

EDITORIAL

Inappropriate indifference to floods

Assam is once again reeling under floods. People in upper Assam, which has been hit by a natural disaster, say they have never seen such devastation in their lifetime. This cannot be dismissed as just another ordinary monsoon season. This is a warning that the flood problem in Assam has entered a more dangerous phase. However, the intensity of the floods this year, the level of destruction and the anger expressed by the people are different from the past. As of August 10, according to official figures, the death toll due to the floods has reached 100. Nearly 1.4 lakh people have been affected in seven districts. At the same time, several rivers are flowing in high water and the Meteorological Department has predicted more rain. However, these figures alone do not fully convey the severity of the people's suffering. Villages in upper Assam have been submerged. Roads have been cut off, bringing traffic to a standstill. Agricultural lands have been destroyed. Families have been deprived of their homes and livelihoods. Assam has been living with floods for generations. This indicates that the situation here is becoming different and more severe than the normal floods. So the real question now is not just why floods happen every year in Assam. It is why they are becoming more and more destructive. Why are we allowing these floods to become a permanent problem in people's lives?

There is no doubt that the current disaster is due to the unusually heavy rains. Climate change is also changing the pattern of rainfall. However, the rains alone cannot be blamed for this disaster. The Brahmaputra River and its tributaries naturally carry huge amounts of water and sand. The geographical conditions of Assam also make the state extremely sensitive. However, due to human interference, nature's ability to absorb water and safely flow is gradually decreasing. Destruction of hills and forests, indiscriminate construction, encroachment on wetlands, gradual disappearance of natural water channels, poorly maintained embankments, and large-scale mining activities... All these are exacerbating the problem of floods. Several recent reports have focused specifically on the coal, stone, and sand mining taking place in the Assam-Nagaland border areas. Environmental organizations and local communities have alleged that uncontrolled mining, tree felling, and changes in natural water flow paths are increasing the intensity of floods in Upper Assam.

There have also been concerns that abandoned coal mine pits and riverbed mining are altering natural watercourses. These allegations need to be dismissed for political reasons, and a transparent scientific investigation needs to be conducted. If mining activities change the shape of watersheds, increase surface water flow, destabilize hill slopes, or introduce large amounts of sand and silt into rivers, the impact will inevitably be felt downstream. The development of hydroelectric projects in the Eastern Himalayas also raises another critical question. The northeastern states have immense hydroelectric potential. Power generation is crucial for the development of the country. But a river is not just a means of carrying water to turn a turbine. It is a living ecosystem that carries water, sand, and nutrients downstream. It is also a vital basis for the livelihood of the people who depend on it. The lack of proper policies to maintain adequate water flow while keeping environmental protection in mind, sudden releases of water during heavy rains, and failure to properly assess the cumulative impact of multiple projects being built in the same river basin... all of these have the potential to increase the threat to people downstream.

The Assam flood problem also has a political dimension. During the 2021 Assam Assembly election campaign, Union Home Minister Amit Shah made a key promise. If the BJP government comes to power, it will provide a permanent solution to the Assam flood problem and make the state a 'flood-free Assam' within five years. That deadline is almost over now. This naturally raises a question. What happened to that promise? The BJP has been in power in Assam all this time. The Narendra Modi government also has significant political and economic influence at the Center. Yet, Assam is getting stuck in the same cycle every year. Floods.. relief efforts.. compensation.. reconstruction.. and then another flood. There is no change in this situation. However, it is also wrong to say that the Central government has done nothing. The Center has deployed National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams in the flood-affected areas for relief efforts. It has sent central assessment teams. Also, on August 1, the Central government released Rs. 100 crore from the State Disaster Response Fund to the states affected by the floods. 2,117.85 crore has been approved for early release. The Assam government has also started relief measures. It has announced temporary assistance of Rs. 15,000 to the affected families in the four districts of Upper Assam that were badly affected. It has also started a direct cash transfer program for thousands of families. But these measures raise another key question. What happened to the promise of a permanent solution given to the people?

Civil society organizations are mobilizing relief materials to help the victims in Upper Assam. This highlights the magnitude of the humanitarian needs there. This needs to be seen as a crisis that requires integrated management of river basins and preparation of the state for climate change. First of all, the Centre should set up an independent authority for the Brahmaputra river basin, involving Assam and all the north-eastern states as partners. This authority should not only have an advisory role, but should also have full powers to take scientific and administrative decisions. Secondly, a comprehensive environmental audit should be conducted on the coal, stone and sand mining activities taking place in the hilly areas and river basins affecting Assam. In addition to completely stopping illegal mining, abandoned mines and damaged river basins should be restored using scientific methods.

Plastic-Free Living... Is It Possible?

- A Growing Threat in the Name of Convenience
- Artificial Waste Devouring Nature
- If We Do Not Change Now, the Future Will Be at Risk



Plastic has become an inseparable part of our daily lives. From the milk cover we bring home in the morning to the food delivery package we receive at night, plastic is everywhere. Its low cost, lightweight nature and easy availability have led to a tremendous increase in its use. However, this very convenience has now turned into a serious threat to nature, human health and future generations. Although people are aware of the dangers posed by plastic, society has still not made the desired progress in reducing its use. Millions of tonnes of plastic waste are generated across the world every year. A significant portion of this waste is not properly managed and eventually finds its way into rivers, lakes, oceans and forests. Once plastic enters the environment, it can take hundreds of years

to break down completely. As a result, soil fertility is affected, water resources become polluted and the ecological balance is disturbed. The growing accumulation of plastic waste in nature is a direct reflection of human negligence.

Animals are among the worst victims of plastic pollution. Many cattle, birds and marine creatures die after mistaking pieces of plastic for food and consuming them. There have been frequent reports of turtles, fish and birds found dead with large quantities of plastic waste in their stomachs. Society needs to understand that even a small plastic bag carelessly discarded by a human being can become the cause of an animal's death.

Plastic is also raising serious concerns about human health. Several studies indicate that

certain chemicals present in plastic materials can enter the human body through food and drinking water. Microplastic particles are also entering our bodies through the air, water and food we consume. Experts have warned that long-term exposure to these particles may potentially contribute to health problems. In other words, plastic is not only putting nature at risk but also posing a threat to human well-being. The problem of plastic waste is spreading across both urban and rural areas. During the monsoon season, plastic waste is one of the major reasons for clogged drains and waterlogging on roads. The practice of throwing garbage indiscriminately and the growing culture of "use and throw" are making the situation even worse. Unless dependence on single-use plastic items is reduced, the problem is likely to become more severe. Governments have been taking several measures to control plastic pollution, but the desired results cannot be achieved without public cooperation. Although bans on certain types of plastic products are in force, their use has not disappeared completely. No matter how strict the regulations are, a permanent solution cannot be achieved without

public awareness. Therefore, along with laws and enforcement, a strong sense of social responsibility is essential. A plastic-free lifestyle is not impossible. Small changes in our daily habits can produce significant results. People should adopt the use of cloth bags, steel or glass containers and reusable products instead of disposable items. If every family reduces its daily consumption of plastic even to some extent, the impact on society can be considerable.

This awareness needs to begin in schools. If children are taught from an early age about environmental protection and the dangers of plastic, they can grow into responsible citizens of the future. Educational institutions, voluntary organisations and local bodies should work together to conduct large-scale awareness campaigns. Reducing plastic consumption is not the responsibility of an individual alone; it must become a collective movement involving the entire society. Protecting nature does not simply mean planting trees. It also means giving up the habits that destroy the environment. The plastic we carelessly throw away today will become a burden for future generations. If we put nature



VVVK PRASAD, Sr Journalist

at stake for our convenience, we will have to pay a heavy price in the future.

Environmental crises, climate change and the loss of biodiversity are already sending warning signals. The answer to the question of whether a plastic-free lifestyle is possible lies in our own hands. Completely eliminating plastic overnight may be difficult, but significantly reducing its use is certainly possible. If every individual, every family and every organisation takes one step in this direction, a major transformation can be achieved in society. Otherwise, we may soon find ourselves facing a future with land covered in plastic waste, polluted water resources and ecosystems under severe threat. This is not merely an environmental issue. It is a warning concerning our very survival. The time has come for everyone to recognise it and act.

Three Adversaries Become 4: Why The Saudi-Turkey-Pak Deal Is A Headache For India

On July 4, 2025, less than two months after hostilities between India and Pakistan ended following Operation Sindoor, Lieutenant General Rahul R Singh, the Indian Army's Deputy Chief, said India had effectively faced three adversaries on a single border. Pakistan was the active frontline combatant, China shared real-time satellite intelligence, and Turkey, a partner of Islamabad, had been a source of tactical and kamikaze drones that had been used against India.

Now, if the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement signed between Pakistan, Turkey and Saudi Arabia on August 7 is implemented in letter and spirit, it could theoretically mean that a fourth nation - Saudi Arabia - would be treaty-bound to oppose New Delhi in the event of armed hostilities in the subcontinent. A joint statement issued post the signing of the agreement states that an armed attack against any of the three would be regarded as an attack on all.

A Snub To India?

While Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Ishaq Dar, has described the agreement as being "purely defensive in nature", New Delhi would not be pleased with Saudi Arabia signing on, given the extremely close ties between Delhi and Riyadh. India and Saudi Arabia define their relationship as a strategic partnership anchored by a joint council that steers ties that have grown to include oil, security, investment and culture. Trade stands at \$43 billion, with Saudi Arabia supplying around 14% of India's crude oil.

