



CM Chandrababu participate centenary celebrations of Sri Sathya Sai Baba, recalls his experiences

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu honoured the centenary celebrations of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, describing him as the divine embodiment of love, service, peace, and solutions to humanity's problems. Speaking at the event, Naidu highlighted Baba's teachings: "Love all, serve all, help ever, hurt never," which he credited as a guiding path for many. The CM reflected on how Sri Sathya Sai Baba promoted universal peace, prosperity, and the happiness of all people. "We gather today in this holy land where Bhagwan walked," he stated, recalling Baba's lessons that human service equates to service to God. Naidu also noted Baba's ability to inspire even atheists towards spirituality,



emphasising the transformative impact he had across different regions and cultures. During his address, Naidu reminisced about his personal experiences with Baba and how they had discussed various programmes of the Sathya Sai Trust. He highlighted that the trust provides free, values-based education from primary to higher education, current-

ly catering to around 60,000 students across 102 Sathya Sai Vidyalyayas. Additionally, the Chief Minister mentioned the health initiatives enabled by Baba's teachings, such as super speciality and general hospitals, along with mobile health services. He recalled a significant project aimed at supplying drinking water to the people of

Rayalaseema, which garnered extensive donations from devotees, enabling water supply to over 30 lakh people across 1,600 villages in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu. Naidu also noted that Rs. 250 crore had been allocated for the Chennai Drinking Water Modernisation Scheme. He stressed the importance of passing down Baba's spirit and teachings to future generations. The centenary celebrations were marked by the attendance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who unveiled a commemorative coin valued at Rs. 100, in honour of Baba's birth anniversary, alongside the release of special postage stamps depicting Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

498 temples across state to get Rs 603 cr facelift



Nellore: Endowments minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy announced that 498 temples across the state will be developed at a cost of Rs 603 crore. Addressing a press conference after reviewing the condition of temples in Nellore district on Tuesday, he said the government's aim is to transform temples into spiritual centres. Ramanarayana Reddy said Nellore district will receive Rs 118.54 crore for developing 58 temples. He pointed out that in the last 15 years, only Rs 234 crore was allocated for temple development. Nellore: Endowments minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy announced that 498 temples across the state will be developed at a cost of Rs 603 crore. Addressing a press conference after reviewing the condition of temples in Nellore district on Tuesday, he said the government's aim is to transform temples into spiritual centres. Ramanarayana Reddy said Nellore district will receive Rs 118.54 crore for developing 58 temples. He pointed out that in the last 15 years, only Rs 234 crore was allocated for temple development.

Bengal CM Banerjee slams EC over suicide of BLO allegedly over SIR work pressure

Kolkata: Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday lambasted the Election Commission over the suicide of a female Booth Level Officer (BLO) in West Bengal, allegedly due to the workload of the Special Intensive Revision



(SIR) exercise. Using her social media handles, CM Banerjee claimed that about 28 people have died in the state since the Election Commission began the SIR of Bengal's electoral rolls. Deeply shocked and saddened. Today again, we lost a Booth Level Officer in Mal, Jalpaiguri — an anganwadi worker who took her own life under the unbearable pressure of the ongoing SIR work. 28 people have already lost their lives since SIR began — some due to fear and uncertainty, others due to stress and overload," said CM Banerjee. The West Bengal Chief Minister also asked the Election Commission to halt this "unplanned drive" to save lives in the state. "Such precious lives are being lost because of the unplanned, relentless workload imposed by the so-called Election Commission of India. A process that earlier took 3 years is now being forced into 2 months on the eve of elections to please political masters, putting inhuman pressure on BLOs. I urge the ECI to act with conscience and immediately halt this unplanned drive before more lives are lost," added CM Banerjee. The strong reaction from Mamata Banerjee came hours after a female BLO died by suicide due to alleged work pressure during the SIR exercise in the state. The incident took place in Mal Bazar area in Jalpaiguri district of north Bengal. The family of the woman alleged that she decided to end her life as she could not bear the pressure of SIR work. According to the police, the deceased has been identified as Shantimani Ekka. She is a resident of Rangamati Panchayat in Mal Bazar. She was recently given the responsibility of the SIR work. Being a BLO, she was going door-to-door to distribute enumeration forms and receive the filled up forms. Earlier this month, a female BLO died of brain stroke due to work pressure. The incident took place at Memari in East Burdwan district. The deceased was identified as Namita Hansda. She was an Anganwadi worker by profession. She was working as a BLO of booth number 278 of Chowk Balrampur in Memari. She suffered a brain stroke following a tiring day of door-to-door visits to distribute enumeration forms.

