Ground in Warangal. The tournament is scheduled to begin on August 22. "According to the organizers, the winning team will receive a cash prize of ₹20,000, while the runner-up team will be awarded ₹10,000. "The tournament is expected to provide a good platform for young cricket enthusiasts to showcase their talent. Various teams are gearing up to participate in the competition and demonstrate their skills.



A large number of cricket fans are expected to attend the matches at the CKM College Ground. "Fakruddin Sab, Ismail Sab, Ulthaf Sab, Akram Sab and others are playing key roles in organizing the tournament. The organizers are making all necessary arrangements to ensure the successful conduct of the event. "The complete details of the participating teams and the match schedule will be announced by the organizers soon.

Khammam, August 21 (Bureau Chief): Chairman CA Murali Manohar Palod stated that Mahesh Bank is moving forward with a focus on business expansion. He noted that the bank's net worth currently stands at ₹488 crore and that it consistently posts profits and pays dividends. Speaking at a customer meeting held at Hotel Budget in Khammam, he mentioned that the bank is taking steps to expand its operations by consulting with various local business associations, the agricultural committee, and the granite association. He emphasized that the bank prioritizes strengthening customer relationships and actively seeks their suggestions and feed-

back. He added that the bank is undergoing a technological upgrade by implementing the latest core banking software and has applied to the Reserve Bank for ASBA and forex services. Highlighting the vast opportunities in Khammam's granite, cold storage, and chilli trade sectors, he stated that the bank is ready to provide necessary financial facilities to chilli traders and farmers. He also announced the takeover of the Khammam Town Co-operative Bank. Regarding the cold storage sector, he noted that it is now providing financial assistance to nine out of the twelve cold storage units in the region. "Naresh, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, sug-



gested that offering improved cash management services for agricultural businesses could lead to an increase in the number of accounts. Vijay Kumar Jhanwar, President of the Rajasthani Samaj, requested that the bank be relocated to the ground floor for the convenience of customers. Several indi-

viduals suggested making the bank's shares available to the local public. Bank Directors Devendra Jhanwar and Kavita Toshniwal; General Managers M. Srinivas and Kamal Kishore Rathi; Rajasthani Samaj President Vijay Kumar Jhanwar; Maheshwari Samaj President Murali

of Commerce President Korevelli Praveen Kumar and Secretary Jai Naresh; and Bhadradi Bank Directors Kalla Paparao and Chain Singh, among others, participated in the event. Kishori Maniyar conducted the proceedings, while Kamal Kishore Rathi proposed the vote of thanks.

Siege threatened if railway station works aren't completed in three months – Nunna Nageswara Rao

T. Venkat Rathod, Bureau Chief, Khammam August 21: "A representation was submitted to the Station Manager demanding action against the contractor responsible for the negligent handling of the railway station modernization works. CPM District Secretary Nunna Nageswara Rao demanded immediate action against the contractor, noting that the modernization work at the Khammam railway station has been proceeding at a snail's pace for years, causing significant inconvenience to passengers. On Friday, a team led by the CPM Khammam Division Committee inspected the ongoing works at the station and submitted a memorandum to the Station Manager. The

team toured the premises and observed the poor state of the construction activities. Speaking on the occasion, Nunna Nageswara Rao questioned what the Khammam Member of Parliament (MP) has been doing while the modernization work has dragged on sluggishly for three years. He alleged that the development works across the three platforms have made no tangible progress, likening the situation to a blanket that remains exactly where it was laid down. He criticized the fact that the ₹34-crore development project is moving so slowly that thousands of passengers face severe hardships daily. He demanded that the Khammam MP immediately question the Central Government in Parliament regarding



the contractor's negligence. He further alleged a lack of drinking water facilities and pointed out that the installation of escalators and lifts remains incomplete, while work on the air-conditioned (AC) waiting hall is still pending. Criticism was voiced regarding the snail's pace of work on key facilities at the rail-

way station's main entrance, such as the ticket counter hall, and the officers' chambers. Nunna Nageswara Rao warned that the railway station would be besieged if the modernization works were not completed within the next three months. Party Khammam Division Secretary Y.

Vikram, along with District Secretariat members Yarra Srinivasarao, Madineni Ramesh, Merugu Satyanarayana, MA Jabbar, Dongala Tirupathirao, Bhukya Srinivasarao, SK Nagula Meera, Bodapatla Sudarshan, Vajenepalli Srinivasarao, and others, participated in the event.

Police Should Respond Immediately to Victims' Complaints Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha IPS "CP visits Madikonda Police Station

Yamsani SAI Bureau Chief Warangal August 21: "Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha, IPS, visited Madikonda Police Station in the Central Zone of Hanamkonda district on Friday. Station Inspector Pulyala Kishan, who reached the police station this morning, presented a flower plant to the Police Commissioner. Later, the Police Commissioner inspected the surroundings of the station, inspected the duties performed by the police officers and staff on duty at the station, examined various records related to

the station, and inquired about the number of crimes that frequently occur within the station limits, the villages within the station limits, the current situation in the villages, the management of the station, and the Police Commissioner Station Inspector Venu. Addressing the officers and staff on this occasion, the Police Commissioner said that they are working for the people, and that every complainant who comes to the police station should be treated with courtesy, that a receipt should be given to the complainant for every complaint received, and that the officers and



staff of the station should see to it that the police station do not have to wait for a long time. The Police Commissioner suggested that complaints should be responded to immediately.

