



BC Bandh in Telangana: Widespread Support and Protests Continue

The BC Bandh, initiated by the BC IKA to demand equitable reservations for Backward Classes, is persisting across Telangana, with significant participation from various political and social groups. Aside from essential services, most sectors are adhering to the bandh, as the Congress, BJP, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), CPI, CPM, Telangana Jana Samithi (TJS), CPI-M New Democracy, and Maoist parties have officially declared their support. Numerous organisations representing marginalised communities, including MRPS, Malamahanadu, Adivasi, Tribal, Minority, Student, and Public organisations, are also involved.



Protests have erupted in support of the bandh, with groups staging demonstrations outside RTC depots in district centres. Activists have obstructed buses at various locations, preventing their departure from depots. In Hyderabad, RTC

buses remain confined to depots; leaders have specifically blocked bus services at the Uppal and Chengicherla depots, with around 125 buses halted at Kukatpally, causing a total paralysis of public transport. The roads in many

areas have become eerily quiet. Tensions flared in Dilsukhnagar, where protesters occupied roads in front of the RTC depots, further halting bus operations. Participation from Congress leaders and Members of other caste groups intensified the protests, leading to confrontations with the police. Notable figures, including BJP MP Etala Rajender, joined the protests, which took place at the Jubilee Bus Stand in Secunderabad. Meanwhile, RTC services were similarly restricted in the joint Warangal district, where BRS leader Srinivas Goud staged a dharna outside the Mahabubnagar RTC depot.

AP cabinet sub committee meet employee union leaders to address issues

In a significant move, a Cabinet Sub-committee convened with employee unions today, Saturday, upon the directive of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. This marks the first ministerial-level meeting since the coalition government assumed office. The meeting saw participation from key ministers including Payyavula Keshav, Nadendla Manohar, and Satyakumar Yadav, alongside prominent representatives from various unions. Notable attendees included AP JAC Amaravati President Bobbaraju, AP NGO President Vidyasagar, and AP Government Employees Association President Suryanarayana, along with representatives from teachers'



unions. Union leaders expressed optimism about receiving favourable announcements for government employees this Diwali. They welcomed the government's initiative to engage in discussions and reiterated

their demands for the payment of four pending Dearness Allowances (DAs), proposing a phased approach if immediate payment is not feasible. Additionally, they called for the swift announcement of the 12th Pay Revision Commission and urged the government to ensure effective implementation of health cards for employees at hospitals. Union leaders voiced

their hope that today's meeting would pave the way for a comprehensive roadmap addressing both financial and non-financial issues affecting employees.

Telangana: Liquor shop applications deadline ends



Today marks the final day for liquor shop applications in Telangana, with a notable surge in submissions leading up to the deadline. The Excise Department reported that 25,000 applications were received yesterday alone, bringing the total to 50,000. Authorities anticipate that the overall number of applications will reach approximately 100,000. A draw for the allocation of new shop licences is scheduled for October 23. Successful applicants will be required to pay their first instalment between October 23 and 24. The licensing fee will be paid in six instalments, and the new shop licences will come into effect on December 1, coinciding with the expiration of current licences in November. This year's application form fee has increased from Rs 200,000 to Rs 300,000, a non-refundable amount set by the government. The new licensing period will last from December 1, 2025, to November 30, 2027.

AP and Telangana must house world-class public libraries

A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one – George R R Martin Public libraries are more than spaces filled with books; they are gateways of opportunity, hubs of knowledge, and centres of community life. Sadly, both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana lag behind in nurturing such world-class public libraries. In Andhra Pradesh, the absence of a significant library in the capital city of Amaravati highlights a cultural void. Though Hyderabad, as Telangana's capital, boasts of the City Central Library and State Central Library, their infrastructure has not evolved to match international standards. The closure of the British Library in Hyderabad, established in 1979, initially located on Secretariat Road, was subsequently moved to a new location in Jubilee Hills in April 2016. It has since shifted to a digital-only model, with its physical space on Road No. 36, which was closed in 2020 due to Covid pandemic. The library now offers online resources but there have been no further efforts to reopen the library.

The closure of the once-prestigious British Library in Hyderabad contrasts our scenario with internationally acclaimed libraries such as the Boston Public Library, New York Public Library, and Cumberland



Public Library in Rhode Island, which I had the good fortune to visit. During my travels abroad, I witnessed what libraries can truly become. I spent memorable days at the Boston Public Library, the New York Public Library, and the Cumberland Public Library in Rhode Island. These institutions are vast, welcoming, and dynamic, offering not just access to books but also to seminars, workshops, and cultural exchanges. They allow borrowing without restrictions, host weekend programs for all ages, and provide facilities like coffee houses and relaxation spaces. They are places where learning blends seamlessly with leisure.

I would often travel by Amtrak from Providence to Boston and New York simply to spend entire days immersed in these libraries, returning home close to midnight.