Telangana Chief Minister Launches Indiramma Saree Distribution for One Crore Women

Telangana's Chief Minister, Revanth Reddy, announced an ambitious plan to distribute one crore Indiramma sarees to eligible women across the state. During the inauguration of this initiative on Wednesday, he emphasised the significance of the sarees being distributed to honour the contributions of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Reddy highlighted Gandhi's leadership during critical moments in India's history, recalling her role in nationalising banks and implementing the Agricultural Land Ceiling Act, which benefitted the poor. He commended Gandhi as a heroic figure who provided strong leadership during the war with Pakistan. The Chief Minister outlined his gov-



ernment's commitment to women's welfare and economic upliftment, revealing that Indiramma houses will be allocated in the names of girls and that women will be made owners of up to a thousand buses within the state

transport corporation. Moreover, he expressed ambition to turn one crore girls into millionaires through various initiatives.

The saree distribution programme coincides with Indiramma Jayanti, with plans to distribute 65 lakh sarees in the first phase to women in rural areas until December 9. Urban distribution is set to take place from March 1 to 8, coinciding with International Women's Day. Reddy reassured attendees that every girl child would receive a saree and encouraged women leaders and officials to don the Indiramma saree as symbols of dignity and empowerment for young girls.

Drop guns: Bandi Sanjay's final ultimatum to Maoists

Hyderabad/Vemulawada: Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar made it clear that Maoism will be eradicated by March 2026 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. He warned Maoists not to be deceived by "urban Naxals" who, he alleged, live luxuriously in cities while poor tribals and villagers suffer in forests with guns and no food. The Union Minister reiterated that Maoists have "only four months" to surrender and join mainstream society. "Drop your guns immediately and join the people's life stream. By March 2026, Maoism will be eliminated. Amit Shah is a leader who keeps his word," he declared. "You have four months left to drop the guns and join main mainstream," he said. Calling "Urban Naxals are traitors," while speaking to the media on Tuesday, after inaugurating medical equipment at the Vemulawada Area Hospital, Bandi Sanjay accused urban Naxals of exploiting the poor. "Urban Naxals are making Jalsa (merry) in cities, accumulating assets, and enjoying luxuries while innocent people who believe their words are roam-

ing in forests with guns, starving, and losing their lives. They say one thing and do another. Don't be deceived," he said. Appealing directly to the Maoists, the Union Minister emphasised that the central government is offering Maoists an opportunity to surrender and reintegrate. "There is no point in holding guns and talking. Trust the ballot, not the bullet. If you trust the ballot, you can come to power. If you trust the bullet, you will only take lives," he said. He accused Maoist leader Hidma and his associates of misleading youth, including girls, into abandoning education and joining armed struggle. "What have you achieved with the gun except killing Dalits, tribals, policemen, and BJP leaders? You too have become victims," he said, urging Maoists to abandon violence. Earlier in the day, Bandi Sanjay handed over medical equipment worth Rs 1.5 crore to the Vemulawada Area Hospital in Sircilla district. The equipment, including ultrasound and ECG machines, was procured with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds from the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC). Accompanied by District Collector



Garima Agarwal and medical officials, the Minister inspected the hospital facilities, interacted with patients, and assured full support for improving healthcare services. He said similar equipment worth Rs 5 crore has been provided to hospitals in Huzurabad, Husnabad, and Jammikunta. "The central government is allocating large funds under the National Health Mission. Government hospitals must provide quality services to the poor, especially when private hospitals are unaffordable," he said. Bandi Sanjay also appealed to young doctors to apply for the 89 medical posts recently notified by the Collector. "If you want your education to be meaningful and your parents' debts to be repaid, serve the poor in government hospitals. Vemulawada is close to Karimnagar.