K.V. Ramana's Services in Strengthening PRTU Magazine are Commendable: MLC Sripal Reddy

Direct Voice Bureau Chief Bhadradi August 21: PRTU MLC Pingili Sripal Reddy said that the services provided by PRTU magazine's deputy editor K.V. Ramana in the field of journalism are commendable. Leaders and teachers honored K.V. Ramana at the PRTU regional office in Bhadrachalam on Friday. Speaking on the occasion, MLC Sripal Reddy said that K.V. Ramana's efforts in effectively bringing to light the problems of

teachers and issues related to the education sector are commendable. He said that his services stand out in further strengthening the PRTU magazine. PRTU State General Secretary Biksha Goud, Mancherial District President Shankar, Khammam District President Katta Shekhar, Bhadradi Kothagudem District President Narasiah, General Secretary Prabhakar, State Associate President Dhanikonda Srinivas, State Sec-



retary Thotamalla Sureshbabu, Thanniru Srinu and others participated in the program. "Later, K.V. Ramana was felicitated with a shawl and a bouquet. Mandal Presidents Ramakrishna, D. Srinivas, S.S. Ravi, presidents of various mandals, district and state officials participated in the program.

EC Inspects Infrastructure Development Proposals at Arts College

Bureau Chief Hanamkonda, August 21: The Executive Council (EC) members of Kakatiya University on Friday inspected the proposed infrastructure development works at the University Arts College in Subedari, Hanamkonda, aimed at creating a better academic environment and providing improved facilities for students. "Arts College Principal Professor Sunkari Jyothi explained the various infrastructure proposals to the EC members. She informed them that ₹30 lakh would be required for setting up 40 computers in the Computer Science Department to meet the academic and practical requirements of students. She also ex-

plained that ₹10.80 lakh would be required for providing 200 chairs in the college auditorium, while ₹14,78,857 would be required for providing chairs in six classrooms of the MBA Department. The total estimated expenditure for all three proposals is ₹55,58,857. "Following the presentation, the EC members visited the concerned departments, classrooms and auditorium and directly inspected the existing facilities and the proposed infrastructure requirements. They reviewed the requirements and emphasized the importance of strengthening infrastructure to provide students with a conducive learning environment. "The EC mem-



bers stated that adequate infrastructure plays an important role in improving the quality of education and creating better academic facilities for students. They appreciated the efforts of the college administration in identifying the infrastructure requirements and preparing proposals aimed at addressing the needs of students and academic departments. "EC members Professor Suresh Lal, Dr. Naveen, Dr. Boddireddy Rama, Dr. Anita Reddy, Pulluru Sudhakar and Dr. Chirra Raju inspected the infrastructure proposals. Kakatiya University OSD Professor Venkataramireddy accompanied the EC members and explained the details related to the proposed works and their requirements. "Arts College Vice-Principal S.N. Rehman, Assistant Registrar Srilatha, Public Relations Officer Dr. Adireddy, Kakatiya University engineers and faculty members were present during the inspection.

Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam Inaugurates Its Second Branch in Secunderabad

Direct Voice State Bureau Chief Hyderabad 21 August: Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam – Multi-Specialty Ayurveda Hospitals, Hyderabad, inaugurated its second branch in Secunderabad today, marking another significant milestone in its journey towards making authentic Ayurveda and holistic healthcare more accessible to the community. The new centre was inaugurated on 21 August 2026 at 10:30 AM, in the presence of distinguished guests, doctors, well-wishers and members of the Art of Living community. Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam began its journey in Gachibowli nearly nine years ago, with a vision of providing authentic Ayurveda-based healthcare along with a holistic approach to physical, mental and emotional well-being. Over the years, the centre has grown through

the trust and support of patients, the medical fraternity, the Art of Living community and well-wishers. The new Secunderabad branch has been established in response to the growing demand from people in Secunderabad and surrounding areas who have been seeking access to quality Ayurvedic healthcare closer to their homes. "The hospital offers Ayurvedic consultations, Panchakarma therapies, specialised treatments, lifestyle guidance, Yoga and holistic wellness services, with a focus on personalised and patient-centred care. Speaking on the occasion, the management of Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam said, "This second branch is not merely an expansion of our hospital; it is the fulfilment of a long-standing aspiration of many members of our community. The love,



encouragement and blessings we have received over the years have given us the confidence to take this next step. We remain committed to serving society through authentic Ayurveda and holistic healthcare. "The hospital also expressed its gratitude to Sri Sri Ravishankar Guruji and the Art of Living community for their continued inspiration, support and blessings throughout its journey.

With the new centre, Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam aims to reach a larger section of society and promote Ayurveda as a comprehensive approach to preventive healthcare, treatment and long-term wellness. "About Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam: Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam is a Multi-Specialty Ayurveda Hospital in Hyderabad offering

Ayurveda, Panchakarma, Yoga and holistic wellness services. With its new Secunderabad branch, the organisation continues its mission of making authentic, compassionate and integrated Ayurvedic healthcare accessible to more people. "Media Contact: "Shreemaatha Aarogya Dhaamam – Multi-Specialty Ayurveda Hospitals" Hyderabad | Secunderabad.