AP Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh to Visit Australia



Andhra Pradesh's Education and IT Minister, Nara Lokesh, is set to embark on a six-day visit to Australia from the 19th to the 24th of this month. The minister's itinerary includes a study of advanced teaching methodologies employed in Australian universities, as well as participation in roadshows promoting the successes of the CII Partnership Summit. This visit follows a series of international trips undertaken by Minister Lokesh aimed at attracting significant investments to Andhra Pradesh, with previous visits yielding fruitful results in securing key investments for the state. His current trip to Australia is supported by a special invitation from Philip Green, the Australian High Commissioner in Delhi, to take part in the Australian government's Special Visits Programme. The Australian government has commended Minister Lokesh for his leadership in human resources, technology, and economic development in the invitation, expressing its desire for his participation in the programme. Additionally, Minister Lokesh is expected to organise roadshows in Sydney and Melbourne focused on attracting investments ahead of the CII conference scheduled to take place in Visakhapatnam on the 14th and 15th of next month.

TTD Opens Advance Booking for January 2026 Darshan Tickets



TIRUPATI – In a move aimed at enhancing convenience for devotees visiting Tirumala, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) will release the advance booking for darshan tickets and accommodation in January 2026. This announcement comes ahead of the eagerly anticipated Vaikuntha Ekadashi on January 1, when many devotees wish to experience the darshan from the Vaikuntha Dwaram. The online booking for Tirumala Srivari Arjitha Seva Tickets and Anga Pradakshina Tokens will be made available on October 19 at 10 am. Devotees wishing to participate will be able to register for these electronic dip tickets until October 21, 10 am. Those fortunate enough to secure tickets will have the opportunity to pay for their bookings from October 21 until noon on October 23. In addition to regular darshan tickets, TTD will also facilitate advance booking for various services and special darshans, including the lucky dip for the Lord's services. This initiative is expected to attract a significant number of devotees eager to start the New Year with a blessed visit.

Hyderabad Tech Summit 2025 is on 29th



Hyderabad, October:18, Metroudayam

Tech Summit 2025 Kibotech Software Private Limited will organize the Hyderabad Tech Summit on October 29th at FTCCI Red Hills, Hyderabad, said Syed Rashid Shuttari, Managing Director of the company. Industry experts, faculty, researchers, students, and startups will participate in this summit and share their ideas, innovations, and experiences. Executive Director Dr. Sara Shuttari and Technical Director G. Krishna Raju revealed that Kibotech will usher in a new direction for the IT sector. He said that the team of young interns working at Kibotech is achieving excellent results with their Gen Z ideas and giving a new definition to creativity.

Aadhaar centers make things easier.... Tungaturthi Ravi



Medipally October 18 (Metro udayam)

A new permanent Aadhaar enrollment center was inaugurated on Saturday at Vishnupuri Colony Road No. 23, 17th Division under the Peerzadiguda Municipal Corporation. Organizers Venkatesh's invitation Peerzadiguda Municipal Corporation Congress Party President R.V. Foundation Chairman Tungaturthi Ravi attended the program as the chief guest and expressed his best wishes. Speaking on the occasion, Tungaturthi Ravi said that it is very happy that Aadhaar services are easily available to the people. Aadhaar card is now an essential document for every citizen. He said that all people should take advantage of this Aadhaar enrollment center. Colony President Amarnath, Somalingam, Satyanarayana, owner Venkatesh's family members, colony residents, relatives, friends and others participated in the program and expressed their best wishes.

Establish drainage system in Peerzadiguda 2nd division..

Srilatha Badru Nayak submitted a petition to the Commissioner ...

Medipally October 18 (Metro udayam)

The Peerzadiguda Municipal Corporation should establish underground drainage in Kakatiya Nagar, in 2nd division, and the residents of the colony are suffering a lot due to the lack of drainage system on many roads in Dharani Colony, said senior Congress party leader Srilatha Bhadrar Nayak. To this end, she met the Municipal Commissioner on Saturday and submitted a petition. Srilatha Badru Nayak stated that the Commissioner had assured that the drainage work would be started very soon.



AISF supports Bandh for Justice Telangana bandh

BJP is blocking BC reservations in education, employment, local elections

AISF Medchal Malkajgiri District Secretary MD Anwar

Medipally October:18 (Metro udayam)

The state government has passed a resolution in the Assembly providing 42% reservation to BCs in the state and sent the bill to the Governor and President for six months without approving it, and the 42% BC bill has not been included in the ninth schedule of the Jio Ni. The



BJP government in power at the center is blocking BC reservations, and by implementing 42 percent BC reservations, justice will be done to BCs in education, employment, and local body elections, the

BJP government is tram-pling on the rights of SC, ST, BC and minorities, and the BJP is supporting the BC bill at the center for political gain in the state. The students across Telangana state should make their parents think about the anti-SC, ST, BC and minority policies being followed by the BJP at the center and teach the BJP a lesson in the coming elections. The eight or eight MPs and two Union Ministers in the state have become useless. If the BJP has sincerity towards the BCs, the Governor should immediately get the BC Reservation Bill approved by the President

and amend the Constitution to include it in the Ninth Schedule. The AISF Telangana State Council fully supports the Telangana Bandh being organized under the auspices of the BC JAC associations on the 18th under the name Band for Justice. The management of educational institutions should cooperate with the students in the bandh. The Central Government should give its seal of approval to the BC Bill passed by the Assembly through this bandh, demanded AISF Medchal Malkajgiri District Secretary MD Anwar.