Dr. Sanjeev Srivastava Kumar Meets His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Dharamshala, India November 19? In a moment of deep spiritual significance, Dr. Sanjeev Srivastava had the honor of meeting His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. The encounter, filled with warmth and wisdom, left Dr. Srivastava profoundly inspired.



Reflecting on the meeting, Dr. Srivastava shared: His words on compassion, peace, and purpose have filled me with renewed energy to serve through Nadi Jyotish - The Science of Time. Grateful for his divine blessings The visit took place in Dharamshala, where His Holiness currently resides, adding to the auspiciousness of the occasion.

75 Years of Leadership: A Grand Gathering in Dharamshala
On 17th November, more than 6,000 people assembled at the Main Tibetan Temple in Dharamshala to express their heartfelt gratitude to His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

The gathering commemorated a historic milestone — 75 years since His Holiness assumed the spiritual and temporal leadership of Tibet on 17th November 1950.

During the ceremony, His Holiness was presented with a Memento of Gratitude crafted from gold and silver, depicting A pair of hands supporting an open book

A lamp of wisdom illuminating its pages

This exquisitely symbolic offering was made as a gesture of profound appreciation for His Holiness's lifelong dedication, compassion, and boundless kindness.

—By Dr. Seshni Moodliar Rensburg
United Kingdom / India? Doctor, psychiatrist,
Writer, Poet & Cultural Commentator

Principal Satya Prasads services are commendable

School Director Naveen Nicholas felicitated and presented a certificate of appreciation.

Medipally November:19 (Metro udayam)

School Director Naveen Nicholas praised the services of L. Satya Prasad, the gazetted principal of Medipally Zilla Parishad High School in Peerzadiguda Municipal Corporation.

Recognizing Satya Prasads continuous efforts for the development of the school in various ways over the past seven years, State School Director Naveen Nicholas called him to his office and felicitated Satya Prasad and presented him with a certificate of appreciation. On this occasion, Principal Satya Prasad expressed his happiness. School teachers and many principals in the district congratulated Satya Prasad. Many principals and teachers expressed their special gratitude to the school director, saying that they are happy that the school director himself has initiated a new trend of recognizing and honoring the services of teachers. This will not only increase the self-esteem of teachers but will also help them work more responsibly.



Osmania Universitys UCA&SS Hosts Successful Induction Programme 2025 for M.A. First Year Students



Hyderabad, metro udayam November 19.... The University College of Arts and Social Sciences (UCA&SS), Osmania University, successfully conducted the Induction Programme 2025 for M.A. First Year students at Room No. 133, Arts College. The programme was designed to familiarize students with the academic environment, departmental activities, support systems, and overall objectives of the college, ensuring a smooth transition into their postgraduate studies. The programme was formally inaugurated by Prof. C. Kaseem, Principal*, who highlighted the rich history of Arts College and stressed the importance of regular attendance to benefit from faculty expertise, noting that such experience cannot be replaced by technology or artificial intelligence. He assured students that the administration is always approachable for any issues

or difficulties faced during their academic journey. Heads of various departments introduced their disciplines, outlining academic opportunities, departmental activities, and student support mechanisms available across the college.