TGE JAC Holds Preparatory Meeting for Maha Dharna in Sangareddy



Direct voice State Bureau Chief SANGAREDDY August 21 "A preparatory meeting was held under the auspices of the Sangareddy district TGE JAC to ensure the success of the Maha Dharna scheduled for August 27. The meeting was held at the TNGOs Association building in Sangareddy, where leaders discussed employees' issues, pending demands and strategies to mobilise employees for the protest. TGE JAC Chairman Jaweed Ali called upon employees from across the district to participate in large numbers and make the Maha Dharna a success. He said the protest was being organised to press

for the scrapping of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), strengthening of the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) and Employees Health Scheme (EHS), besides resolving other pending issues. He said the primary objective of the JAC was to bring employees' genuine problems to the notice of the government and work towards their resolution. "Later, TGE JAC leaders met the District Collector and Superintendent of Police and submitted a representation regarding the Maha Dharna. They requested the authorities to extend necessary co-

operation regarding permissions, security arrangements and other requirements for the programme. "TGE JAC General Secretary Vaidyanath and Co-Chairman Gangadhar said that employees needed to fight unitedly for the resolution of their long-pending issues. They appealed to employees, union leaders and representatives to attend the Maha Dharna on August 27 in large numbers. "The meeting decided to conduct an extensive awareness campaign across the district and mobilise employees to participate in the protest. Leaders of various employee associations attended the meeting.

Traders Must Partner in Crime Control Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha, IPS



Direct voice Bureau Chief, Warangal August 21: Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha (IPS) has urged traders to become partners in crime control. An awareness program regarding the importance of CCTV cameras in preventing crime was organized for local business owners by the Central Zone police at the Ambedkar Hall on Friday. Addressing the meeting attended by traders operating businesses along major roads in the city and its outskirts, Commissioner Swetha stated that while ensuring public safety is the primary duty of the police, providing individual security to such a vast population is a challenging task. She noted that the

police continue to do their utmost to control crime, but emphasized that if everyone cooperates and acts with a sense of responsibility similar to the police, ensuring safety for the community becomes much easier. As part of this initiative, she stressed the absolute necessity for every trader to install one or two high-quality CCTV cameras positioned to capture views of the street. The Police Commissioner emphasized the need to ensure a 30-day backup for CCTV footage, noting that by installing these cameras, business owners indirectly contribute to public safety and play a crucial role in crime control. He urged every business owner to install

CCTV cameras under the "Nenu Saitham" (I Too) initiative, explaining that the knowledge of being under surveillance deters criminals from committing offenses. Additionally, he mentioned that the Central Government, through the "Good Samaritan" (Rahveer) scheme, awards a cash prize of ₹25,000 presented by the District Collector to individuals who assist accident victims on main roads by promptly transporting them to the hospital and helping to save their lives. "Central Zone DCP Dara Kavitha, ACPs Narsing Rao and Satyanarayana, along with Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, and business owners, participated in this program.

82% of Indians Have Damaged Their Smartphone. Only 1 in 15 Protects It.

OneAssist-Hansa Research Study – The Great Indian Smartphone Protection Crisis Reveals India's Deepening Device Protection Crisis

Hyderabad, August, 2026: OneAssist, India's highest-rated InsurTech platform, today unveiled findings from its latest consumer insights report, The Great Indian Smartphone Protection Crisis commissioned in collaboration with Hansa Research, a full-service global market research agency. The report examines smartphone usage, accidental damage and protection adoption across India.

The report highlights a growing disconnect between consumers' increasing dependence on smartphones and their relatively low adoption of protection plans, despite frequent accidental damage, rising device costs and longer ownership cycles.

As smartphones become central to how Indians work, bank, shop, communicate and entertain themselves, they have also become one of consumers' most valuable everyday assets. With smartphone prices continuing to rise and consumers holding on to their devices for longer, the financial impact of accidental damage and repairs has become increasingly significant.

Yet, accidental damage remains commonplace. The study found that 82% of consumers have accidentally dropped their smartphone at least once, while 72% have experienced accidental damage. Accidental drops and screen damage emerged among the common causes of damage, reflecting the everyday risks associated with prolonged and frequent smartphone usage. The emotional dimension of damage is equally significant: 35% of Indians panicked immediately after dropping their phone, 24% fought with someone over the incident, and 15% cancelled plans as a direct result of device damage. Among women, the panic response is sharper with 43% reported panic after a drop, compared to 33% of men. Accidental drops and screen damage emerged among the common causes of damage, with the study specifically noting that



phones slipping out of pockets or bags account for 36% of all accidental damage incidents, making the most mundane, everyday moment one of the most financially costly, reflecting the everyday risks associated with prolonged and frequent smartphone usage. Despite this widespread exposure, only 36% of consumers report having used a smartphone protection plan at some point during their device ownership journey while current active protection adoption stands at just 6-8%. The gap between lifetime awareness and active coverage is striking, and points to a market where consumers try protection once and do not renew, or abandon it before a claim is ever made.