Deccan Springs Global School Shines Bright with Diwali Celebrations

Hyderabad, metro udayam October 18....

The spirit of Diwali lit up Deccan Springs Global School with vibrant decorations-diyas, lanterns, and festive artwork transformed classrooms into radiant spaces of joy. The entire campus echoed with togetherness and hope as students celebrated the festival with boundless enthusiasm.

To mark the occasion, a special assembly was held on Saturday led by the students themselves. The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries: Chairman K. Navaneetha Rao, Managing Director Mr. Naveen Kumar, Director Dr. Kamala



Manohar Rao, Core Head of Operations Mr. Kishore Kumar Reddy, Principal Ms. Swarna Akkineni, and segment Vice Principals. The celebration began with a solemn prayer to the Almighty, followed by a thought-provoking mes-

sage that stirred hearts with love and harmony. Students eloquently shared the significance of Diwali-highlighting the triumph of good over evil and the diverse ways the festival is celebrated across India. They also

raised awareness about the harmful effects of fire-crackers and offered eco-friendly alternatives for a greener celebration. The assembly was a beautiful tapestry of performances and reflections, reinforcing the victory of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance, and hope over despair. The students' creativity and talent shone brightly, leaving a lasting impression on everyone present. The programme concluded with a grand presentation and a heartfelt vote of thanks, wrapping up the celebrations on a note of joy, unity, and inspiration.

The responsibility of providing 42 percent reservation to BCs lies with the central and state governments.

If the governments do not pay attention, we will set the state on fire

D. Rajaram Yadav protested in front of the Uppal RTC depot as part of the bandh

Medipally October:18 (Metro udayam)

BC JAC Co-Chairman Rajaram Yadav said that the Congress government should be responsible for the legal obstacles facing 42 percent BC reservations. He alleged that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy did not want to provide 42 percent reservation to BCs. Rajaram Yadav demanded that the central and state governments should resolve the issue of BC reservations.

He questioned why Modi, who claims to be the BC Prime Minister who brought an ordinance on the clouds and provided 10 percent reservation to the upper caste poor, is not coming forward with a constitutional amendment on the issue of BC reservations. Rajaram Yadav expressed his concern about what sin the BCs have committed in this country. He announced that their struggle will continue until the constitutional protection of 42 percent reservations is provided. He participated in a protest program held in front of the Uppal depot in Hyderabad as part of the bandh on Saturday and later spoke to the media.



Lambada Rights Struggle Committee President Sanjeev Naik, Yadava JAC Convener Mekala Ramulu Yadav, BC JAC State Co-Convenor Gundeboina Ayodhya Yadav, BC Journalists Forum General Secretary Mekala Krishna, Student

Union Employment Federation State President Kompalli Raju, MBC Caste President Nimmala Veeranna, leaders of various parties, caste associations, and BC associations participated in the program.

Hyderabad October:18 (Metro udayam)

Today, after the Congress party supported the bandh call given by all parties for BC reservation, Himayat Nagar Division Congress senior leader V Raman Goud participated in the bandh along with BC leaders.



UDAYAM Poetry's



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Deepavali

Diwali-
A Festival of Light and Joy
Diwali, Deepavali, festival of Lights,?Homes gleaming, Hearts lifted, sparkling Nights.?Ram and Sitas Triumph, darkness Overcome

Stories of courage, of love, Of home.
Hearing tales, watching Rituals unfold,?Temples Busy, pujas sacred and Bold.?Cleaning and Decorating, every corner Bright,?New beginnings Welcome, darkness takes Flight

Foods and sweets, aromas Fill the air,?Magaj peda, Burfi, flavors rare.?Chevda, Biryani, curries fragrant and Warm.?Feasting and Sharing, lifes simple charm.
New outfits shimmer, colors That gleam,Oil baths Cleanse, awaken the Dream.Fireworks sparkle, Oainting the sky,Laughter And joy, spirits flying high.
Giving parcels, sweets Wrapped with care,?Love And bless-



ings floating Everywhere

Children laughing, streets Alive,?Families together, Traditions thrive.
From India to the world, Lights shine afar,Celebrating the inner light, Who we truly are.?Abundance, happiness, Peace flowing free,

Diwali reminds us of our Divinity.
Candles and diyas, flickering Glow, Illuminating hearts, Letting worries go
Songs and chants, a sacred Sound,?Joy, prosperity, and Love all around

—Dr Seshni Moodliar Rensburg

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BLISSFUL DIWALI

Diwali is not just a bright Flame in a bowl of clay—
Its a transcending warmth Of light
Arrayed from home to home Each day

Its not a mere firework to Burst,
Nor pompous manifest Displayed—
But triumph over trauma Weathered
Through lifes troughs and Crests replayed.