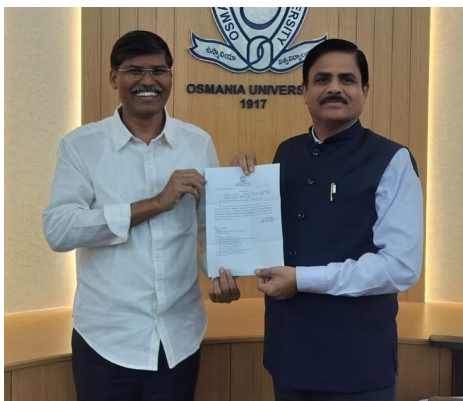
The event featured distinguished guests who addressed and inspired the newly admitted students. Sri Ch. Venugopal Reddy Guest of Honour and alumnus of M.A. Philosophy, shared his memorable journey at Arts College, encouraging students to cultivate dedication, perseverance, and self-confidence, and motivating them to become successful entrepreneurs.

Sri Akunuri Murali, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson of the Telangana Education Commission and Chief Guest, delivered an impactful address on setting higher aspirations and striving fearlessly toward

ones goals. He reminded students that success is attainable for everyone, regardless of background, and emphasized the responsibility of todays youth in shaping the nations future.

Key faculty members present included Dr. Konda Nageswar Rao (Vice-Principal, General), Dr. K. Balu Naik (Vice-Principal, Hostels & Mess), Prof. B. Sudhakar Reddy (Dean, Social Sciences)*, all Heads of Departments, Dr. P. Swathi (Academic Coordinator), Dr. C. S. Swathi (IQAC Coordinator), Mr. K. A. Samson (Deputy Registrar), and Mr. P. Lingareddy, among others. Over 400 M.A. first-year students participated in the programme. The induction programme successfully set a positive tone for the students postgraduate journey at Osmania University.

Osmania University Announces Key Leadership Appointments and Extensions



Hyderabad, metro udayam November 19 -- Osmania University (OU) today announced several key appointments and multiple tenure extensions for its academic and administrative leadership, demonstrating the universitys commitment to strengthening its research and academic pillars. The appointments and extensions were officially made by the Honble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kumar Molugaram. The Vice-Chancellor has made the following significant appointments: Prof. Hameeda Bee has been appointed to lead the Research Development and Consultancy Centre

(RDCC) as its Director. Prof. D. Karuna Sagar, Professor of Physics, has been appointed as the new Principal of the University College of Science, Saifabad. Additionally, Prof. Ch. Srinivas, also a Professor of Physics, has been appointed as the new Principal of Nizam College.

The tenure of several senior officers has also been extended by the Vice-Chancellor. Those receiving extensions include Prof. I. Sekhar, Principal, University College of Commerce & Business Management (UCC & BM); Prof. C. Kaseem, Principal, University

College of Arts & Social Sciences; Prof. Ram Prasad, Principal, University College of Law, OU; Prof. K. Shashikanth, Controller of Examinations, Exam Branch; and Prof. J. Upender, Nodal Officer & Statistical Cell, OU. All the new appointees and the officers whose terms were extended received their official orders from the Honble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kumar Molugaram, at a function held at the Osmania University Administration Office earlier today.

Pramod Ritvika Wins Best Child Artist Award in

Hyderabad, Metro udayam, November 19... Pramod Ritvika has won the Best Child Artist Award at the theatre competitions (Kshetriya Hindi Natak Pratiyogita) organized under the auspices of South Central Railway. The competitions were held over two days at the Railway Nilayam Auditorium in Secunderabad. Ritvika, who belongs to the Sitafalmandi Division, is currently studying in the 4th grade at Vaidik Vidyalay. On this occasion, railway officials and school teachers congratulated her on her achievement.