While awareness of smartphone protection plans is widespread, consumers continue to cite affordability concerns, limited understanding of product benefits and lack of trust in the claims process as key barriers to adoption. The study also reveals the lengths to which Indians go to manage damage on their own: 29% have used rice to treat water-damaged devices, and between 20-32% have used tape or other temporary fixes to hold damaged phones together, improvisations that underscore both the reluctance to seek formal repair and the normalisation of living with damage. The findings point to a significant opportunity for the industry to simplify protection offerings, improve transparency and build greater consumer confidence throughout the ownership journey.

The report also highlights notable behavioural

differences across consumer segments. Women emerged as the most dependent and most vulnerable smartphone users: 79% use smartphones for social media (vs 69% of men), 94% have accidentally dropped their device (vs 80% of men), and 79% have suffered accidental damage (vs 71% of men). The emotional cost is also higher as 43% of women panicked after dropping their phone, compared to 33% of men. Damage among women is more likely to be linked to domestic settings, with child- or pet-related incidents occurring at three times the rate reported by men. Meanwhile, consumers aged 26-30 were identified as India's most connected cohort, demonstrating the highest dependence on smartphones for communication, digital payments, shopping and entertainment.

Beyond new smartphone purchases, the research points to the growing importance of India's evolving refurbished and pre-owned smartphone ecosystem. As consumers increasingly retain, exchange or purchase pre-owned devices, and ownership cycles continue to lengthen, warranty and protection solutions are becoming increasingly important to building trust and confidence across the broader smartphone lifecycle. The data is clear: 70% of consumers believe protection plans are more important for pre-owned devices than for new ones, and 30% say the availability of a warranty or protection plan would make them consider purchasing a pre-owned device, a significant

unlocking factor for the refurbished market. Notably, 54% of non-metro consumers have purchased pre-owned smartphones, versus 30% in metros, pointing to a circular device economy that is already well-established outside India's major cities.

The findings underscore a significant opportunity for smartphone brands, retailers, financiers and protection providers to bridge the gap between awareness and adoption through simpler, more transparent and accessible protection solutions.

Subrat Pani, Co-founder, OneAssist, said, "The research reflects an interesting consumer contradiction. Smartphones have become indispensable to how people communicate, transact, work and access entertainment, and accidental damage is clearly a common experience. Yet, a large number of consumers continue to navigate device ownership without any form of protection while constantly worrying about damage and breakdown. As devices become more valuable and ownership periods lengthen, consumers are increasingly looking for confidence and peace of mind throughout their ownership journey. This makes it important for the industry to better address their concerns around affordability, simplicity and trust."

The findings from The Great Indian Smartphone Protection Crisis come at a pivotal moment for India's consumer technology landscape. With over 650 million smartphone users, rising device prices, and ownership cycles extending beyond three years, the gap between device value and protection adoption has never carried a higher financial cost for Indian consumers. The report calls on smartphone brands, retailers, insurers and protection providers to collectively address the barriers of affordability, claims complexity and consumer trust and to reimagine protection as an integral part of the device ownership journey, not an afterthought at the point of sale.

If Dissent Erupts Among The Youth, It Is No One's Generation To Stop It. "Vaddepalli Mallesham"

Yamsani SAI National Bureau Chief August 21 Yes, recent events prove that it is true. Dreaming for rights and standing up for responsibilities is the key to success. The struggle for rights and the struggle for responsibilities have been a source of controversy all over the world, which has broadened the humanistic thinking of the working class. The slogan "Workers of the world, unite" has emerged from that inspiration. That is, "Humanity has rights, we should exercise them properly, we should legally obtain those rights from the government, and at the same time, we should also carry out our responsibilities with social consciousness. This slogan, which recognizes not only self-interests but also responsibilities, is not being implemented everywhere, and the civil society is also being neglected when it comes to practice. In addition, the ruling classes, which feel that this is an additional reason, have created freebies and promises in order to capitalize on the weaknesses of the people and have made the people even weaker, which is why the main demands of the people like education, medicine and employment have disappeared." At present, there is a need for the people to abandon all kinds of promises and promises and mainly demand and achieve issues like land, employment, education, medicine and social justice. For about 8 decades, the opposition parties have been raising the problems of the people in the legislatures of India, while the ruling parties have been stalling with promises and promises. Decades have passed with promises and promises, but none of the main demands have been resolved. The landless poor, crores of people without employment and jobs, are not the same for those who are crying out for food and food. Poverty is ridiculously high at about 20 percent. Two crore jobs are left every year, despite the central government's promise of 15 lakhs in the people's accounts. "The promise of a rate cut has been watered down. The statement that India is emerging as the third largest economy in the world is under-