Its not a craving tongues Delight
That tweets of desserts Sweet and grand—
But a wish for lifes upward Flight



From humble lows to Heights profound.

Let it not be a show of Burns,
But a fête of colors, bold And bright.
Let it not be bruises turned
But a life-pot blooming into Light

Varshaswi L Putcha

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A promise

As I was wandering in my street,
A young boy came up to me.
A piece of paper in his hand
And smile on his lips.
I was amazed by his wits

He showed me his new poem
And asked for my opinion.
While parting away,
He told me how my poems inspire him
To pursue his dreams

He advised me to



resume my writing again
And refrain the pain
From obstructing my gain.
Talent should not be put in vain.
I should not let my passion wane.
I replied with Amen .
To my Spider Man
For whom I am uncle Ben

—Afzal Sajjad Zafir

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हमारा अपने खुद को जान लेने से बढ़कर महत्वपूर्ण कोई और बात नहीं हो सकती। खुद को जानने के लिए उठाया गया एक कदम हमारे नजात (मुक्ती) के लिए उठाया गया महत्वपूर्ण कदम होगा।... (शकील उवाचा - १०६)



कुछ हो सकता है लेकिन अंधकार बलवान नहीं हो सकता। अंधकार आयुष्मान नहीं हो सकता। अंधकार मृत्युंजय नहीं हो सकता। हम अगर जागरूक हो तो इस अंधकार की कमजोरी को, इस अंधकार के मृत्यु को हर वक्त देख सकते हैं।

अंधकार इतना कमजोर है कि, एक छोटी सी रोशनी की किरण के सामने वह टिक नहीं पाता। एक छोटी सी रोशनी के आगाश में अंधकार दम तोड़ देता है। ठीक अज्ञान का भी यही हाल है। जिस तरह से रोशनी की हल्की सी, जरा सी चोट खाकर अंधकार दम तोड़ता है, वैसे ही ज्ञान के छोटे से प्रहार को अज्ञान सहन नहीं कर सकता। केवल अंधकार और अज्ञान ही कमजोर नहीं हैं बल्कि असत्य और अधर्म का भी यही हाल है। पवित्र कुरआन 17/81 में आया है कि, "और कह दो के हक (सत्य, धर्म) आगया बातिल (अधर्म, असत्य) मिट गया। इसमें शक नहीं के बातिल मिटने वाला ही था।"

अगर अंधकार, अज्ञान, असत्य और अधर्म अपनाया ना होते तो फिर प्रकाश, ज्ञान, सत्य और धर्म का सर्वनाश अटल था। अपने खुद को जानने के लिए हमारे द्वारा उठाए गये पहिले एक कदम से भी अज्ञान का अंधकार घबरा जाता है। और अपने खुद को जानने के लिए उठाया गया एक कदम हमारे नजात (मुक्ती) के लिए उठाया गया महत्वपूर्ण कदम होगा। और यह खुद की मारिफत (स्वयं को जानने का अनुभवजन्य ज्ञान) का यही पहला कदम खुदा की मारिफत (ईश्वरीय ज्ञान, ईश्वर को जानने पहचानने की विधि) तक हमें जरूर ले जायेगा।

इंसान अपने आपको जान लेने से बढ़कर महत्वपूर्ण कोई और बात नहीं हो सकती। खुद को जान लेना या खुद की मारिफत करने की अहमियत बताते हुए पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के पहिले उत्तराधिकारी इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब (अ.) फर्माते हैं कि, "मारिफत की इतेहा (अनुभवजन्य ज्ञान की हद) यह है कि इंसान अपने आप को पहचान लें।" (हैदरी कुतुबखाना, मुंबई द्वारा प्रकाशित उर्दू पुस्तक तजल्लियाते हिकमत, बाब मारिफत 196, हदीस क्रमांक 12, पुष्ट क्रमांक 447)।

—डॉ. मोहम्मदशकील ताजमोहम्मद जाफरी (शकील मंवर), मंवर, पुणे (महाराष्ट्र) भारत

Gangaputra Mahasabha participated in support of the state Bandh



Hyderabad, October:18, Metroudayam

Today, during the state bandh for the reservation of BCs, Gangaputra Mahasabha supported the Bandh in Hyderabad Bagalingampally to make it successful. On this occasion, prominent people asked for 42% reservation for BCs to be legally provided and implemented in all sectors. All BCs should join hands and protest, he said. Prasad R.Suresh, Dayananda, Pallerla Shankar, Ramesh, Srinivas, E. Sudarshan, Srisailam, Raju, Rajesh, and others were participated,

RUSHING! RUSHING!

Rushing to office!
Rushing to market!
Rushing to movie!
Rushing to tour!
Rushing for everything!

Why dont rush for casting Vote!
Knowing well it is mandatory!
Primary social responsibility!
Constitutional fundamental right!
To erect pillar of democracy!

What ever work you have!
Where ever your presence needful!
Which ever task to fulfill!
Whom ever you want to meet!