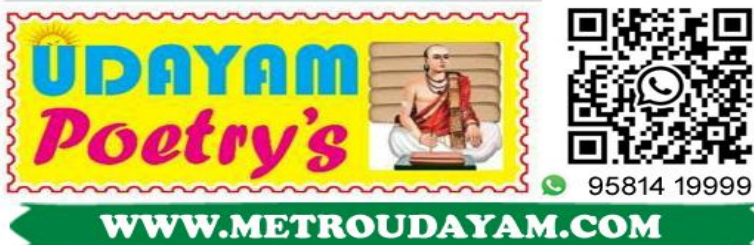
Former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhis 107th birth anniversary celebrated in Boduppal..

Medipally November:19 (Metro udayam)

On the occasion of the 107th birth anniversary of former Indian Prime Minister Late Indira Gandhi, floral tributes were paid to her statue in Indiranagar under Boduppal Municipal Corporation. Former Mayor of Boduppal Municipal Corporation Thotakura Ajay Yadav participated as the chief

guest in the program and celebrated by cutting a cake. Along with the former mayor, B Block General Secretary Kotha Kishore Goud, Boduppal Congress Party General Secretary Vishwam Gupta, former corporators, contested corporators, Congress party leaders, activists and others participated.





ईश्वर ने हमें बुद्धी भी दिया है ताकि सत्य और असत्य में, धर्म और अधर्म में अंतर कर सकें। और सत्य, धर्म के मार्ग पर चलकर जीवन को कामयाब बना सकें।... (शकील उवाचा -१३७)

सच ही कहते हैं लोग के यह दुनिया एक रंग मंच है। यहां हम सब वह कलाकार हैं जो हमको ईश्वर द्वारा दिए गए हमारे पात्रों को बखूबी निभाते हैं। जैसे रंगमंच पर परदा गिरते ही खेल खत्म होगा वैसे ही मृत्यु के आते ही हमारा भी खेल खत्म होने वाला है। जब खेल खत्म होते ही, रंग मंच पर परदा गिरते ही केवल प्रेक्षकों की तालियां और वाहवाही हमारे अभिनय के खूबियां और खामियां (श्रेष्ठता एवं निकृष्टता) के व्यतिरिक्त कुछ नहीं रहता वैसे ही हमारे अच्छे, बुरे कर्मों का प्रभाव और ईश्वर भक्ती के प्रतिफल के व्यतिरिक्त कुछ बचने वाला है ही नहीं है।

धर्म ने हमें आगाह कर रखा है के यह सांसारिक जीवन, यह भौतिक जगत तो केवल फरेब का साजो सामान याने धोखा और भ्रम का साधन मात्र है। इस दुनिया में कुछ सत्य है तो वह केवल हमारे द्वारा किए जानेवाली ईश्वर की सच्ची भक्ती और हमारे अच्छे, बुरे कर्मों के व्यतिरिक्त कुछ भी नहीं है। और याद रहे जो कोई इस दुनिया के धोखे से बचता है वही कामयाब होता है। और दुनिया के जगमगाहट में जो अंधा होता है वह सीधा नरक कूप में पड़ेगा।

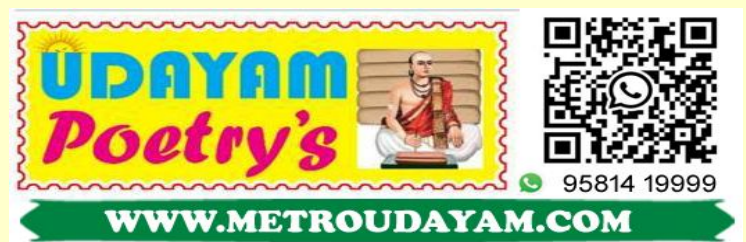
इस दुनिया में दो ही बातों को अहमियत है एक खुदा की इबादत (परमेश्वर की भक्ती), जिसके लिए ईश्वर ने हमें जन्म दिया है और दूसरा यह के हमारे कर्म और हमारा आचरण। इस दुनिया में कोई भी व्यक्ति ऐसा नहीं के जिसको उसकी कर्मों का प्रतिफल ना मिलता हो। इस दुनिया में ऐसा कोई व्यक्ति नहीं जो अपने आमाल की सजा और जजा (आचरण के लिए दण्ड एवं पुरस्कार) ना पाता हो। पवित्र कुरआन में आया है के, "हर एक व्यक्ति अपने आमाल (कर्मों के, आचरण) के बदले गिरवी है।" (पवित्र कुरआन, अध्याय क्रमांक 74, सुराह अल मुद्स्सिर, आयत क्रमांक 38)