standable if we look at India, which is struggling with many problems like a huge mound. In addition to this, political parties and governments are making mistakes in solving public problems, not accepting the mistakes that have been made, and the struggles of workers, farmers, artisans, students, teachers, employees, contractors, etc. who are questioning and resisting and fighting for their rights are being ruthlessly suppressed, and crores of people are spending decades as remand prisoners in thousands of prisons in the country. How can we accept the name of a third economy by hiding these full facts? At a time when India has been criticized for having the largest youth population in the world for the past ten years, there is no doubt that the public movements that have emerged in the wake of the recent NEET exam results held at the central government level have taken on a new form, bringing some relief to the youth and the masses who are struggling with feelings of despair, say socio-political analysts. Pointing out. In the name of the Cockroach Janata Party "It is known that a large-scale protest was held at Jantar Mantar in Delhi on July 20, 2026, under the auspices of the Cockroach Janata Party, with the main demand that the NEET exam conducted across the country earlier this year be canceled and the Union Education Minister responsible for it be sacked. The youth were compared to the Indian CJI, and then the youth started the Janata Party on Instagram under the same name Cockroach, with the backdrop of demonstrating their power and capabilities, and within a few days, lakhs of dissenting members were mobilized and the protest was successful. At one stage, even though the representatives of the central government held talks with them, they refused to resign and said that there was no solution other than resignation. After the Parliament Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had to resign at a time like this. In this way, the main demand and the first victory of the Cockroach Janata Party, which has taken the youth of the country as its own, are ready to play their role in

solving the many allegations of corruption in the country. We all know that the movement is a weapon to play a role in solving the problems of the people. The main problem that is plaguing all the people of the country is that education and medicine should be managed in the government sector at a quality level and poor families are facing many difficulties. It has also come to the attention of the party. It has been heard in the press that some people have also thought of solving this problem by representing the party. It has been seen. The protest of lakhs of people will win against the government no matter how powerful it is. This is a proof that. On the one hand, at a time when the central government is preparing to take a dig at its policies, on 15th August 2026, the Prime Minister, from the ramparts of the Red Fort in Delhi, said that the Maoists have been eliminated in this country, and that currently intellectual Naxals are leading the dissent movements, and that there is a need to isolate such people by referring to them as mentally ill Naxals, making harsh comments, which is a sign of the dominance of the central government. "Every statement that states facts, question resistance. Slaves as innocents of rulers who turned into beggars. Former central government representatives including Kejriwal have said that if they are also Naxals, then we are also Dimagi Naxals. Many political leaders and intellectuals have come forward to challenge the government, which has become another headache for the central government. There has never been a time when they have achieved every field without fighting for their demands, resisting thought and questioning. If we ask then, has the center decided to punish the criminals in the name of the Magi Naxalites? If this is true, then the people's existence is questionable? Many people's minds are living beings and intellectuals are on this background. It is a central government plan to punish? "If intellectuals are questioning, then immediately the impatient youth of the Magi is not good to evaporate in the name of Naxals

party. The wheels have moved. PeopleYes, disagreement is evidence of the concept. It is heartening that both these parties responded quickly with the slogan of "We will not let the dirty tricks continue any longer." Analysts believe that this time there is no chance to insist on the fundamental demand that the central government not only provide an explanation but also pay a suitable price for it. Among the many problems facing people, the main ones are inequalities, gaps, exploitation, oppression, deception, humiliation, and concentration of wealth, which have led to increased poverty and the lack of access to other people and refugees. In this context, "Mainly affecting the society" Useful educational medicine "We know of cases where people have lost their purchasing power due to entering the private sector and are being pushed further into poverty and committing suicide. In order to save themselves from this plight, to remove inequalities and gaps, and to come up with a system where wealth and land are shared equally among all, there is a great need for people to be healthy and alert. If the main factors for that, such as free education and free medical care, are made available to the people legally, and if more funds can be allocated in the budget as suggested by Kotari, there will be a chance to overcome poverty to some extent and achieve human development in the coming days. Cockroach Janata Party Dimagi Naxals Party The youth who are still fighting legally within the limits of the law should place these demands before the central and state governments and ultimately move towards establishing a society that is free from corruption throughout the country. These movement parties, mainly the youth, should "Social and political experts hope that the continuation of the leadership will once again provide a better future for the youth. It is recognized that this movement was undertaken by the youth who were in they were spending their time without providing employment opportunities to the youth it is still very necessary for rulers.

PM Cares Fund: High Income, No Spending

22-A: Owners of Private Land Will Not Face Any Inconvenience, Says CM



New Delhi: The government on Tuesday released the audited accounts of Prime Minister's Care Fund for the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25, which threw up more questions than answers. The fund, that was set up for emergency use during distress, is being criticised for not being utilised despite several incidences of devastation in the country.

The audit showed that even though the total receipts went up from Rs 7,188.63 crore in FY 23-24 to Rs 8,452.95 crores in 2024-25, both domestic and international donations fell substantially. Domestic donations to the PM CARES Fund fell by 30% to nearly Rs 479 crore during the fiscal year 2024-2025 while foreign donations also declined by 18% to Rs 92.8 lakh.

However, PM Cares Fund earned interest of Rs 470 crore for the fund parked with it which added substantially to its kitty. The biggest amount reflecting under receipts head was "refund from implementing agencies" which amounted to Rs 324 crore.

The spending was much less than the money received, with only Rs 87.84 lakh utilised in 2024-25 under PM Cares for Children head.

The report generated

more questions than answers, as the Congress questioned the government why only 0.01% of the total amount was spent despite massive devastation and natural calamities across the nation. Activist Anjali Bharadwaj questioned why there was no information on Rs 324 crore refunded by the implementing agencies.