Saudi Arabia Is A Lifeline For Pakistan

At the same time, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan have already operationalised a bilateral security pact that predates the Mecca Joint Defence agreement. Between April and May this year, Pakistan sent roughly 8,000 soldiers and a full squadron (approximately 16 jets) of JF-17 Thunder fighter jets to Saudia Arabia. Some reports also indicate that Islamabad transferred two squadrons of drones and a Chinese-built air defence system as part of the Strategic



Mutual Defence Agreement that it signed with Saudia Arabia in September 2025. The scale of this deployment was hardly for 'advisory and training purposes', and could be described as a form of military repayment by Islamabad at a time when Saudi Arabia found itself at the receiving end of Iranian drone attacks during the ongoing war between Israel, the United States and Iran. The Pakistan-Saudi Arabia association is not new - Saudi Arabia has been a financial lifeline for Pakistan for decades and has helped Islamabad deal with balance-of-payments crises. Since 2018, Riyadh has repeatedly extended multibillion-dollar deposits and deferred oil-payment facilities - including \$6 billion in 2018, \$4.2 billion in 2021, roughly \$8 billion in 2022, and continued deposit rollovers through 2026 - often tied to IMF bailout conditions. Militarily, Saudi Arabia has backed Pakistan against India since 1965 with money and diplomatic support. In 1971, Riyadh condemned India's actions and support continued during the 1999 Kargil conflict, through cash and lobbying. Reports on the direct transfer of Saudi weaponry - including the loan of military aircraft in 1971 - have, however, not been backed with substantial evi-

dence. On the other hand, Pakistani forces have been deeply embedded in Saudi Arabia's military since the 1960s. Cooperation began under King Faisal and President Ayub Khan, with a formal 1967 agreement with Pakistani pilots reportedly flying Saudi jets against a 1969 Yemeni incursion. Through the 1970s-80s, up to 15,000 Pakistani troops were stationed in the Kingdom at various points, including in border-defence roles. A 1982 Protocol Agreement formalised the framework for these ongoing troop deployments. Separately, during the 1991 Gulf War, about 13,000 Pakistani personnel were deployed to Saudi Arabia. Over the decades, Pakistan has also trained an estimated 8,000-10,000 Saudi military personnel; more recently, Pakistan's former Army Chief, Gen. Raheel Sharif, took command of the Saudi-led Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition in 2017, and joint army, naval and air force exercises have since become a regular fixture.

What Turkey Brings To The Pact

Pakistan's military association with Turkey is more directly linked to arms imports - Islamabad has historically benefited from Turkish platforms, including Bayraktar TB2 drones, MILGEM-class cor-

vettes valued at around \$1.5 billion, and modernisation support for its US-built F-16 fleet. Pakistan acquired four Turkish-designed MILGEM-class corvettes for its Navy among its most technologically advanced surface platforms, with the final vessel, PNS Tariq, delivered in August 2023. Turkey has also been involved in the modernisation of Pakistan's French-designed Agosta 90B-class submarines. Pakistan received its first batch of Bayraktar Akinci high-altitude combat drones in 2023, adding to earlier TB2 acquisitions with the relationship progressing towards local production. Turkey's KAAAN stealth jet made its first flight on February 21, 2024. Development of prototypes is ongoing, with Turkey expected to begin receiving deliveries of the fighter between 2028-2030. Pakistan is seen to be a strong prospective customer; talks began around 2023, with the Pakistan Aeronautics Complex potentially co-producing rather than just buying the jet. There is, however, no contract that has been signed, with Islamabad believed to be closer to acquiring the Chinese J-35A stealth fighter, a more mature platform. After Pakistan used Turkish drones during the 88-hour war (Operation Sindoor) in May last year, India retaliated

by revoking Turkish firm Celebi Aviation's security clearance. E-commerce platforms Ajio and Myntra dropped Turkish brands, and tourism took a big hit, with travel platforms cutting Turkey promotions. Indian arrivals fell upto 38% over the summer season.

India Will Have To Watch Out

With no signs of Islamabad moving away from its policy of state-sponsored terrorism, New Delhi will be looking closely at whether the new Turkey-Saudi Arabia-Pakistan pact ends up becoming a major strategic headache in the event of armed conflict. Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan's remarks that the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement is similar to NATO's Article 5 collective-defence clause sound ominous for New Delhi. For now though, the agreement appears to primarily be a regional hedge against America's declining role as a net security provider - perhaps a political signal of realignment away from US-centric security guarantees in the Middle East. For now, Delhi can take some comfort in the fact that, rhetoric aside, the Mecca pact currently lacks a joint command and defined triggers for collective action - falling well short of an alliance that could be institutionally compared to NATO.

Bonam Offered to Ujjaini Mahankali



K. Shanthi Kumar

Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: As part of the Ashada Bonalu celebrations, Telangana Minister for Forests, Environment and Endowments Konda Surekha offered Maru Bonam to Goddess Ujjaini Mahankali at the Secunderabad Ujjaini Mahankali Temple on Tuesday. The minister was accorded a traditional and warm welcome by Endowments Department officials and temple priests upon her arrival at the temple amid devotional fervour. The temple premises reverberated with the beats of drums and the spiritual atmosphere created by Shiv Sattulus. Minister Konda Surekha offered prayers and performed special rituals before the Goddess. Later, she participated in the Maru Bonam ceremony conducted under the guidance of the

chief temple priests and offered Bonam as a sacred offering to Goddess Mahankali.

The minister said that the Maru Bonam tradition holds a special place in the culture and traditions of Telangana. She said that preparing Maru Bonam with the rice offered to the Goddess represents a beautiful blend of devotion and tradition. She described the practice as a symbol of Telangana's rich spiritual heritage. As part of the celebrations, Minister Konda Surekha felicitated women who carried Bonam and presented them with sarees and traditional ceremonial gifts. A large number of women participated in the celebrations and offered prayers to the Goddess with devotion, filling the temple surroundings with a large gathering of devotees. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Konda Surekha said she was delighted to participate in the Maru Bonam celebrations of Goddess Ujjaini Mahankali. She said she prayed for the blessings of the Goddess so that all the people of Telangana may live with happiness, prosperity and good health.

She also wished for peace and prosperity to prevail across the state. The minister said that this year's Ashada Bonalu celebrations were being conducted on a grand scale. She stated that the celebrations were progressing successfully with the cooperation of the people along with the arrangements made by the government. Minister Konda Surekha said it was a matter of pride for everyone to celebrate Bonalu with devotion as the festival reflects the rich cultural heritage and traditions of Telangana.

Advocate Chanda Hanumantha Rao Remembered by Bhadrachalam Bar Association



Bhadrachalam, Jay Janasena News, August 11: Senior advocate and long-standing member of the Bhadrachalam Bar Association, Late Chanda Hanumantha Rao, passed away due to illness. His sudden demise is an irreparable loss to the legal fraternity of Bhadrachalam and his family.

A special condolence meeting was held at the Bhadrachalam Bar Association Hall on Tuesday to mourn his demise and pray for the eternal peace of his soul. As part of the programme, members observed a two-minute silence and paid rich tributes to Late Chanda Hanumantha Rao. The Judicial First Class Magistrate Sri Shiva Naik and Additional Judicial First Class Magistrate Smt. Durga Bhavani, who attended the condolence meeting as chief guests, addressed the gathering. They recalled the services rendered by Chanda Hanumantha Rao and appreciated the values he upheld throughout his legal career.

The speakers said that the services rendered by Chanda Hanumantha Rao to the legal profession would always be remembered and prayed for eternal peace to his departed soul.

Bhadrachalam Bar Association President Kodali Srinivasan, Vice-President Sunnam Ramesh, General Secretary Poosala Srinivasa Chary, Lady Representative Taruni, former President Kota Devadanam, and senior advocates Ravi Rammohan, Mutyala Kishore, Perala Nagaraju, Perala Venkateswarlu, Bandaru Arun Chand, Avuluri Satyanarayana, K. Aruna Sri, Pamaraju Tirumala Rao, Bandaru Ramesh, M.V. Rama, Bhashyam Sharada, Datla Sandhya, B. Ramakrishna, M. Sandhyarani, Valavala Suresh Kumar, Raviteja, Karam Ramesh, Korada Srinivas, Gayatri, Kothapalli Rambabu, among others, attended the programme.

A large number of senior and junior advocates associated with the Bar Association also participated in the condolence meeting and paid their respects to the departed advocate.

The Bhadrachalam Bar Association expressed its deepest condolences to the bereaved family of Chanda Hanumantha Rao and prayed to the Almighty for peace to his departed soul.

KTR Visits Kyaama Mallaiah, Wishes Him Speedy Recovery

K. Shanthi Kumar



Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: BRS Working President KTR on Tuesday visited the residence of BRS leader Kyaama Mallaiah, who recently fell mildly ill and is currently recovering after undergoing treatment. KTR enquired about his health and wished him a speedy and complete recovery, advising him to follow the guidance of his doctors. During the visit, KTR interacted with

Kyaama Mallaiah's family members and enquired about his health condition. Party sources said KTR expressed happiness after learning that Mallaiah's health was improving. KTR wished that Mallaiah, who has been actively involved in public life, would recover fully at the earliest and return to the people soon. He also expressed his desire for Mallaiah to continue playing an active role in public service. KTR reportedly observed that leaders who remain actively involved in party activities should give equal importance to maintaining their health. He also said that the party cadre were praying for Mallaiah's speedy recovery. KTR was accompanied by MLA Devireddy Sudheer Reddy, MLCs Shambipur Raju and Dasoju Sravan, former MLAs

Manchireddy Kishan Reddy and Gongidi Sunitha, former MLC Karne Prabhakar, and several other BRS leaders. All the leaders met Kyaama Mallaiah, enquired about his health and offered him encouragement. They wished him a speedy and complete recovery and expressed hope that he would soon return to public life and continue his active role in serving the people.

Government Degree College (Autonomous) Releases I & II Year Semester Results – Principal Prof. John Milton

Bhadrachalam, Jay Janasena News, August 11: The results of the I and II Semester examinations conducted in April/May at the local Government Degree College (Autonomous) were released by Professor D.S.R. Rajendra Singh, Joint Director, College Education, said the college Principal, Prof. John Milton.

Speaking after releasing the semester results at the college on Tuesday, Prof. D.S.R. Rajendra Singh expressed satisfaction over the college's academic performance and specially congratulated the Principal and the teaching faculty for their efforts. Addressing the students during an interaction session, Prof. Rajendra Singh advised them to pursue their education with high aspirations and strive to reach the highest levels of success. He also explained the AEDP



courses in detail and offered suggestions regarding stu-

dents' interest in projects and the admission process.

College Principal Prof. John Milton briefed the Joint Director about the academic progress and performance of the students. Teaching and non-teaching staff, along with students, participated in the programme.

KTR Demands Clarity on Tesseract Land Allocation Row



K. Shanthi Kumar,

Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has levelled serious allegations over the Telangana government's allotment of land to a company named Tesseract. Alleging that government land worth around ₹200 crore was allotted to a company headed by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's brother, Kondal Reddy, KTR described the matter as a major scam and demanded that the government provide a clear explanation.

KTR alleged that five acres of land had been allotted to Tesseract at a concessional price. He claimed that Kondal Reddy was listed as the chairman of the company in a LinkedIn profile and in statements issued by the US Consulate. Although the company claims to be involved in the manufacture of aerospace and defence equipment, KTR said several questions remained about its actual operations. He further alleged that the company had no employees and had a capital base of only Rs.1 lakh. He also raised questions over the company's address, phone number and other details. KTR demanded

that the government explain the reasons behind allotting high-value government land to such a company.