हर आदमी को अपने कर्मों के प्रती जागरूक होना चाहिए। और इस दुनिया में होशियारी से बढ़ते रहना चाहिए। हमें ईश्वर ने आंखें भी दिया हैं ताके हम हक देख सकें। हमें ईश्वर ने कान भी दिया है हक सुन सकें। हमें ईश्वर ने जुबान और लब दिया है ताके हक बात कह सकें। ईश्वर ने हमें अक्ल (बुद्धी) भी दिया है ताकि हम सत्य और असत्य में, धर्म और अधर्म में अंतर कर सकें। और सत्य, धर्म के मार्ग पर चलकर अपने जीवन को कामयाब बना सकें। और बुद्धी का सही इस्तेमाल करके हम हमारे जीवन में सफलता पा सकें।

पवित्र कुरआन, अध्याय क्रमांक 90, सुराह अल बलद, आयत क्रमांक 08 से 10 में आया है के, क्या हमने उसे दोनों आंखें और जुबान और दोनों लब (औंठ) नहीं दिये? (जरूर दिये) और उसको (अच्छी, बुरी) दोनों राहें भी दिखा दीं। इसी तरह पवित्र कुरआन, अध्याय क्रमांक 76, सुराह अद दहर, आयत क्रमांक 02 और 03 कहा गया है के, "हम (ईश्वर) ने इंसान को मुखलूत नुतफे (वीर्य) से पैदा किया कि उसे आजमाएं (उसकी परीक्षा लें) तो हमने उसे सुनता, देखता बनाया। और उसको रास्ता भी दिखा दिया (अब वह) चाहे शुक्रगुजार (कृतज्ञ) बने या चाहे नाशुक्रा (कृतघ्न) बने।"

और जिन लोगों ने भलाई की इनके लिये भलाई है और जो लोगों ने बुराई की उनके लिये बुराई है। और आखेरत (परलोक) में भी इन अच्छे बुरे कर्मों की सजा और जजा (शिक्षा एवं पुरस्कार) मिलने वाली है। पवित्र कुरआन, अध्याय क्रमांक 16, सुराह अन नहल, आयत क्रमांक 29 और 30 में आया है के, "अहंकारीयों के लिए नरक के द्वार खोल दिए जाएंगे और परहेजगार (संयमी) लोगों को लिए दुनिया और परलोक में भलाई ही भलाई होगी।" अब हमारे हाथ में है के हम क्या पसंद करते हैं।

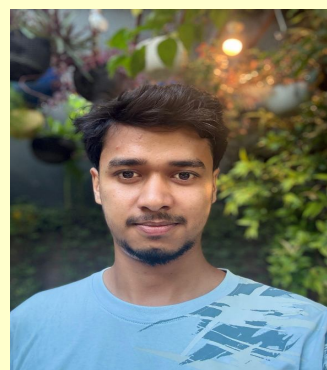
-डॉ. मोहम्मदशकील ताजमोहम्मद जाफरी (शकील मंवर), मंवर, पुणे (महाराष्ट्र) भारत



Countryside

I live in a village
Far from the rest of the
World
In childhood,
When I saw,
Smokes
Of Rocket in sky
I wonder above us
Lives our friend,
I used to wander in
Green fields