"Utilised only 0.01% of available Rs 8,452 crore! Why is the PM CARES Fund keeping such large sums of money idle? Rs 324 crore was refunded by implementing agencies, but no information on what these payments were for and why these were refunded? Which agency refunded? Were refunds done to evade accountability for faulty equipment? Why have accompanying notes to the audit report not been uploaded? A fund set up to help citizens during disasters, which has accumulated thousands of crores (including from foreign sources), is shrouded in secrecy. Still, no information available on sources of funds. The PM CARES Fund continues to evade public scrutiny by refusing to submit itself to the RTI Act," wrote Ms Bharadwaj on X.

"Only 0.01% of the Rs 8,452 crore available has been utilised — even as

natural calamities devastate communities across the country and thousands need relief and rehabilitation. Rs 8,452 crore sitting idle while people suffer. PM CARES? Hardly," said Congress Rajya Sabha member Mr Pawan Khera.

The auditing of PM Cares Fund is done by a Mumbai-headquartered private Chartered Accountant firm, KKC & Associates LLP. While people questioned why the PM Cares Fund was not audited by a government agency like the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), several chartered accountants questioned why the audited statements do not have the UDIN (Unique Document Identification Number) as mandated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

Hyderabad: Towards finding a lasting solution to issues related to 'Section 22-A prohibited lands' in the state.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday directed officials to register land within two days for those who had booked their slots previously. This is part of the government's attempt to find a lasting solution to issues related to land placed in the prohibited list under Section 22A.

During a review meeting on the issue, attended by Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and revenue department officials, Revanth Reddy directed the officials to examine the land parcels placed under Section 22-A within two days. He directed district collectors to scrutinise all applications thoroughly. Affirming that the state



government was committed to protecting the citizens' property rights, the Chief Minister stated that strict measures would be taken to ensure there were no obstacles to property owners seeking to register their assets. "I have directed them to ensure there are no errors in this process and to complete it expeditiously," he said.

"People need not worry about their land rights. The state government is committed to safeguarding the property rights of the public. We will not allow any issues to arise regarding even a single inch of private land," Revanth Reddy said. "Do not approach brokers or middlemen regarding 22-A land. Do not believe any rumours or fabricated stories."

22A restrictions leave ordinary families in distress, victims reach Telangana Bhavan for relief

Hyderabad: Hundreds of people affected by properties being placed in the 22A prohibited list and restrictions imposed in the name of Urban Land Ceiling (ULC) gathered at Telangana Bhavan on Wednesday. They sought relief from arbitrary decisions of the Congress government that left their families in financial distress.

The victims met former Ministers and BRSLP deputy leaders T Harish Rao and P Sabitha Indra Reddy, and narrated their ordeal, explaining how they were unable to sell, register or access the value of properties they had purchased with valid documents.

One of the victims, Mohan Reddy, said he had booked a registration slot and paid the entire stamp duty but was told on the day of registration that his property had been included in the 22A prohibited list. "If the government itself makes us homeless, who will hear our pain?" he asked.

Another person, Rajesh, said he bought a house in 2017 with a bank loan but decided to sell it after losing his job and start a business. When he went for registration on July 1, he was informed that the property was in the 22A list. Despite applying at the MRO office two months ago, he said there had been no resolution. He had already taken money from the prospective buyer, who was paying the loan EMI after the bank approved the loan transfer. However, the sale could not be registered.



Devender Rao, secretary of the HMT Housing Colony Society, said the layout received approval in 1995 and hundreds of houses had been built. However, survey number 330 was recently included in the 22A list. He said a representation submitted to Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy in July had yielded no relief. "Normal employees and middle-class families are left with no option but to commit suicide," he said.

Residents of B N Nagar and Uppal said registrations in their colony, which has over 1,500 houses, took place without problems earlier, but were now being blocked citing ULC restrictions.

Srinivas of Ameenpur said he purchased his property 10 years ago with clear documents and a bank loan. Recently, he decided to sell the property for personal financial needs. After paying stamp duty to sell it, he was told it had been included in the prohibited list.

Some victims alleged that restrictions were being used for commissions and settlements by officials and the Congress leaders. They said entire colonies were being listed in the 22A list based on survey numbers, without any valid reasons.

Responding to their pleas, Harish Rao and Sabitha Indra Reddy assured the victims that the BRS would fight their grievances inside and outside the Assembly and continue the agitation until justice was delivered to those affected by the 22A restrictions.

Union Minister Invites Abhijeet Dipke to Join NDA; Gets Rejected

Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipe has rejected Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale's invitation to join his party in the ruling NDA government.

Earlier on Tuesday, Athawale had invited the youth movement leader to join hands with him and his Republican Party of India [A] (RPI[A]), to which Dipke has rebuked saying "Par abhi ek mahine pehle toh me antinational tha thumbare liye?" meaning "But one month ago I was an anti-national to you?"

Abhijeet Dipke, the Boston University student, who hails from Athawale's Maharashtra, was at the centre of the youth-led Jantar Mantar protests demanding accountability in the education system in India over the paper leaks in exams run by the National Testing Agency, including NEET examination, that eventually culminated in heads getting rolled with the resignation of the Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan resigning from his post.