The BRS also raised questions over other business transactions and agreements allegedly involving members of the Chief Minister's family. The party demanded a comprehensive investigation into investment agreements reached during visits to the United States, allocation of contracts and the alleged role of family members in the implementation of government projects. KTR also criticised the remarks made by Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu on the issue. He alleged that the government's claim that Tesseract had no links with members of the Chief Minister's family was contrary to the facts. He further criticised the land allotment process, alleging that transparency had not been maintained.

However, these are political allegations made by the BRS, and an official response from the government or the concerned company is awaited. Political circles have called for an independent inquiry to establish the facts and bring clarity to the land allotment controversy.

Correction to Applications of Eligible Candidates – ITDA Project Officer B. Rahul

Bhadrachalam, Jay Janasena News, August 11: In connection with the notification published in various daily newspapers on August 11, 2026, inviting applications from eligible candidates for the appointment of Guest Faculty on a temporary basis for the academic year 2026-27 in Tribal Welfare Residential Degree Colleges under the Khammam Region, a corrigendum has been issued, said ITDA Project Officer B. Rahul in a statement on Tuesday.

Candidates applying for the Guest Faculty posts must have secured a minimum of 55% marks in Post-Graduation in the concerned subject and must possess any one of the following qualifications: NET/SET/Ph.D.

Under the Khammam Region, covering Khammam and Bhadradi Kothagudem districts, the following vacancies are available:

For Women's Colleges:

- English – 02
- Physics – 01
- Botany – 01
- Computer Science – 01
- Commerce – 05
- Chemistry – 01
- History – 01

Total: 12 vacancies

For General (Men/Women) – TGTWRDC (M), Manuguru College:

- English – 01
- Physics – 01
- Mathematics – 01
- Microbiology – 01
- Zoology – 01
- Commerce – 01
- Political Science – 01
- Chemistry – 01
- History – 01



Total: 09 vacancies

Thus, there are 21 vacancies in total.

Eligible candidates belonging to Khammam and Bhadradi Kothagudem districts, possessing the above qualifications, shall submit their applications directly along with copies of their educational qualification certificates at:

Tribal Welfare Residential Girls' Degree College, Kothagudem @ KLR PG College, Palvancho.

Applications will be accepted from 10:00 AM on August 12, 2026, to 5:00 PM on August 13, 2026, only on working days during office hours.

The selection of candidates will be based on the marks secured in their educational qualifications and the relevant eligibility criteria, including a demonstration (demo) class.

The Project Officer, ITDA, Bhadrachalam, shall have full authority to increase or decrease the number of vacancies mentioned above or cancel the notification in its entirety, depending on administrative and institutional requirements. For further details, eligible candidates may contact 9848965711, he said.

Chetana' Extends Support to Education of Migrant Tribal Children



'Palvancho, Jay Janasena News, August 11: With the aim of encouraging migrant tribal children to continue their education without facing financial hardships, free notebooks were distributed to underprivileged tribal students studying at the Mandal Parishad School in Narsampet of Palvancho Mandal. The programme was organised under the aegis of Chetana Foundation, with financial support from Kongara Ramachandra Rao, and was held under the chairmanship of Rupla Naik. A total of 35 students from the migrant tribal settlement of Rajiv Nagar, who travel to Narsampet to pursue their education, were provided with free notebooks. G.

Shailaja, Chairperson of the Amma Adarsha School Committee, attended the programme as the chief guest and distributed the notebooks to the students.

Speaking on the occasion, she appreciated the support extended by donors and voluntary organisations towards the educational development of students. The organisers said that such service initiatives would greatly help children from migrant tribal families overcome financial difficulties and continue their education. School teachers Venkateswarlu and parents Annapurna, Bhadrappa, Sunitha, Madivi Pandu, among others, participated in the programme.

DGP Focuses on Development of Karreguttas



Bureau
Mulugu, Jay Janasena News, August 11: Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) C.V. Anand conducted an extensive tour of the Karreguttas region in Mulugu district on Tuesday. On the occasion, District Collector Borkade Hemant Sahadevarao met the DGP and welcomed him by presenting a potted plant.

Later, the DGP reached the 39 CRPF Base Camp at Pamunuru, where he was accorded a guard of honour by the police personnel. As part of his visit, the DGP inspected various development works being undertaken in the Karreguttas region. He personally reviewed the progress of the nearly 28-kilometre road constructed through Pamunuru, Chelimala, Doli and Tadapala villages and sought details from the officials concerned. Officials explained that completion of the road would significantly improve transportation facilities for people living in the tribal areas. During a programme held along the road, the DGP hoisted the national flag and released pigeons into the air as a symbol of peace. He subsequently issued several directions to officials regarding the quality of works and construction standards. He instructed the authorities

to work in coordination to ensure that the development projects were completed at a faster pace.

The DGP also interacted with Guttikoya tribal families residing in Pamunuru and enquired about their living conditions and the problems they were facing. He distributed rice and blankets to the families and assured them that the government would extend all possible support.

The DGP said the government was giving high priority to providing basic infrastructure in tribal areas as well as maintaining peace and security. He stated that development programmes would not only improve the living standards of the people but also ensure that government services reached them more effectively.

He directed officials to continue regular field-level monitoring of the development works. The DGP's visit is expected to provide further impetus to development activities in the Karreguttas region.

Officials said that government initiatives aimed at the development of tribal areas, expansion of infrastructure and public welfare would be accelerated. Senior police officers and officials from various departments participated in the DGP's tour.

Eligible Voters Should Not Be Denied Their Rights



K. Shanthi Kumar
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has made it clear that his party will continue its fight to ensure that no eligible voter is denied their right to vote during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process.

KTR held a meeting with members of the party's SIR committee at Telangana Bhavan and discussed in detail the activities being carried out at the grassroots level, problems being faced by voters, and the measures to be taken to prevent the deletion of names from electoral rolls. Later, speaking to the media, he expressed serious concern over the ongoing SIR process in Telangana.

KTR said that Telangana had a total of 3.39 crore voters before the commencement of the SIR process. At present, around 73 to 74 lakh votes have reportedly been marked as 'uncollectable', with no response received from those voters so far, he said. He stated that such a large number of votes remaining uncertain raises serious questions about the credibility of the electoral process.

Similarly, KTR said the party had received information that another 60 lakh votes had various discrepancies. He

said the situation appeared to indicate that by the time the SIR process was completed, only around two crore votes might remain without any issues.

Of the remaining votes, some could potentially be deleted, while others may have technical errors or other suspicious issues, he said. KTR stressed that it was extremely important to ensure that not even a single eligible voter's name was unfairly removed from the electoral rolls.

With election authorities set to release the draft electoral rolls, the party has decided to conduct district-wise meetings thereafter, KTR said. The local situation in each district would be reviewed and an action plan would be formulated to extend support to voters who may be affected, he added.

KTR also revealed that the party had already held discussions with its Legal Cell and sought the advice of legal experts on the issue. The meeting discussed in detail the legal remedies available to eligible voters whose names are removed from the electoral rolls, as well as the political and organisational measures the party should undertake, he said.

He said the party machinery was being prepared to provide all necessary assistance to affected voters. More meetings are expected to be held on August 13 and 14, and a comprehensive action plan would be announced after discussions with BRS president K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), KTR said.

KTR alleged that the names of some eligible voters also appeared to be getting deleted during the SIR process. He reiterated that the BRS would take all possible legal and political measures to ensure justice for every eligible voter.

He called upon party leaders and workers to remain vigilant at the grassroots level and extend necessary assistance to voters during the SIR process.

State Action Plan for Vegetable Cultivation



K. Shanthi Kumar,
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: The Telangana government is preparing a comprehensive action plan to promote vegetable cultivation in the state and provide quality, nutritious food to school students. A high-level meeting was held at Praja Bhavan on Tuesday, as per the directions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, to discuss the issue in detail. The meeting was chaired by Dr. G. Chinna Reddy, Vice-Chairman of the State Planning Commission and Chairman of the Committee of Experts on Agriculture. Senior officials from the Agriculture, Horticulture, Rural Development and Education departments, along with representatives of several voluntary organisations, participated in the meeting. The meeting primarily discussed establishing a system to directly procure vegetables from farmers for the school breakfast programme. With the government deciding to provide breakfast to around 20.50 lakh students studying in schools and junior colleges across the state, officials estimated that nearly 1.20 lakh kilograms of vegetables would be required every day. It was decided to develop a system under which this requirement would be met through local farmers. The government aims to reduce the involvement

of middlemen, ensure remunerative prices for farmers and provide students with nutritious food prepared using fresh vegetables.

At present, organisations such as Hare Krishna Mission, Manna Foundation and Akshaya Patra are implementing food distribution programmes for students in rural areas. Officials felt that procuring the vegetables required by these organisations directly from local farmers would create a stable market for farmers. The meeting decided to strengthen the supply system by identifying farmers engaged in vegetable cultivation and entering into agreements with them. Officials said this would create a mutually beneficial system for farmers, service organisations and students. The Agriculture and Horticulture departments have been directed to identify farmers cultivating vegetables in villages surrounding the 39 centralized kitchens currently operating across the state. In addition to existing vegetable growers, those interested in taking up vegetable cultivation will also be identified.

Special priority is being given to women farmers and rural women's self-help groups to create employment and income opportunities. Farmers will also be sensitised about government schemes, subsidies, technical guidance and the availability of quality seeds. From August 17 to 20, officials from the Agriculture, Horticulture, Rural Development and Education departments will conduct field visits. They will directly assess the problems and requirements faced by farmers and women's groups. Detailed information will be collected on the availability of seeds, irrigation facilities, marketing, procurement procedures, price stabilisation and government assistance. The information will be consolidated at the district level and reports will be submitted to the government.

Bharat Ratna for Pingali Venkayya

K. Shanthi Kumar
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: Telangana BC Welfare Department Adviser and senior Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao has demanded that Pingali Venkayya, the designer of the Indian national flag and a freedom fighter, be conferred with the country's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna.

In this regard, V. Hanumantha Rao has written an open letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging the Centre to accord due recognition to the great personality who designed the Tricolour, a symbol of the nation's pride and honour. V.H. said the Tricolour instils a sense of patriotism in the hearts of crores of Indians and stands as a powerful national symbol. He said the services of Pingali Venkayya, who designed such a revered national flag, would remain etched in the history of India forever. He opined that the Bharat Ratna is the highest honour the Government of India can confer in recognition of Venkayya's immense contribution to the nation. V.H. welcomed the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign being organised by the Central Government across the country. However, he said it was painful that Bharat Ratna had not yet been conferred on Pingali Venkayya, the designer of the national flag. He stressed that while the national flag is being hoisted and celebrations are being held across the country, there is a need to give due honour to its creator. V.H. said Pingali Venkayya, who was born in Telugu soil, made invaluable contributions to the nation. His sacrifices and patriotic spirit should serve as an inspiration to the present generation, he said. He also stated that gov-



ernments have a responsibility to make the role played by Venkayya in the freedom struggle more widely known among the people. Conferring the Bharat Ratna on Pingali Venkayya would amount to honouring all freedom fighters, V.H. observed. He said the honour would not merely be a recognition of an individual but would also represent the nation's tribute to generations who fought for India's independence.