Keep them all aside!

Vote is a precious one!
Vote a safety to future!
Neither buy nor sell!
Take not EVM easy!
Mind that "E: Evolution, V: Valuable,M:Message!

In precise:
A Vote is Valuable message for evolution
Hence rush soon to cast your Vote.

Composed by:
B. Satyanarayana Rao,
(Ba. Sa. Raa)
Vijayawada.

UDAYAM Poetry's



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Oh dear...

Your blood is a ton of Weight to Me
More than I am carrying
Million of vehicles

Sucking all of your blood,
I gathered at one place...
Every single day
Each one flows as bleeding

In front of my eyes
Your souls will be blown
Away like birds in the sky
All the postmortems which
I have seen
Never seen by any other Hospital walls

The ambulances would be
Mothers to you
Run fast as sun rays to save You while glittering with last Breathing
Giving a high sound for not
Across any vehicles
I run fast and reach
The gate of the hospital
Making a sound...
Not a single vehicle
Ill run in front of you.

From my mothers womb
In order to get out
Nine-month wait
Are you human?
Why again?
No one has the patience
Are they dead?



A helmet for the head,
Seat belt for the body,
In order to reach the Destination
Mom, Dad, Wife and Children
Remembering
Reduce speed
Its my responsibility to take You Home

With your indifference.
If youre going to die,
The whole of your family
Dont forget to kill!

Finally, if you dont ask,
Theres a question in your Mind...
"Where are the good roads? "

Youve got notes,
If youre selling votes,
Im going to lower the quality! !

Oh dear
On the road
Dont shed blood,
Next to the man
Donate blood...

- Venkatesh

Jayanti Mangala Kali Bhatdrakali Kapalini

Durga Kshama Shiva Dhatri Swaha Namostute
Meaning: Offering salutations to the goddess of victory, the bringer of auspiciousness, mother Kali, Goddess Durga, the goddess of forgiveness, hoping for the victory of good over evil, praying for all the good in your life with the blessings of Goddess Durga, wishing you all the success...



SUNDAY BOOK REVIEW

GROWING SHADOWS OF PRISON WALLS

Sudha Bharadwaj was born in America in 1961. Her mother was a well known academician in the U S who later joined the Delhi University as a faculty member in the Economics Department. Sudha was then 11 when they settled in Delhi. Later she did her PG course from the IIT Kanpur and taught for some time at DPS. Sudha has been a trade unionist for three decades and a human rights activist for 20 years in Chhattisgarh. But, alas, something unexpected happened in her life in 2018.

Sudha was arrested in August in connection with some violent incidents in Bhima Koregaon and was initially put in Yerawada Jail in Pune and later in a jail in Mumbai. In all Sudha spent about three years in jails before being released on bail in 2021.

During her incarceration in the Phansi Yard (Death row Yard) at Yerawada, She jotted down in note books all her thoughts, feelings, views about her life in prison, about living conditions there and the views and thoughts of many women prisoners. She shares with us all those experiences in her book titled, FROM PHANSI YARD.

According to the author, on her first day in prison, Sudha was put to a great amount of humiliation. The staff, as a matter of routine, took away her bag of belongings, removed her clothes and checked every inch of her body, before giving her the jail dress. That night Sudha slept rough on the cold stone floor. As she missed out her supper, her old friend Professor Shoma

Sen, who was in the adjacent cell, sent some portion of her food to Sudha.

What makes the core of her writing is the snippets of her interactions with other women prisoners, of her sharp observations about the jail conditions, the attitude of jail staff.

One young woman was under going punishment on the charges of helping her sister in killing their daughter-in-law. According to the author, many women from Nepal and Bangladesh were doing their time under the PITA. Women caught human trafficking would habitually come in and go out on bail, while some unfortunate ones remained within the confinement even after getting bail for not able to provide security!

Though about 350 women of all walks of life and different social backgrounds are there, the author particularly feels for the poor, dalit, and muslim prisoners who are treated differently both by our legal system and police. About prisoners with mental disorders, the author says that even fellow prisoners give them personal care and attention and treat them gingerly.

The Phansi Yard is chiefly meant for those prisoners condemned to death or life imprisonment and undertrialers. Most of them are there for murdering husbands. Here the author tells us

about the shocking case of a lawyer mother and her doctor daughter butchering together a doctor who had two-timed for an affair with both of them! Initially they were handed down the death sentence but later converted into life. The author wonders why in such cases men get away killing women for adultery, but women are punished for doing away infidel husbands!

One well educated muslim woman along with her younger sister was in YERAWADA. When the young woman and her boyfriend planned to honeystap a rich senior citizen, he turned them to police in a smart way. But, alas, when the MBA studied working sister went to the police station to speak for her sister, she was implicated in the case and both the sisters landed in YERAWADA. She became a friend of every prisoner with her words and deeds.

Show me one place that is above and free from caste, class, and community feelings. Sudha says that our jails are no exception. According to her, a jail is a place where everything apparently goes by rules and only rules. When the rich and the powerful grace the jail, rules fly out through the nearest window. Again when the jailer changes, in many cases rules and their implementation also change.