After the success of the Jantar Mantar protests, the Cockroach Janta party (CJP) movement, led by Abhijeet Dipke is currently running the 'School Teekh Karo' campaign, bringing dilapidated conditions of schools across rural India, into the public attention. As part of this campaign,



many schools do not have adequate facilities, including properly built classroom infrastructure, sanitation facilities, lack of computers, and also not enough teachers. This campaign was undertaken in response to many schoolchildren, who are the 'Gen Alpha' raised voices against various issues that they face in order to continue their education.

Meanwhile, Ramdas Athawale is a dalit leader from Maharashtra's Sangli district, who was associated with the Dalit Panthers movement in the 1970s, who now sides with the ruling NDA Block, and is a Rajya Sabha MP and Union MoS for Social Justice and Empowerment.

Sanjay Jaju Reviews HMDA's Functioning, Ongoing Development Initiatives

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju reviewed the functioning and ongoing development initiatives of HMDA at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat here on Tuesday. He directed officials to ensure coordinated planning, expedite key infrastructure and development projects, and strengthen urban infrastructure across the Hyderabad Metropolitan Region. The Chief Secretary emphasised sustainable, integrated and citizen-centric urban development in line with the vision of #TelanganaRising2047.



Ponnam : Congress Committed to Kalyana Lakshmi, Shaadi Mubarak

Hyderabad: Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Monday said the Congress government was committed to implement the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes and accused the BRS of "shedding crocodile tears" over the issue.

He said the government was releasing funds for the schemes through the green channel and would take all necessary steps to ensure that poor families continued to benefit from them. Prabhakar said a petition had been filed in the Telangana High Court challenging eight Government Orders (GOs) issued so far

in connection with the Kalyana Lakshmi scheme. The court had issued interim orders staying the scheme, he said, adding that the government would appeal against the order before the Division Bench and hoped for a favourable verdict. The Minister attributed the legal complications to "defective" GOs issued by the previous government in 2014. He said the present government would soon rectify the shortcomings and ensure that the schemes continued without interruption.

Prabhakar also said the government was examining whether the failure to file a counter affidavit in the

case was due to a lapse by officials or those handling the government's legal matters. Action would be taken against those found responsible, he said.

He pointed out that Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak were welfare schemes aimed at reducing the financial burden on poor families during the marriage of their daughters. Though introduced in 2014 by the previous government, the Congress government was continuing the schemes irrespective of political considerations, he said.

According to government figures, Rs.16,375.87 crore has been spent under the schemes so far, benefiting 16,78,347 people. The Minister said the schemes were welfare measures and were not intended to enforce any law.

He said the State government had the constitutional authority under Article 162 to formulate and implement welfare schemes through executive orders within its jurisdiction.



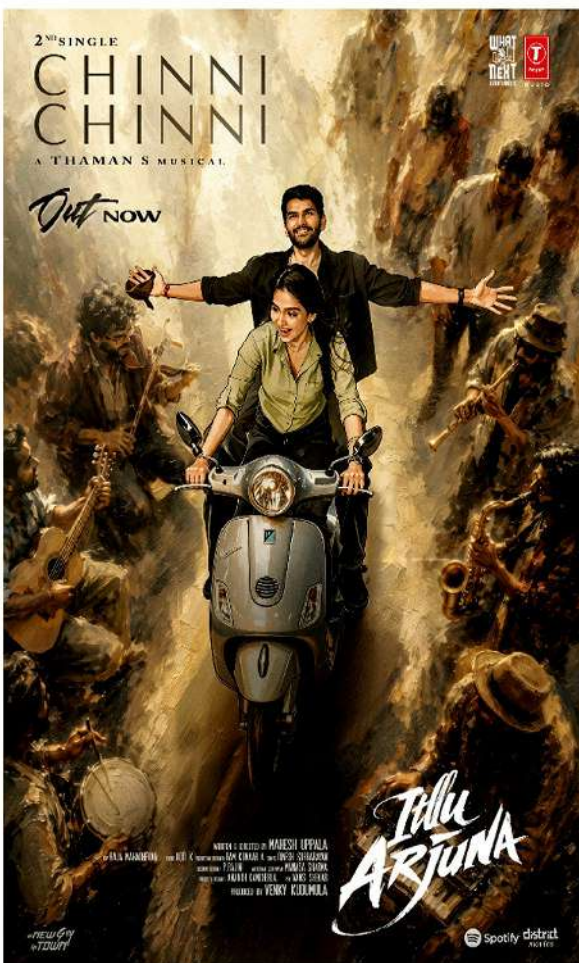
IA Chinni Chinni: Aneish and Anaswara sizzle

Aniesh has mesmerised audiences with his confidence to pull-off a differently abled mute person role in his debut movie, Itlu Arjuna. Venky Kudumula is turning into a producer with the film and Mahesh Uppala is directing it. The first single, Hai Re and glimpse have created buzz and anticipation for this romantic action drama.

The makers have released second single, Chinni Chinni and it is sung by Mohit Chauhan. The song has a great energy and EDM beats enhance it to next level. S Thaman is composing music for the film and he brought Anirudh Ravichander to sing the first one and now, Mohit Chauhan. They both rocked the songs with their energy and vocals.

Chinni Chinni is brilliantly picturised by Mahesh Uppala and choreography is smooth. Aniesh dance moves are smooth and his leg work stands out. His expressions have to convey what he is feeling and he did a splendid job. Leading Lady Anaswara Rajan is cute, beautiful and her chemistry with Aniesh is sizzling.