V.H. urged the Central Government to respect the sentiments of the people. He recalled that a statue of Pingali Venkayya had earlier been installed in Hyderabad. He said that the Centre should respond positively and announce the Bharat Ratna for Pingali Venkayya without any further delay. He appealed to the Central Government to take a decision that would fulfil the aspirations of Telugu people as well as patriots across the country.

Kalash Yatra Concludes in Telangana

K. Shanthi Kumar
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: As part of the nationwide Kalash Yatra being organised to mark the 650th birth anniversary celebrations of Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas Maharaj, the sacred Kalash that arrived in

Ravidas preached values such as equality, brotherhood and humanity, transcending caste, religion and social divisions. He stated that the nationwide programme is being organised to take the message of Sant Ravidas to every section of society. The Yatra would play a significant role in strengthening unity and harmony among people, he said. Ramachander Rao further said that the Union government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is working to advance the ideals of Sant Ravidas. He said the government is striving for the development of all sections of society with the objective of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas". Efforts are also being made to reflect the values of equality, social justice and



Telangana was formally handed over to Andhra Pradesh BJP leaders by Telangana BJP State President N. Ramachander Rao. The Kalash was officially handed over at a programme held at the Telangana BJP state office in Nampally.

Leaders said that the Yatra is being organised with the objective of spreading the messages of social equality, human values and harmony among people on a wider scale. The Kalash Yatra has emerged as one of the major highlights of the special programmes being organised across the country to commemorate the 650th birth anniversary of Sant Ravidas Maharaj.

The Yatra, which began in Varanasi, travelled through several states before reaching Telangana on August 2. After programmes were conducted at various locations across the state, the sacred Kalash has now been taken to Andhra Pradesh. BJP leaders, party workers and devotees have expressed enthusiasm and extended their support to the Yatra.

Speaking on the occasion, N. Ramachander Rao said that the teachings of Sant Ravidas continue to serve as a guiding force for society even today. He said that Sant

humanity advocated by Sant Ravidas in government policies, he said. He added that the path shown by Sant Ravidas continues to serve as an ideal for building a harmonious society. The organisers said that the Kalash Yatra aims to take the message and teachings of Sant Ravidas Maharaj to the youth as well as people from all sections of society. They expressed the view that the programme would evolve into an important movement for promoting harmony, equality and humanity in society.

They said the nationwide celebrations would create greater awareness among people about the teachings of Sant Ravidas and added that the Yatra has received an enthusiastic response in various states. The sacred Kalash, which has now reached Andhra Pradesh from Telangana, is expected to receive a grand welcome there as well. Special programmes will be organised at several locations across the state as part of the Jayanti celebrations. Awareness programmes highlighting the life and teachings of Sant Ravidas Maharaj will also be conducted.

The organisers said the Kalash Yatra would serve as a powerful platform for promoting unity, equality and human values across society.

Applications Invited for New Cheyutha Pensions

K. Shanthi Kumar,
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: The Telangana government has initiated steps to sanction new pensions under the Cheyutha Social Security Pension Scheme, with the objective of providing social security to eligible poor and vulnerable sections of society. In the first phase, new pensions will be sanctioned to eligible single women, widows, persons with disabilities, toddy tappers, handloom workers, filariasis patients, and those suffering from blood-related disorders such as thalassemia, sickle cell disease and haemophilia, the government said. The government clarified that there would be no changes in the eligibility criteria for the new pensions. The existing rules mentioned in the government orders issued during previous governments will continue to be followed. The eligibility of applicants will be examined as per the relevant government orders issued between 2014 and 2018, following which the pension sanctioning process will be taken up. Applications already received during Praja Palana Week, 99-Day Development Plan Gram Sabhas and Prajavani programmes will also be considered. Officials said those who had already applied earlier and submitted the required documents need not apply again. However, those who have not applied so far, or those who have not submitted the necessary supporting documents, can submit fresh applications. District Collectors have been entrusted with the responsibility of obtaining the required certificates from the concerned departments for verification of eligibility. Officials have been instructed to ensure that death certificates of husbands are submitted by wid-

ows, separation certificates or local inquiry reports by single women, Excise Department certification by toddy



tappers, Handlooms and Textiles Department certification by handloom workers, and Medical and Health Department certification by filariasis patients. After scrutiny of the applications, designated officials will conduct field-level inspections to verify the eligibility of applicants. The list of eligible beneficiaries will then be forwarded to the district level, and the pension sanctioning process will be completed after approval by the District Collector. With the objective of ensuring that every eligible person receives the benefit of the scheme, federations of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have also been involved in the process. The government has announced that applications for new pensions will be accepted until August 31, 2026. Application details will be entered into the Cheyutha portal for speedy verification. The government has directed officials to complete the entire process in a transparent manner and strictly in accordance with the prescribed rules, ensuring that every eligible person receives the benefits of the government's welfare schemes.

KTR Extends Support to Underprivileged Students



K. Shanthi Kumar,
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: Supporting talented students from underprivileged families, BRS Working President KTR has once again extended assistance through the ‘Gift a Smile’ initiative. He distributed laptops to two students pursuing higher education, encouraging them in their academic journey. He urged them to make the most of the opportunities provided by education and work towards transforming their lives.

Jeevan, the son of a farmer from Peddathanda near Miryalaguda, recently secured admission to the Biotechnology course at IIT Kharagpur. Similarly, Farzana, the daughter of a farmer from Dammannapet in Wardhannapet mandal, is preparing for the Civil Services examinations while undergoing coaching. With the intention of supporting their educational pursuits, KTR presented laptops to both students. Interacting with the students on the oc-

casion, KTR said it was a matter of pride that students from rural backgrounds were working hard and earning recognition at the national level. He stressed the need for society to support young people who continue to strive towards their goals despite financial difficulties. He said that providing opportunities to talented students would help many more of them reach greater heights.

KTR wished Jeevan success in pursuing higher education at IIT and excelling in the field of research. He also wished Farzana success in the Civil Services examinations and a fulfilling career in public service. He said their achievements should bring pride not only to their families but also to their villages and society. He urged the students to make their determination and perseverance an inspiration to others. KTR said that identifying students in need and extending support to them through the ‘Gift a Smile’ initiative would continue. He said the programme was being undertaken with the objective of ensuring that talent does not remain behind due to poverty. With the growing importance of technological tools in modern education, he noted that laptops would be useful for students in their learning and academic activities. KTR advised the students to make the best use of available opportunities and move forward with discipline and determination. He wished them success in reaching greater heights and bringing pride to their families. He called upon more young people in society to pursue education, rise above their circumstances and turn their dreams into reality.

New Momentum for Indo-French Partnership in Tourism Sector

K. Shanthi Kumar,
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: With the objective of further strengthening educational, professional and institutional cooperation between India and France in the tourism and hospitality sectors, a special workshop was organised by the National Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (NITHM). The programme, titled “Strengthening Indo-French Cooperation in Tourism and Hospitality Sectors,” was attended by a large number of students, faculty members and tourism industry experts. The workshop provided a platform to explore ways to further expand cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, culture and tourism. Several speakers highlighted the need to explore new avenues for the development of the tourism sector through international collaboration. Mark Lamy, Consul General of France in Bengaluru and representative of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, attended the programme as the chief guest and inaugurated the event. Vani Prasad, Special Chief Secretary, Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture Department, Government of Telangana, and Chairperson of NITHM, presided over the programme. Vani Prasad said strong relations between countries are built not only through government-level discussions but also through mutual understanding among people, cultural connections and shared experiences. She observed that food, tourism, culture and hospitality are powerful tools that bring countries closer. She said cultural exchanges provide an opportunity to understand the ideas and lifestyles of other countries while also offering a platform to showcase India’s traditions and rich heritage to the world. Every dialogue and cultural programme contributes to strengthening the friendship between India and France, she added. Vani Prasad encouraged NITHM students to actively participate in international programmes and gain global exposure. She explained that developing knowledge of foreign languages and cultures would help students access a wider range of employment opportunities. NITHM Director Professor V. Venkata Ramana said international partnerships are crucial for equipping students with the skills required by the rapidly expanding global tourism and hospitality sectors. He stressed the need to undertake joint research, faculty exchange and student exchange programmes in collaboration with leading educational institutions and industry partners in



France. He also emphasised the importance of French language training, stating that proficiency in French could open up global opportunities for students. He highlighted the need to bring changes in educational programmes in line with future industry requirements. Chief guest Mark Lamy said France is working to further strengthen its economic, educational, cultural and people-to-people relations with India. He noted that Hyderabad is emerging as an important hub in sectors such as aerospace, pharmaceuticals, technology and hospitality. He said leading French companies such as Sanofi, Airbus, Safran and Accor have expanded their operations in India. French lifestyle, cuisine, tourism practices and cultural traditions have earned global recognition and can play an important role in further strengthening cultural ties between the two countries, he added. Mark Lamy encouraged students to make the best use of opportunities in international exposure, internships, higher education and professional training. Learning different languages would provide access to global employment opportunities, while the hospitality, tourism, culinary arts and service sectors are expected to offer extensive career prospects in the future, he said. The workshop served as a platform for discussions on tourism education, skill development, sustainable tourism and cultural tourism. A key highlight of the programme was the opportunity provided to NITHM students to gain direct insights into France’s tourism system, international hospitality practices and future educational and professional opportunities.

Collector Expresses Anger Over Menu Implementation

- Surprise Inspection at Yanambailu School
- Directs officials to provide quality meals to students
- Warns of strict action for negligence

Bureau, Bhadradi, Jay Janasena News, August 11: District Collector Ankit, IAS, conducted a surprise inspection of the Yanambailu Zilla Parishad Primary School in Kinnersani Mandal on Tuesday. During the inspection, he reviewed the teaching process,



implementation of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, and cleanliness of the school premises, and issued several instructions to the officials. The Collector interacted directly with the students while they were having their mid-day meal and enquired about the quality and taste of the food and whether the prescribed menu was being followed. He personally

sought the students’ feedback and reviewed the implementation of the meal scheme.