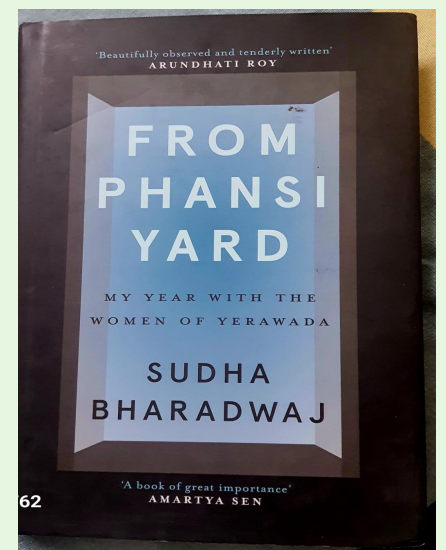
Children below the age of six are allowed to be in Yerawada, albeit

in separate barracks and mother prisoners will have an access to them only for a few hours daily. Prisoners and jail staff often shower love and care on children, give them special food and to those born in jail in particular and treat them with parties and gifts. Husbands and brothers and other relatives often come to jail as visitors and play with these children. What touches us is to know that these prisoners become mothers when it comes to take care of months babes.

Prisoners do different types of work in jail. They work in the kitchen, clean barracks, attend on the aged and disabled, do ward work in hospital, work in the jail Factory, do garden work or farm job in Open jail. Prisoners are paid for their work and labour and some of them earn as much as 2 thousand rupees in a month. According to the author, this work gives them solace, keeps them engaged to avoid painful thoughts, loneliness, and sorrow.

According to the author, these prisoners soon become friends and that bond gives them strength and hope. When they eke out any physical relationships, the jail staff steps in to punish them severely and separate them. When prisoners are freed or released, all the 350 prisoners give them a big round of applause often with tears.

The author also gives us a birds eye view of all other important and not so important aspects that go into a smooth running of a big prison like the Yerawada one. Another interesting feature of this book is



a list of slang and technical words used in jails appended at the end. She has a few words of praise and appreciation not only for the jail hospital staff but also for warders, and women constables as they often go out of the way to help the aged, pregnant prisoners, and children born and brought up in the shadows of a prison.

You must read this book for two simple reasons. First, all the 77 numbered small accounts make up one long story of discrimination, deprivation, despair, and destiny in that order. Second, the three precious years of doing time by a selfless, highly educated woman bears a testimony to the bitter truth that JUSTICE IN INDIA IS OFTEN DENIED TO MANY INNOCENT PEOPLE AND INJUSTICE IS USED AS A WEAPON BY THE STATE!

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A Celebration of Light, Love, and Triumph

Deepavali, also known as Diwali, is one of the most significant and widely celebrated festivals in India and around the world. It is a five-day festival that honors the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. The festival is deeply rooted in Hindu mythology and is associated with various legends and traditions.

The origin of Deepavali can be traced back to ancient India, where it was celebrated as a harvest festival. Over time, the festival evolved and became associated with various mythological stories and legends. One of the most popular legends is the return of Lord Rama, the seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu, to Ayodhya after a 14-year exile. The people of Ayodhya welcomed Rama with diyas (earthen lamps), fireworks, and festivities, which marked the beginning of Deepavali celebrations.

Another legend associated with Deepavali is the victory of Lord Krishna over the demon king Narakasura. According to mythology, Narakasura was a powerful king who had become a tyrant and was terrorizing the people. Lord Krishna, along with his wife Satyabhama, killed Narakasura and freed the people from his tyranny. The people celebrated this victory by lighting diyas and bursting firecrackers.

Deepavali preparations begin weeks in advance, with people cleaning and decorating their homes, offices, and public spaces. The festival is celebrated over five days, each day having its own significance and traditions.

Day 1: Dhanteras - The first day of Deepavali is dedicated to

the worship of Lord Dhanvantari, the god of health and medicine. People buy new utensils, gold, and silver on this day, which is considered auspicious.

Day 2: Naraka Chaturdashi, The second day is associated with the victory of Lord Krishna over Narakasura. People take early morning baths, wear new clothes, and light diyas to commemorate this victory.

Day 3: Lakshmi Puja, The third day is the most important day of Deepavali, when people worship Goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity. They light diyas, burst firecrackers, and offer prayers to Lakshmi.

Day 4: Govardhan Puja, The fourth day is dedicated to the worship of Lord Krishna and the Govardhan mountain. People create small hillocks out of cow dung and decorate them with flowers and leaves.

Day 5: Bhai Dooj, The fifth and final day is celebrated as Bhai Dooj, which honors the bond between brothers and sisters. Sisters apply tilak on their brothers' foreheads and pray for their well-being.

Deepavali is a time for family reunions, gift-giving, and feasting. People exchange gifts, especially sweets and dry fruits, with their loved ones. They also decorate their homes with diyas, candles, and lights, creating a warm and welcoming ambiance.