Thaman with his music is becoming the biggest highlight of this film. Aniesh is doing hundred percent justice to his addictive beats on the big screen. The second single, further enhances the vibe and sets the tone perfectly for this grand October release.



Comrade Kalyan confirms eagerly awaited release date

Sree Vishnu's upcoming film Comrade Kalyan has locked its worldwide release date.

Sree Vishnu's upcoming film Comrade Kalyan has locked its worldwide release date. The makers announced that the film will arrive in theatres on October 9th, promising audiences a theatrical experience packed with action, entertainment, emotion and a slight revolutionary edge.

The release announcement was made through an intense new poster featuring Sree Vishnu in a rugged avatar, walking through a forest alongside a group of armed comrades. Sporting a dark-green outfit and a red scarf, the actor's commanding look sets the tone for a film that appears to explore a world of rebellion, camaraderie and conflict.

Directed by Janakiram Marella, Comrade Kalyan is produced by Venkata Krishna Karthi and Seetha Karnati. Kona Venkat is presenting the film. The film songs



composed by Vijai Bulganin have been super successful raising anticipation.

The October first week release places Comrade Kalyan in the festive theatrical window, giving Sree Vishnu's entertainer perfect chance to score a blockbuster success. With its striking visual world and mass-oriented presentation, the film is expected to generate further curiosity as the release date approaches.

Sangeeth Shobhan's Next Refreshing Entertainer Title Glimpse On

Sangeeth Shobhan has quickly become one of the recognisable young faces in Telugu cinema.

Sangeeth Shobhan has quickly become one of the recognisable young faces in Telugu cinema. His performances in MAD and MAD Square helped him build a strong connect with the youth, and his upcoming projects are creating considerable interest.

This latest film brings him together with director Palnati Surya Pratap known for sensational blockbuster Kumari 21 F. The actor has been introduced as Maruthi in this refreshing entertainer. The makers have also locked August 23 for the release of the film's title glimpse.

The makers unveiled a special poster on the occasion of Sangeeth's birthday. The movie is being produced by Dheeraj Mogilineni and Giribabu Vallabhaneni under Dheeraj Mogilineni Entertainments. Palnati Surya Pratap is directing the project.

Malayalam beauty Anaswara Rajan has been cast as the female lead. Her pairing with Sangeeth Shobhan is expected to be one of the attractions of the film. The character reveal has now confirmed that Sangeeth will be seen as Maruthi.

The next big update will arrive on August 23 in the form of the title glimpse. With the title, the makers are expected to give audiences a



clearer idea of the film's concept and the kind of entertainer Palnati Surya Pratap is preparing.

Irumudi takes off with sensational advance bookings

Ravi Teja has never stated about any movie has special and very close to his heart like he did for Irumudi.

Ravi Teja has never stated about any movie has special and very close to his heart like he did for Irumudi. The Shiva Nirvana directorial has promised to cater to all audiences groups with great family emotions blended into thriller genre with a spiritual touch of Ayyappa Deeksha. Mallepoola Pallaki song has created gigantic buzz adding to the excitement created by songs, teaser and trailer.

Releasing on August worldwide, the movie opened to sensational advance bookings in North America. It collected US\$150K+ gross in pre-sales and it showcases the organic buzz that the movie has built over the months. In Nizam area, the bookings have opened to a huge start as the movie came into trending within an hour. Bookings in Andhra Pradesh will open later but trade analysts are predicting a tsunami to be unleashed.

For a Ravi Teja film, such a collective positive buzz and anticipation has been absent and Irumudi is showcasing his true box office pull. Even though it is early days, the movie looks like it is set to be one of the ca-



reer biggest blockbusters for Mass Maharaja.

Already, GV Prakash Kumar showcased his excitement calling the movie a classic. Censor reports have been super positive and anticipation among audiences is unprecedented. Mythri Movie Makers have showcased their passion to bring this movie to audiences as the director intended. On the whole, looking at the trends, trade analysts are stating that Ravi Teja is going to create ripples with Irumudi.

KOKA crosses gigantic 1 Million tickets milestone

The movie is registering strong audience traction at the ticket counters and it has already crossed a gigantic milestone of 1 million+ tickets sold across BMS and District apps.



Varun Tej has delivered a big hit with his new movie Korean Kanakaraaju. The movie is registering strong audience traction at the ticket counters and it has already crossed a gigantic milestone of 1 million+ tickets sold across BMS and District apps.

It is using the National Holiday Independence Day advantage perfectly. Many shows registering housefuls across the two states, today, showcasing the demand. It is trending with 2.34K tickets booked per hour in its second weekend. In a day and age when film run has become limited, KOKA trending in its second weekend with other big releases shows the box office stamina of Varun Tej.

Directed by Merlapaka Gandhi, the film's entertainment value is being praised by audiences with many watching it on repeat in theatres. S. Thaman has composed the music, while UV Creations and First Frame Entertainment have produced the film, on massive scale.

Satya's comedy timing is being praised by all. Varun Tej has become the talk of the town with his striking performance in two different shades. Trade analysts are predicting the movie to earn huge profits making use of big holiday weekend, further.