The Collector expressed displeasure over the failure to serve the meal according to the government-prescribed menu on the day of his inspection. He directed the concerned officials to ensure that students are provided with quality and nutritious food as per the prescribed menu every day. He warned that strict action would be taken if there was any negligence in implementing the menu. The Collector made it clear that there should be no compromise when it comes to the health of students and stressed the need for continuous monitoring of food quality. He stated that meals served in schools should meet the nutritional requirements of children. Later, the Collector inspected the classrooms and school premises and directed the authorities to maintain a clean, hygienic and pleasant environment. He instructed the officials to give top priority to the health and safety of students and pay special attention to sanitation and hygiene. Tahsildar Prasad, along with officials from the concerned departments, participated in the inspection. The district administration stated that continuous monitoring would be carried out to ensure quality education and effective implementation of nutritional welfare schemes in government schools.

The Uppal Elevated Corridor should be completed within the stipulated time

K. SHANTHIKUMAR,
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: State Roads, Buildings, Cinematography Department Minister Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy held a review meeting on the progress of the Uppal Elevated Corridor at Dr. BR Ambedkar State Secretariat on Tuesday. Negligence and tardiness will not be tolerated. We gave our word to the people..we have to do according to our word. The public government under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is fully accountable. Let's make traffic problems free for the people who have been suffering for years... Officials should work hard.

Increase man power. Work should be done in three shifts..work should be done continuously at night from 11 am to 6 am. BT road works under the corridor should be completed by the end of this month. From the side of Narapalli (CPRI) and from the side of Uppal...the work should be speeded up with launching gadders on both sides. Once every ten days I personally review the progress of the field work..work progress should be shown every day. Minister Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy in Uppal Elevated Corridor review. Officials and work agency said that 300 workers are working in two shifts. The construction company pleaded that due to the current conditions night work is likely to take more time. We have set a deadline to make it available by October 31, 2026..Minister should think about people's traffic problems* The Minister made it clear that it should be made available to the people in the year 2026 under any circumstances.. The authorities and the work agency should work in that direction. R&BCE Dharma Reddy, many officials and representatives of the construction company participated in this review. Minister Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy has made it clear that the Uppal Elevated Corridor works must be completed within the fixed deadline set by the state government and that negligence and delay in works will not be tolerated at all. It has become hell for years for those who regularly travel there. That is why we have promised to the people that it will be completed by Dussehra 2026. The public government under the leadership of Chief Minister Ennumula Revanth Reddy has been fully responsible and the people who have been suffering for years will be provided with safe travel without traffic problems, and the officials have been specially requested to make up their minds accordingly. The minister ordered to increase the man power and work in three shifts and work continuously from 11 am to 6 am. It has been decided to complete the 6.25 km BT road works under the corridor by the end of this month. The minister ordered that he himself would review the progress of the field work once every ten days.



Accordingly, the officials should review the daily work progress. The Minister thoroughly discussed the works currently going on at the field level. The Minister asked the officials and the work agency to tell the exact actual conditions at the site. At present, 60% of the Uppal Elevated Corridor work has been completed and the other 40% work is going on at a fast pace, officials and representatives of the work agency explained. The minister was told that 300 workers are working in two shifts with four beds and four gantries to make the segment at the site. The minister suggested to increase the speed of work with launching gadders on both sides from Narapalli (CPRI) side and Uppal side. The minister inquired about the progress of the work going on from the Uppal side.. Officials explained that one slab has already been completed and the work of the second slab is in progress. During the review, the construction company appealed that due to the night work and rains, the construction may take more time to complete. We have already set a deadline that it will be made available by October 31, 2026. The minister said that people should think about the traffic problems. The minister expressed his displeasure with the appeal of the work agency. Tegesi said to increase the speed of work, increase man power and work in three shifts. The construction company told the minister that it will be completed at the rate of six slabs per month. In connection with this, the minister inquired about the flyover works being constructed by GHMC and ordered to coordinate with the GHMC officials to ensure that the works are completed in parallel. Minister Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy clarified that the Uppal Elevated Corridor should be made accessible to the people in the year 2026 under any circumstances and the R&B officials and the work agency should work towards that.

Amgen to Set Up Major Research Centre in Genome Valley



K. Shanthi Kumar,
Hyderabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: Global biotechnology major Amgen has announced plans to establish a state-of-the-art research and innovation centre at Genome Valley. In this regard, the company signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Telangana government on Tuesday. The exchange of the agreement documents took place at the Secretariat in the presence of IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu. Amgen’s decision to further expand its operations in Telangana is being viewed as another significant milestone for the state’s life sciences sector. It is also considered another major step towards developing Genome Valley into a world-class hub for research and innovation.

Prior to the signing of the agreement, representatives of Amgen India met Minister Sridhar Babu and discussed the company’s expansion plans with Hyderabad as its base. Following the meeting, Naveen Gullapalli, Managing Director of Amgen India, and Krishna Aditya, Special Chief Secretary of the Telangana Industries Department, exchanged the agreement documents. Officials said the proposed centre at Genome Valley would create new opportunities in research, technological development and innovation. Company representatives stated that the centre would be developed in accordance with global standards. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Sridhar Babu said Amgen’s investment was a testament to the confidence that global companies have in Telangana. He recalled that Amgen had recently established a major Global Capability Centre in the state with around 3,000 employees. With the establishment of the new research and innovation centre, more employment opportunities would be created for the state’s youth, he said. The minister also stated that he had requested the company management to give preference to talented local youth in recruitment. The

Telangana government is committed to creating an industry-friendly environment, Sridhar Babu said. He noted that Telangana is emerging as one of the leading states in the country in the life sciences sector. Skilled human resources, world-class infrastructure and a well-developed research ecosystem such as Genome Valley have given the state a distinctive identity, he said. These strengths are the reason why leading global pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies are choosing Telangana as a major investment destination, the minister added. He said the expansion of industries in the state was also resulting in increased employment opportunities for the youth. Amgen, which operates in nearly 100 countries across the world, is recognised as a leading healthcare company. It develops innovative medicines and healthcare solutions for the treatment of cancer, cardiovascular diseases, bone-related disorders, respiratory diseases, inflammatory conditions and rare diseases. With the company giving priority to advanced research, the establishment of its research centre in Telangana is expected to further enhance the state’s international recognition. It is also likely to open up new opportunities in the field of medical research.

The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Krishna Aditya, Special Chief Secretary of the Industries Department; Nikhil Chakravarthy, Commissioner of Industries; Sarvesh Singh, CEO of Telangana Life Sciences; Naveen Gullapalli, Managing Director of Amgen India; Srinu Kosaraju, Executive Director; Anumitha, and others.

Officials expressed the view that the proposed research centre at Genome Valley would further strengthen Telangana’s life sciences sector and provide fresh momentum to investments, employment and technological development. The project is being viewed as a major initiative that could take Telangana further forward on the global biotechnology map.

Sonia Hails Manmohan Singh After Supreme Court Clean Chit

New Delhi, Jay Janasena News, August 11 : Congress leader Sonia Gandhi has reacted to the Supreme Court’s clean chit to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in the coal scam case. She said the verdict would go down as an important turning point in the political history of India. Sonia Gandhi said the country would always remember Manmohan Singh as one of its most influential and soft-spoken Prime Ministers. She described the verdict as the end of a “tragic chapter” in Indian politics. She said attempts to portray Manmohan Singh, who stood as a symbol of honesty and moral values, as guilty had completely failed. The court’s verdict, she added, had made it clear that the allegations against him were baseless.

Sonia Gandhi alleged that a section of people had worked

in a coordinated manner against Manmohan Singh. She said the allegations made against him at the time were politically motivated and had now been proved to be false.

The former Prime Minister’s innocence, she said, had now come before the people of the country. She also criticised the Centre, alleging that investigative agencies were being used to target political opponents. Sonia Gandhi accused the government of attempting to exert political pressure through agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). She alleged that while some people were threatened, others were targeted in an attempt to weaken them politically.



High Alert Ahead of Independence Day Celebrations

*Intelligence Agencies Warn of Terror Threat
Tight Security Along Pakistan, Bangladesh Borders
BSF Launches ‘Operation Alert’
Security Agencies on High Alert Across the Country*



New Delhi, Jay Janasena News, August 11: The Central Government has stepped up security measures following warnings from intelligence agencies about the possibility of terrorist attacks in the country ahead of the Independence Day celebrations. Security forces have been put on high alert following inputs that terrorist organisations allegedly backed by Pakistan’s ISI may attempt attacks along the borders or in other parts of the country. In particular, the Centre has intensified security arrangements along the Pakistan and Bangladesh borders. Security

forces are expected to focus closely on the Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort in Delhi and programmes in Jammu and Kashmir on August 15. Intelligence agencies suspect that terrorists may attempt to exploit the heightened public attention surrounding these events to carry out attacks. Officials believe that such attempts could also be aimed at diverting public attention from the internal problems prevailing in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Balochistan. Warnings have been issued about possible infiltration of terrorists into Jammu

and Kashmir and illegal entry through the Bangladesh border. Intelligence agencies have also cautioned that second-tier cities, where security arrangements may be relatively weaker, could be targeted. Officials said terrorist organisations may also adopt a strategy of diverting the attention of security agencies towards one area while attempting attacks in another. Against this backdrop, the Border Security Force (BSF) has launched special surveillance measures along the western border with Pakistan. As part of ‘Operation Alert’, which will continue from August 10 to 17, patrolling, checking and

surveillance have been significantly intensified in border areas. Senior officials are personally monitoring the situation and keeping a close watch on every suspicious movement. Meanwhile, the Centre has also decided to strengthen security along the Bangladesh border. Additional surveillance mechanisms are being put in place in the border districts of West Bengal, and around 40 specialised intelligence units are reportedly proposed to be established. Officials said the primary objective of these measures is to prevent illegal infiltration, smuggling and suspicious activities along the border areas. The Central Government has alerted all states to ensure that Independence Day celebrations are held peacefully and securely. Instructions have been issued to further strengthen security at key government offices, airports, railway stations, tourist destinations and crowded public places. Security agencies have also urged citizens to remain vigilant and immediately inform the police if they notice any suspicious persons or objects.