Fireworks and firecrackers are an integral part of Deepavali celebrations, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness. However, in recent years, there has been a growing awareness about the environmental and



health hazards associated with firecrackers, leading to a shift towards eco-friendly celebrations.

Deepavali is a festival that transcends religious and cultural boundaries. It is celebrated by people of various faiths and communities in India and around the world. The festival promotes values such as love, compassion, and unity, and is a time for people to come together and strengthen their bonds.

Deepavali has also become a significant cultural event, with various cultural programs, dance performances, and music concerts being organized across the country. The festival is a celebration of India's rich cultural heritage and diversity.

Deepavali is a significant economic event, with people spending money on gifts, decorations, clothing, and food. The festival boosts the economy, especially in the retail and manufacturing sectors. It also provides an opportunity for small businesses and entrepreneurs to promote their products and services.

According to a survey, the Deepavali festival generates around ₹1.5 lakh crore (\$20 billion) in revenue, making it one of the largest economic events in

India.

Deepavali celebrations have raised concerns about environmental pollution and health hazards. The bursting of firecrackers releases harmful pollutants into the air, contributing to air pollution and respiratory problems. The use of non-biodegradable materials and plastics also adds to waste management issues.

To address these concerns, many people are opting for eco-friendly Deepavali celebrations, using diyas, candles, and LED lights instead of firecrackers. They are also choosing sustainable and biodegradable materials for decorations and gifts.

Deepavali is celebrated with varying traditions and customs across different regions in India.

North India: In North India, Deepavali is celebrated with great fervor, with people lighting diyas, bursting firecrackers, and worshipping Goddess Lakshmi.

South India: In South India, Deepavali is celebrated as a four-day festival, with people worshipping Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Ganesha.

East India: In East India, Deepavali is celebrated with the worship of Goddess Kali and Lord Krishna.

West India: In West India, Deepavali is celebrated with the worship of Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Ganesha.

Deepavali is celebrated by Indian communities around the world, including in countries such as: Deepavali is celebrated as Tihar, a five-day festival honoring various animals and deities.

Sri Lanka: Deepavali is cel-

ebrated as a three-day festival, with people lighting oil lamps and worshipping Goddess Lakshmi.

Mauritius: Deepavali is a public holiday, with people celebrating with fireworks, music, and dance performances.

Singapore: Deepavali is celebrated with cultural programs, food festivals, and light displays.

Deepavali is a festival that celebrates the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. It is a time for family reunions, gift-giving, and feasting, and promotes values such as love, compassion, and unity. While the festival has significant cultural and economic importance, it also raises environmental concerns that need to be addressed.

As we celebrate Deepavali, let us strive to make it a more sustainable and eco-friendly festival. Let us spread love, kindness, and compassion, and work towards creating a brighter and more harmonious world.

RATHOD LATHA, (S.G.TEACHER)
MPUPS ADA DASNAPUR.



Rajaka Professions Association organized a rally during the state bandh

Fight against the central government that is obstructing the implementation of BC reservations

Pylla Ashaiah

Hyderabad, October:18, Metroudayam

The Telangana Rajaka Professions Association organized a protest demonstration near Sundarayya Park, Hyderabad, against the state bandh against the central BJP governments policy that is obstructing the implementation of 42% BC reservations. On this occasion, Telangana Rajaka Professions Association State General Secretary Filela Ashaiah said that the 42 percent BC reservations have not been implemented due to the central governments stubborn stance and the main mastermind behind this is the conspiracy and conspiracy of the central BJP government. He said that



the BJP has been conspiring from the beginning to prevent reservations for the backward classes, and the way BJP is acting against reservations, from the Mandal Commission to today's 42 percent BC reservations in Telangana, has been proven once again. Today, all political parties, BC associations and various professional associations across the state congratulated all of them for making the BC reservation a success.

On this occasion, he called on the central government to include BC reservations in the 9th schedule, organize a meeting with all parties, parties and public associations, and take this movement to the village level. Later, the Telangana Rajaka Vrutthidahar Sangam%µs 25th anniversary

meeting held at the Shoaib Hall of the Sundarayya Vignana Kendram, was presided over by the state president Edunuri Madar. Speaking as the chief guest, former Legislative Council member Cherupalli Seetharamulu congratulated the Telangana Rajaka Vrutthidahar Sangam for carrying out many struggles and achieving many results. Even today, the majority of the rajakas in rural and urban areas are living on caste professions, they said, and they are still severely backward economically, socially and politically. Therefore, they demanded that the governments allocate adequate funds for their welfare. State Secretary Payla Ashaiah said that the government should enact a special protection law for the rajakas, allocate funds for modern dhobi gats, provide title deeds for the rajakas professional places, establish a pension scheme, and classify reservations in local

bodies into A, B, C, and D. Addressing the program, State Convener of the Handicrafts Time Committee M.V. Ramana said that among the handicrafts and service professions, the rajakas are the main ones and urged the government to take special measures for their welfare and social security. The leaders of the public associations who attended this anniversary meeting included MD Abbas Awaaz State Secretary, R Venkat Ramulu State Secretary of the Agricultural Workers Association, T Skylab Babu State Secretary of KVPS, R Sriram Nayak State Secretary of the Tribal Association, Anaganti Venkatesh State Secretary of DYFI, Kota Ramesh State President of DYFI, Udutha Ravinder State Secretary of GMPS, Gummadi Raju Nagaraju, M Balakrishna, C Mallesh, Jyoti Upender, CH Venkata Swamy, Subhadramma and others.