Spoken English Programme Launched in Adilabad Collector Rajarshi Shah inaugurates the programme Focus on enhancing students’ language skills Special Spoken English book unveiled

Bureau, Adilabad, Jay Janasena News, August 11: The ‘Spoken English Programme–Adilabad’, designed by the Education Department to enhance English communication skills among students, was launched by District Collector Rajarshi Shah on Tuesday. The Collector attended the programme as the chief guest at the Zilla Parishad meeting hall in the district headquarters. On the occasion, he unveiled a special book prepared as part of the Spoken English programme. Speaking at the event, the Collector emphasized the need for students to develop their ability to communicate in English in line with the requirements of the modern world. He said that such programmes play a crucial role in building confidence among students. The Collector observed that language skills are essential for students of government schools to excel in



the competitive world. In particular, proficiency in spoken English would be highly beneficial in pursuing higher education and securing employment opportunities, he said. He instructed teachers to implement the programme effectively and ensure that it benefits students. Officials said that the Spoken English programme would provide training in everyday conversations, basic grammar, correct pronunciation and com-

munication skills. They stated that developing a strong command of English from the school level would open up better opportunities for students in the future. District Education Officer Madhavi, Academic Coordinators Lakshman and Ajay, along with headmasters and teachers from various schools, participated in the programme. Officials advised all stakeholders to work in coordination to ensure the successful imple-

mentation of the programme. With the government taking special measures to improve educational standards across the district, the Spoken English programme is expected to be another significant step forward, Education Department officials said. They added that the primary objective of the programme is to enhance students’ language skills and confidence and prepare them to face future academic and professional challenges.

Rhea Chakraborty Reveals Rs.3 Lakh MTV VJ Salary at 17



Mumbai: Rhea Chakraborty is an Indian actress, video jockey, and television personality who has now ventured into entrepreneurship. Rhea was very young when she began her career as a video jockey and has now re-

vealed the whopping salary she earned as an MTV VJ. The actress recently appeared as a guest on comedian Tanmay Bhat’s YouTube channel while promoting her brand, Chapter 2. During the conversation, Rhea opened up about

how well she was paid when she was just a teenager and revealed what she did with the money she earned. During an interactive session featuring panelists Aadiya Kulshreshtha aka Kullu, Rohan Joshi, Kushagra Srivastavaa, and host Tanmay Bhat, Rhea recalled that the first celebrity she ever met was Salman Khan. She then opened up about her early days as a Video Jockey (VJ) on MTV. Looking back at those days, Rhea joked about the comedians of today and said, "There was a time when only good looking people were allowed to speak." She

then revealed that VJs were paid quite well back then. Hearing this, Tanmay asked her how much she earned at the time. Rhea replied, "I think 3 Lakh was my last salary but I was just 17-18 years old. so, I really thought I was damn rich." Rhea also revealed how she spent the money she earned as an MTV VJ. Speaking candidly, she said that she spent her hard-earned money on "lifting her face". While comparing her old picture with her latest one, Her revelation left all the panelists laughing as she spoke openly about it.

Thane Homebuyers Get MHADA Price Cut, Fresh Lottery

Thane: In a major relief for home buyers, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has directed the Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) to revise and reduce flat prices at its Chitalar-Manpada housing project in Thane. Under the new directives, unit prices will be pegged to the 2020–21 Ready Reckoner (RR) rates. While 434 winning applicants who have already submitted their acceptance letters will retain their allotments at the reduced rates, MHADA will conduct a fresh lottery for the remaining unsold flats at the revised prices. Significant Price Reduction: Flat prices in the project will drop from Rs.51–52 lakh to approximately Rs.44–46 lakh, making housing more affordable for citizens. 434 Previous Winners Retained: Winners from the earlier draw who submitted their acceptance letters will retain their allotted units without needing to reapply. Fresh Lottery Drive: A new lottery process will be initiated for the remaining units



under the uniform 2020–21 rate structure. MHADA developed a total of 1,173 residential units in the Chitalar-Manpada project, of which 938 flats were put up for draw on July 14, 2025. However, price variations within the same building complex sparked widespread dissatisfaction among buyers: Partial Occupancy (2020–21): Units that received partial Occupancy Certificates (OC) during 2020–21 were originally priced at around Rs.10,000 per sq. ft. (~Rs.44 lakh). Full Occupancy

(2025–26): Following the issuance of the full OC, prices for the remaining flats were hiked to Rs.51–52 lakh based on 2025–26 RR rates. This created an anomaly where residents buying identical flats in the same building were charged drastically different prices, leading to formal grievances lodged with the housing authority. Addressing these concerns during a virtual meeting attended by MHADA Managing Director Sanjeev Jaiswal, Konkan MHADA CEO Vishal Rathod, senior offi-

cials, and citizen representatives, Deputy CM Shinde instructed MHADA to standardise pricing. "Instead of charging varying rates for identical flats in the same building, MHADA must uniformly apply the 2020–21 Ready Reckoner rates to ensure fairness for all buyers," directed the Deputy Chief Minister. The revised rate structure is expected to offer substantial economic relief to mid-income buyers looking for affordable housing options in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR).

Harbhajan Singh Hits Back at Punjab Police Over Drug Menace

Chandigarh: Harbhajan Singh has passionately called for all authorities to tackle the drug abuse problem in Punjab. Singh's earlier plea on social media landed in controversy after Punjab police fact checked him. The now BJP MP has hit back, suggesting that the focus should be on the issue and not 'one-upmanship'. "Your paid trolls won't be able to suppress this issue; it must be addressed," Singh said, stressing that avoiding responsibility would not resolve the crisis. Harbhajan shared a video on X while expressing an-

guish over the alleged impact of addiction on Punjab. The video showed two men appearing to behave erratically, prompting comparisons with the so-called "zombie" effect associated with drug abuse. He criticised successive governments for what he described as the deterioration of the state and its younger generation, urging people to act before it was too late. He also appealed to people to "save Punjab" and its youth from addiction. However, Punjab Police later clarified that the footage was not from Punjab but from Sri



Ganganagar in Rajasthan. Harbhajan's reaction has brought the focus back to the long-standing issue of drug abuse in Punjab. The state has faced concerns over substance abuse among young

people for years with the issue often becoming part of public and political discussions. Through his post, Harbhajan stressed the need to take the issue seriously rather than ignore it.

NASA Invites ISRO To Join Artemis Moon Base Programme As India Advances Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Mission

New Delhi: India and the US have taken another step towards deeper cooperation in space, with NASA inviting the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to join its Moon Base programme. The development comes as the two countries seek to expand their partnership under the Artemis Accords, covering civil space exploration and human spaceflight. The move could prove significant for India's growing space ambitions, bringing ISRO closer to international efforts focused on lunar exploration and future missions to Mars. The two space agencies have also agreed to advance discussions on sharing open scientific data under the Artemis Accords. NASA has formally invited ISRO to participate in its ambitious Moon Base programme under the Artemis Accords, marking a major milestone in India–US space cooperation.

According to a statement released by the US Embassy on Tuesday, NASA and ISRO agreed to take forward discussions on cooperation in open scientific data sharing under the Accords. The initiative is aimed at strengthening cooperation in the civil exploration and use of outer space. NASA is constructing a lunar South Pole base as part of its plans to secure US space leadership, advance scientific research, encour-



age commercial and international innovation and lay the groundwork for future Mars missions. India joined the Artemis Accords on June 21, 2023, becoming its 27th member. Its participation in the Moon Base programme would deepen the strategic space partnership between India and the US and give the country's space programme a bigger role in international lunar exploration. Building on the partnership, the ninth India-US Civil Space Joint Working Group (CSJWG) meeting was held at ISRO Headquarters in Bengaluru on August 5-6. The meeting focused on expanding cooperation in civil and commercial space activities as well as human spaceflight technologies. The discussions show that India-US space cooperation is moving beyond broad agreements towards specific ar-

reas of collaboration. With lunar exploration and human spaceflight gaining greater importance, the partnership could become an important part of both countries' long-term space plans, TNE reports. The development comes as India makes progress on its first human spaceflight mission, Gaganyaan. Union Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Jitendra Singh informed Parliament that the Human Rated Launch Vehicle (HLVM3) has completed the development and ground testing of all propulsion stages and structures. Singh told the Rajya Sabha that Gaganyaan had achieved major milestones in the development and validation of critical human-rating systems. The progress is crucial as India prepares for a series of uncrewed missions before attempting its maiden human orbital

mission. The first uncrewed experimental Gaganyaan mission, carrying the Vyommitra half-humanoid, is targeted for the fourth quarter of 2026. The mission will validate technologies being developed for the first time under the programme. It will be followed by two additional uncrewed missions in the configuration planned for the first crewed flight. These missions are targeted by 2027 and will precede India's maiden human orbital mission. Taken together, the expanding NASA-ISRO partnership and progress on Gaganyaan underline an important phase for India's space programme. While the Moon Base cooperation strengthens India's role in international lunar exploration, Gaganyaan is advancing the country's independent human spaceflight ambitions.

Chandrababu Reviews AP's Economic Situation, Gives Key Directives to Officials



From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, August 11: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu reviewed the state's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and monthly economic report. During the meeting, Planning Department officials submitted the economic report for the previous month to

the Chief Minister. Officials said the state economy recorded positive growth despite the El Niño situation. They revealed that Andhra Pradesh registered a 10.7% growth rate in the second quarter of the 2025-26 financial year. The agriculture sector recorded 13.5% growth, while the industrial

sector grew by 10.6% and the services sector by 9.9%, officials said. General exports grew by 10.5% to Rs.16,322 crore. GST collections increased by 21% to Rs.13,282 crore, aided by technology integration. Officials said the grounding of large and mega projects worth Rs.2.88 lakh crore, along

with MSME projects worth Rs.60,000 crore, contributed to a 73.6% growth. They also said the state recorded a 51.8% rainfall deficit this season due to El Niño. Real GSDP growth, which stood at 6.5% in 2023-24, increased to 9.9% in 2025-26, officials said. They added that the coalition government was

implementing welfare and development programmes while maintaining financial discipline. The Chief Minister directed every government department to manage available resources effectively to achieve its prescribed targets. He also asked officials to formulate measures to ensure that additional price burdens do not fall on the common people. Naidu instructed officials to achieve growth targets despite deficient rainfall. In view of the El Niño situation, he called for a contingency plan focusing on water availability and value addition of products. He suggested that releasing plans at the district, constituency and mandal levels would make it easier to achieve the targets.

Lokesh Directs AP Bhavan Officials to Assist Students Stranded in Thailand



From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, August 11: Officials of AP Bhavan spoke with Andhra Pradesh students facing difficulties in Thailand. Acting

on the directions of AP Minister Nara Lokesh, officials enquired about the students' situation and gathered details about the problems they are currently facing

and the assistance they require. The officials forwarded complete information about the students' situation to the Indian Ambassador in Thailand. They said the students were facing difficulties due to a lack of local currency in Thailand. AP Bhavan officials requested the Indian Ambassador to instruct Thai immigration authorities to facilitate assistance to the students. They also urged that necessary steps be taken to ensure the students' safe return to India. The officials said they were closely monitoring the students' situation and taking steps to bring them back to the country safely.

Case Registered Against Singer Rahul Sipligunj and 15 Others



Visakhapatnam, August 11: A case has been registered at the MVP Colony Police Station in Visakhapatnam against Bigg Boss winner and popular singer Rahul Sipligunj and 15 others. A woman approached MVP Colony police alleging that she had been cheated in connection with a marriage proposal involving Rahul Sipligunj's brother-in-law. Based on her complaint, police registered a case and later transferred it to the

Women's Police Station. The complainant made serious allegations against Karvarapu Rahul Reddy, Rahul Sipligunj's brother-in-law. She alleged that he had deceived her after assuring her that he would marry her and had used her physically. She also alleged threats, defamation and theft, and expressed concern that her life was under threat. The case also names prominent advocate Geetha Prasanna Chandana, her

husband Siva Narayana, journalists Naresh, Uday and Sairam, as well as Suvarna, Harinya Reddy, Karthik and KR Reddy, among others. Meanwhile, the woman had initially complained to the City Police Commissioner on March 10, 2026, naming only Rahul Reddy. Nearly three months later, on June 11, she submitted a second complaint adding the names of another 11 people. The development has raised several questions.

Case Registered Against Former MLA Mekapati Vikram Reddy



Nellore, August 11: Police have registered a case against YSRCP leader and former MLA Mekapati Vikram Reddy, along with 13 other YSRCP leaders, for allegedly conducting a rally without permission in Atmakur, Nellore district. Vikram Reddy had been staging a relay hunger strike in Atmakur for the past four days along with YSRCP leaders, demanding a CBI probe into alleged irregularities in the Mega DSC recruitment conducted by the previous government. On Monday, they attempted to take out a rally from the Municipal Bus

Stand to the RDO office. However, police stopped them at JR Peta, stating that prior permission had not been obtained for the rally. This led to a heated argument between the YSRCP leaders and police, creating tension at the spot for some time. Police subsequently registered a case against Vikram Reddy and 13 others for allegedly conducting the rally without permission.

YCP Leaders' Misconduct in the Name of Bike Rallies: Minister Kollu Ravindra

From Our Staff Reporter Machilipatnam, August 11: Minister Kollu Ravindra strongly criticised YSRCP leaders, alleging that they resorted to objectionable activities in the name of bike rallies. Speaking to reporters in Machilipatnam on Tuesday, he responded to the YSRCP's protest programmes and bike rallies alleging irregularities in the Mega DSC recruitment. He alleged that the rallies were organised with the participation of rowdy elements and groups involved in ganja-related activities. Ravindra said neither farmers nor students had participated in the protests



and bike rallies organised by the YSRCP. He launched a sharp attack on YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, alleging that he had weakened the youth. He said it was shameful for YSRCP leaders to allege irregularities when the Mega DSC had provided jobs to

16,000 people. He directly questioned YS Jagan whether the previous government had conducted even a single Mega DSC during its five-year tenure. The minister said people were not turning up for protest programmes called by the YSRCP. He claimed that good governance was being provided in Andhra Pradesh and said the coalition government had fulfilled 95% of the promises made during the elections. Ravindra recalled that the government was providing pensions every month and had implemented the Thalliki Vandanam scheme.

Minister Atchanna Warns of Trouble if People Fail to Remain Cautious About YSRCP

From Our Staff Reporter Bhimavaram, August 11: Agriculture Minister K. Atchannaaidu said that the aqua sector is the brainchild of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. Speaking at an aqua meeting in Palakollu on Tuesday, he lashed out at YSRCP leaders, alleging that the state was completely ruined during the party's rule. He said the previous government had brought the state to such a state that people felt ashamed whenever Andhra Pradesh was mentioned. He recalled that the state exche-

quer was empty when the coalition government assumed office, leaving the government without even enough money to pay employees' salaries. The minister said Andhra Pradesh has now reached a stage where it is "breathing oxygen after coming off a ventilator." He claimed that the coalition government was implementing even promises that had not been made to the people. Referring to the 2019 elections, Atchannaaidu alleged that people had brought "a thief, a looter and an axe party" to power in a fit of emotion.

He strongly criticised YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, alleging that he had ruined the state after being given the opportunity to govern. Atchannaaidu warned people that they could face serious difficulties in the future if they were not cautious about the YSRCP. Questioning the public, he asked whether it was not their responsibility to question a person who had allegedly destroyed the aqua sector when he visits farmers in the name of offering support. He alleged that during Jagan's tenure, the prices of



materials required for aqua feed were increased six times despite there being no corresponding rise in their costs. He said efforts were

underway to reduce fish meal and fish oil prices by 50 percent soon. If successful, he said, aqua feed prices would also come down.

Congress Exposed for Playing with Students' Lives: PVN Madhav



From Our Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, August 11: BJP Andhra Pradesh President PVN Madhav said irregularities had been reported in the SSC examination in Jharkhand, following which students had launched protests. He alleged that rubber bullets were fired and lathi-charge was carried out against the protesting students. He

said the JMM-Congress government was in power in the state. Madhav said that when the NEET question paper leak came to light, the examination was cancelled immediately, keeping students' futures in mind. He also said the Union minister had resigned. According to him, this demonstrated the difference between a

BJP government and a Congress government. Expressing concern over the impact of the SSC paper leak in Jharkhand, Madhav said the lives of many young people were being thrown into uncertainty. He alleged that the Congress had been exposed for playing with students' futures. He said that when an irregularity occurred at the Centre, corrective action was taken immediately. Madhav criticised Rahul Gandhi, calling him "cowardly" and alleging that he was avoiding Parliament. He said the BJP was ready for a discussion on paper leaks. He also demanded that YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and Y. S. Sharmila respond to alleged paper leaks during the YSR government. He said the YSRCP was in a state of confusion and

alleged that the party was unnecessarily politicising the issue because it did not know what else to do. He maintained that the DSC recruitment examination was conducted transparently. The BJP AP president also said the government had clarified its position on jobs under the sports quota. He said people were rejecting the protests being organised by the YSRCP. He claimed that employees had also protested against what they described as attempts to damage their careers, similar to alleged incidents during the tenure of former Chief Minister Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy. Madhav said the BJP was ready for the local body elections and expressed confidence that the coalition government would win the highest number of seats in Visakhapatnam.

AP Government Announces Power Subsidy Relief for Aqua Farmers

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, August 11: The Andhra Pradesh Government has announced good news for aqua farmers, extending the electricity subsidy for aqua farming. The government will provide electricity to farmers at a subsidised rate of Rs.1.50 per unit. The Energy Department issued GO RT No. 57 on Tuesday regarding the electricity subsidy for aqua farmers. The subsidy of Rs.1.50 per unit will be available to all eligible aqua farms located in the newly notified aqua zones. The subsidy will also be extended to all eligible aqua farms registered under the APSADA and CAA Acts. Around 6,500 registered aqua farms are expected to benefit from the



scheme. Eligible farms that obtain APSADA/CAA registration in the future will also receive the subsidy from the date of registration. The revised electricity subsidy will be implemented from June 1, 2026, with electricity supplied at Rs.1.50 per

unit. The decision is expected to provide relief to aqua farmers facing financial difficulties due to rising production costs. The subsidy aims to help farmers remain competitive in the global aqua export market in terms of price and quality. The

Fisheries Department will provide details of eligible aqua farmers to the DISCOMs. The Andhra Pradesh government will take a decision on further expansion of the subsidy after examining the proposal submitted by the Fisheries Department.

Wamiqa Gabbi – A New Star in the Making!

Team Speed post record 746/8 in HCA B-Division league



Wamiqa Gabbi is all over the news with her new film DC. While the film marks Lokesh Kanagaraj's much-talked-about acting debut, a section of the audience feels that Wamiqa has stolen the spotlight with her powerful portrayal of Chandra. Early reviews and social media reactions are filled with praise, with many calling her the emotional backbone of the film. Known for taking up unconventional and bold roles, Wamiqa has always

been regarded as a performer. However, DC seems to have taken that reputation to another level. Wamiqa plays an emotionally layered character who carries immense weight throughout the narrative with immense versatility. Critics have particularly appreciated the way she balances different shades, making Chandra a memorable character.

The general opinion is that whenever Wamiqa appears on screen, she adds emotional in-

tensity, and her chemistry with Lokesh Kanagaraj has also emerged as top-notch. Many viewers have remarked that Lokesh and Wamiqa bring life to the film whenever they are together. Not many know that Wamiqa has struggled a lot in Hindi and Tamil cinema and has been around for a very long time before she found success. Well, DC could well become another landmark in Wamiqa Gabbi's career and take her to new heights.

Manasa Varanasi Poses Pretty By The Lake



It's been a quiet year on the film front for Manasa Varanasi, with Vanaveera failing to click at the box office, but her style updates continue to keep her fans hooked as they await her next announcement. Coming to her look, Manasa Varanasi turned up the charm in a colour-blocked dress featuring a fiery orange-red bustier bodice paired with a flowy pink skirt. The strappy silhouette added a chic, summery touch, while her loose curls, delicate gold jewellery, and radiant smile rounded off the look effortlessly. Shot against a scenic lakeside backdrop, the outfit's vibrant hues made for a striking contrast, giving the look a fresh, vacation-ready vibe.

Hyderabad: Advith Reddy (256, 148b, 33×4, 12×6), Koushik Reddy (171, 133b, 18×4, 6×6) and Vimal Dev (119, 98b, 12×4, 4×6) helped Team Speed score a record-breaking 746 for eight in 90 overs against City College Old Boys on the first day of the HCA B-Division two-day league cricket championship.

In other B-Division league matches, T. Aaron Paul (207 n.o., 172b, 33×4) for Mahmood CC, Mohd Ahmed Shakeer (207 n.o., 208b, 25×4, 4×6) for Postal and Narra Chandra (238 n.o., 240b, 25×4, 10×6) for Warangal also batted well.

The scores:

A-Division two-day league: Combined District 1 215 in 58.4 overs (Ganesh Gadugu 90, C. Srinath Yadav 61, Nishant Saranu 3/49, Rishab Baslas 3/33, Sachet Binrajka 3/71) vs EMCC 138/3 in 28 overs (P. Aman Rao 73 batting, A. Avanish Rao 36).

Deccan Wanderers 351 in 80.1 overs (Harshit Choudhary 41, R Sai Sharan 31, S. Dheeraj 161, Divesh Singh 69, Ammaar Ayub 3/68) vs Cambridge XI 14/0 in 2 overs.