42% reservation for BCs should be implemented: Manda Dilip



Jangaon, October 18, Metroudayam:

On the call of Telangana Raajyaadhikaara Party founder president MLC Teenmar Mallanna, TRP district leaders led by Manda Dileep extended their support to the shutdown of government and private educational institutions aimed at achieving 42% reservation for BCs. Manda Dileep said that the Telangana Bandh was successful by voluntarily closing the government and private educational institutions in Jangaon town with the aim of achieving 42% reservation for BCs as part of the Telangana State Bandh. Among those present on the occasion were Jittaboina Naresh, MD Sirauddin, Mallesham, Bonkuri Ramesh, Nakka Yakaiah and others participated

World Mental Health Day activities by Psychologist Likitha Vijay



Jangaon, October 18, Metroudayam:

On the occasion of World Mental Health Day Activities 2025, Psychologist Ms. Likitha Vijay conducted an engaging awareness program at Mahatma Jyotibha Phule School, Jangaon. The session aimed to promote mental well-being among students and staff, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a healthy balance in today's fast-paced digital era. During the program, Ms. Likitha discussed crucial topics such as digital detoxification, stress management, exam pressure, concentration issues, anxiety, and mental health care. She also spoke about the ill effects of tobacco and substance use, highlighting the need for collective efforts toward their eradication. The interactive session helped students understand practical ways to cope with academic pressure and emotional challenges while maintaining focus and a positive mindset. In the programme students, teaching staff, and the school principal, Mr. Srinivas, who appreciated the initiative and encouraged everyone to prioritize mental health as part of daily life. The event concluded with an open discussion, allowing students to share their experiences and seek guidance, fostering a culture of openness and emo-

42% BC reservations must implement by central: AMC Chairman Banuka Shivaraj Yadav

Jangaon, October 18, Metroudayam:

The central government must immediately implement the 42% percent reservation for BCs in the state.

On the directions of Congress president and constituency in-charge Kommuri Prathap Reddy, the Congress party in Jangaon district organised a bike rally and human chain in protest against the state governments decision to give 42 per cent reservation to BCs.

Speaking on the occasion, Janagama Agriculture Market Committee Chairman, Banuka Shivaraj Yadav said that during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, we came to know



that the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Shri Rahul Gandhi had decided to provide 42% reservation to the BCs. Why did the Narendra

Modi government at the Centre not pass the BC Bill in the Rajya Sabha or the Lok Sabha?

They have warned that if the central government does not implement 42 per cent BC reservation soon, otherwise all parties can be unity and bond the central government. In this congress party leaders town president chenharapu Buchireddy, AMC director Botla Narsigarao, Ex councillor Meda Srinivas, Botla Srinivas, district congress leaders chenharapu K a r u n a k a r Reddy, Mallesh, Saadam J a m p a n n a, P a t h i N a r e n d e r, R a g h u goud, Raju, Prabhakar and others participated

AMRIT SAMVAAD ORGANISED AT RAYAGADA AND DUVVADA RAILWAY STATIONS TO STRENGTHEN PASSENGER CONNECT



Waltair Division Continues its Outreach Under Amrit Kaal Initiatives

As part of the Indian Railways ongoing commitment to inclusive development and passenger engagement, Amrit Samvaad—an interactive passenger feedback and outreach initiative—was conducted today at Rayagada and Duvvada railway stations of Waltair Division. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from passengers, repre-

sentatives of various associations, and senior railway officials, highlighting the growing momentum of citizen involvement under the Amrit Kaal vision of a developed India. At Duvvada, Shri Naveen Raju, Senior Divisional Engineer (South), led the session with passengers, emphasizing the importance of the Prime Ministers Panch Pran vision and urging citizens to play a proactive role in nation-building. He reiterated that Amrit Samvaad serves as a dynamic platform to



upgrade station amenities and introduce meaningful passenger-centric improvements. He interacted with participants and reaffirmed the Divisions dedication to responsive and responsible railway services. At Rayagada, the session was spearheaded by Shri M.V. Ramana, Senior Divisional Engineer (North), who highlighted Amrit Samvaad as a crucial bridge for strengthening communication between the Railways and its valued passengers. He encouraged attendees to

share constructive feedback, stressing that both commendations and suggestions drive continuous service enhancement. Passengers at both stations actively shared feedback on various aspects, including on quality food, Lifts & Escalators on all platforms, additional platforms, Free toilet facilities and Parking place with shelters. Senior officers took note of these valuable suggestions and assured suitable follow-up actions to ensure improved passenger experience.