Budding Star 2660 in 79.4 overs (Jai Ram Kashyap 114, Pranav Vara 40, PVM Manikumar Reddy 43, Sri Harsha 4/68) vs Balaaji 14/2 in 5.4 overs.

Evergreen 317 in 64.4 overs (Sai Vikas Reddy 64, Mayank Gupta 63, Ilyaan Sathani 87, Vishal Sharma 4/98, Danny Derek Prince 3/53) vs SBI 45/4 in 13.1 overs.

Hyderabad Bottling 194 in 52.5 overs (Prajwal Koudipally 105, Ruthik Yadav 53, Tanay Thyagarajann 5/48) lost to Sporting XI 195/3 in 29.1 overs (Anvith Reddy 53, A. Varun Goud 86).

MP Colts 397/9 dec in 78 overs (Rahul Radhesh 167, Mickil Jaiswal 53, C. Advait Reddy 30, C. Hitesh Yadav 46, M. Roshan 34, Abdul Ela Al Qureshi 5/88) vs Gemini Friends 20/0 in 6 overs.

Imperial 459 in 85.2 overs (C. Siddharth Rao 52, VVS Sarvajit 37, G. Rahul Singh 57, Aryan Krishna 53, S. Loknath Naik 130, Manish Singh 61, Y. Chaitanya Krishna 4/93).

R.Dayanand 350 in 76 overs (T. Ravi Teja 34, Kunal Daswani 34, MS Karthikeya 57, Prithvi Reddy 32, M. Dheeraj Rao 49 n.o., S. Abdul Rahman 6/52) vs Combined District II 17/2 in 6 overs.

Jai Hanuman 192 in 44.3 overs (M Abhirath Reddy 44, Shanmukha Ashwin 45, BK Ranganath 32, K. Yajwan Kumar 3/69, G. Sai Akshat Goud 3/31) vs SCRSA 152/7 in 30 overs (Sarthak Bharadwaj 32).

Deccan Chronicle 269 in 61.3 overs (Ashesh Singh 32, Ali Kachchhi 35, Murugan Abhishek 101, CV Milind 61,



Wafi Kachchhi 3/30) vs UBI 6/0 in 1.3 overs.

B-Division two-day league: Deccan Blues 307/10 in 69.5 overs (K Yogendhar Reddy 106, Kolan Karthik Reddy 94, Aryan Reddy 3/59) vs Green Turf 102/2 in 24 overs (Rishanth Reddy 59).

Sri Chakra 209 in 56.3 overs (Dhruv Kumar 47, Kalpanesh Sen 4/49) vs Osmania University 87/3 in 20 overs (Surya Kiran Yadav 33, Hayyan Arif 33).

Deccan Arsenal 429/8 in 90 overs (R. Prudishwar 45, T. Rajveer 63, M. Manoj Kumar 150, P. Aryan 104, S. Ritvik 3/58) vs Khalsa.

Chetan Anand CA 419/9 in 82 overs (Mohd Samad 30, Dacha Bhuvan 112, P. Akshit 110, Dheeraj Pranav 79, SK Sathvik 33, NC Arjun 4/92) vs Cheerful Chums.

Jai Bhagwathi 262 in 82.1 overs (Ashish Sawariya 122, Puneth Sai M 98, M. Naveen Reddy 5/53) vs Karimnagar District.

Hyderabad Titans 314 in 89.5 overs (Shiva Ramakrishna Terli 115, Sri Harsha 49, Raghav Patel 41, Tanish Bathula 31, Arjun Choudhary 4/52) vs Gouds XI.

Ensconce 212 in 70.1 overs (Abhyudaya Pratap 49, A. Praneeth 38, Keshav Upadhyay 35, Md. Azharuddin 32, Dev Mehta 3/44, M. Taha Sajid 3/26) vs Kosaraju 72/1 in 15 overs (Rishith Rao 40 batting).

Apex 331 in 76.2 overs (J. Rithik 62, K. Satya Karthik 67, KVS Rahul 55, Vignesh Agarwal 36, K. Karthik 3/71, Subham 4/60) vs WMCC 16/0 in 12 overs. Rakesh XI 433/8 in 90 overs (K. Shivsainav 95, Midun Mote 150, K. Shreyas 53 n.o., K. Anudeep 3/70) vs Khammam District.

Classic 189 in 55.4 overs (Janmesh Singh 40, Namann

Dayala 32, Pranav Aheer 42, Md Muqeethuddin 6/47) beat Mahbubnagar District 91/0 in 18.4 overs (P. Pranav Reddy 5/48, Atharva Sunkari 5/42).

Elegant 125 in 30.5 overs (R. Pranav Adithyam 5/31) lost to MP Blues 128/3 in 23.5 overs (SM Tanuj 55 n.o., Md Aadish Salmani 3/27).

Telangana 146 in 36 overs (Aarav Dhariwal 35, Shashank Sonthalia 5/44) lost to New Blues 149/2 in 26.2 overs (B. Pranav 72 n.o., Syed Abubaker 52).

Zinda Tilismath 174 in 52.4 overs (Y. Nishanth Reddy 55, Jonna Manideep 50, SM Hussain Sayeed 3/25) lost to Sportive 177/4 in 33.4 overs (Karan Kumar Pattanayak 86, Nanavath Rakesh 36 n.o., G. Chaitra Sandeep 3/55).

Medak District 165 in 43.2 overs (Lohith Pasham 44, Rathod Rahul Nayak 30, D. Sai Rithwik 3/35) beat Manchester 143 in 52.4 overs (Rithvik Goud 41, B. Hishanth 4/38, K. Sridhar 3/10).

Nizamabad District 187 in 51 overs (Dama Ajith 34, Vikranth 32, C. Ruthwik 34, P. Sainath 3/49) lost to Nalgonda District 190/5 in 41.1 overs (Jashwanth Kanneboina 124).

Future Star 445 in 88.1 overs (M Sai Pratheek 140, P. Lalith Aditya 5/82) vs Concorde 3/2 in 5 overs.

Secunderabad Nawabs 159 in 41.3 overs (Rithvik Rudra Nishangi 85, Dheeraj Reddy 30, Darsh Kumar 5/73) lost to Megacity 160/8 in 39 overs (Trishul Gupta 46, Rakesh Sekhar 32, Md. Basheer 5/62).

Mahmood 508/4 in 90 overs (RBS Bala Trivikram 75, V. Nishanth Kumar 113, T. Aaron Paul 207 n.o., N. Chetan Reddy 43 n.o.) vs Raju CC.

Team Speed 746/8 in 90 overs (Advith Reddy 256, Koushik

Reddy 171, Vimal Dev 119, Kaushik 5/119, Nihal Reddy 3/127) vs CCOB.

MCC 314 in 86.3 overs (V. Samhith 94, Snehodeep Mitra 86, Sanyasi Shiven 62, Ankit Agarwal 5/37) vs Sayi Satya 37/4 in 10 overs.

PKMCC 180 in 56.1 overs (T. Deekshith 51, Abhay G Nair 40, Naman Choudhary 4/39, Divesh Jain 3/25) vs Hyderabad Blues 89/3 in 30 overs (Naman Choudhary 37, Adrith Reddy 33 batting).

Adilabad District 234 in 47.5 overs (Ade Santosh 48, M Adeeb Ahmed 75, D. Mohan Lal 4/63) vs Galaxy 140/7 in 44 overs (Pranav Mathews 4/42).

Hyderabad union 102 in 44 overs (SSVV Nanda Kumar 4/25, Dhruva Advait 4/22) vs Vijay Hanuman 103/6 in 24.1 overs (P. Satya Srikar 4/28).

Brothers XI 152 in 49.2 overs (Vasu Dev Sahoo 40, B. Varshit Reddy 33, Vamshi Krishna Nunnagoppula 6/47) lost to Agarwal Seniors 156/1 in 37.1 overs (Praneeth Kumar 76, Nykith Reddy 56).

Beema 106 in 40 overs (Darshith Patel 44, Gopala Varun 5/28) lost to Continental 110/3 in 14.4 overs (Mohd Mosiq Uddin 58).

Postal 480/4 dec in 76 overs (Mohd Ahmed Shakeer 207 n.o., N Jyothi Krishna 166, Nishanth Yadav 39) vs Venus Cybertech. Warangal District 432/7 in 90 overs (Narra Chandra 238 n.o., M Devendar 73, J Pardhipan 45) vs Visaka. Oxford Blues 473/10 in 82.4 overs (G. Parthiv Varma 138, PNV Sreekar 44, Mithul Gardas 46, Avula Nikhsith 114, N. Shiv Kumar 53, L. Shashank 3/65, Prudhvi Raj Chouhan 4/111).

Saleemnagar 101 in 37 overs (P. Varun 4/33, Riyansh Sharma 4/8) lost to Ours 104/0 in 10 overs (Samanyu 50, Koushik 48).

Taskin Ahmed excited for Australia Test challenge, calls series a proud moment

Darwin: Expressing childlike delight at finally getting the chance to play Test cricket in Australia, senior fast bowler Taskin Ahmed said that Bangladesh are feeling 'really honoured' to feature in a Test series in the country after 23 years. Taskin, who first visited Australia 14 years ago as a member of the Bangladesh team in the Under-19 World Cup in 2012, is set to lead the senior team's pace attack in Thursday's series opener at the Marrara Stadium. "We are really honoured to be here to be playing the Test series against Australia. No doubt Australia is one of the biggest teams in the world, and playing in Australia against Australia in Test cricket, it's a really proud moment for every one of our players. So, definitely that won't be an easy series for us, but still, we are hoping to do really well in the upcoming Australia se-

ries," Taskin told reporters. Taskin, 31, has featured in the 2015 ODI World Cup and 2022 T20 World Cup in Australia, but has never faced the hosts in the longest format on their home turf. "From my childhood, I've been watching Australia team players, like great fast bowlers, legendary players. "Really, now I have the opportunity to play against them. So I'm really excited. Australia is my favourite place to bowl. I have been watching all of them- Starc, Hazlewood, Cummins, even Boland also doing well. If I have a chance to chat with them, definitely I will do," he added.

Bangladesh enter the series on the back of a historic 2-1 ODI series victory over Australia in Mirpur two months ago, where the home pitches offered uncharacteristic pace and bounce. Taskin believes that performance provided a boost



to the visitors, even though conditions in Australia present a completely different challenge. "That was a really great series for us, especially because normally, traditionally in Mirpur, it used to be a turning

and slow wicket, but the last series was pretty sporting conditions. We all played a good series, and we won against Australia. That's giving us really good confidence to play against them.