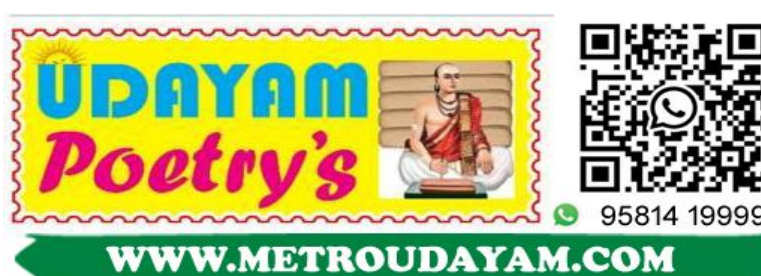
I loved to lose myself
In embrace of nature,
I often went to the
Graveyard,
Aside it there
Was a temple,
A unique place for us,
In Graveyard,
Muslims
Buried their
Loved ones,
In temple Hindus



Chant their prayers,
A soul gained
Salvation

On other side
Some praying
For salvation,
The amazing
Correlation,
Between two great
Civilizations

—Afzal Sajjad Zafir



Where is the GOD?

Ever since man down to
the earth!
Endless effort is going on!
Till no suitable solution
found!
Who is God? Where is
God?
A millian dollar question!

None dares to show the
God!
None believes Him unseen!
Its a struggle between faith
and unbelief!
HE never alights to prove!

How to solve the issue!
Some say creation gods
will and pleasure!
Science say its a natural
phenomena!
Whom to rely upon? Who
is correct?

One thing is certain,there
must be one creator!
Not question of name, stature!
May HE be omni present, omni
powerful, uncountable names!
Cause and effect theory certianly
applies!

Leave HIS existence, stature, name
and fame!
Cultivate humanism, kindness, equality!
HIS presence every where, in every one!
Service to man is service to God! Since
man is replica of GOD only!



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

CM Revanth Reddy, the great leader who made the dream of owning a house of the poor come true

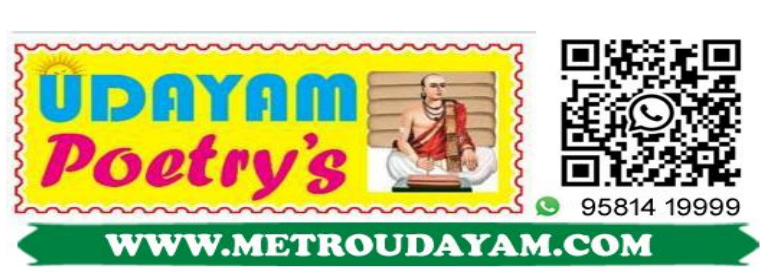
*Former Mayor Amar Singh in the distribution of Indramma housing pattas in Peerzadiguda



Medipally November:19 (Metro udayam)

Former Mayor Amar Singh and former Deputy Mayor Kurra Shivakumar Goud said that the Indramma Housing Scheme undertaken by the Telangana state government towards realizing the dream of owning a house of the poor is a great program. To this end, the former mayor and deputy mayor attended the Indramma housing patta distribution program at the Peerzadiguda Municipal Office on Wednesday and handed over the pattas to the eligible beneficiaries. On this occasion, they expressed special gratitude to Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, whose administration is based on public welfare as its paramount priority, on behalf of the people of Peerzadiguda.

His resolve to wipe the tears of the poor has come before us in the form of this Indramma Housing Scheme. By providing assistance of 5 lakhs to each family, the government is standing as a big strong backbone. He said that this great scheme will stand as a milestone in the history of Telangana. Indramma Committee chairpersons, committee members Former corporators Bodige Swathi Krishnagoud, Subash Nayak, former co-option members Imran, Hanuman Temple Director Paramesh, Congress senior leaders Bandari Ravinder, Pappula Anji Reddy, Yasaram Mahesh, Pasham Buchiyadav, Bodige Krishnagoud, Bandi Satish Goud and others participated in this program.



Temple

Sacred and divine,?the
temple calls.
We visit, as we were
taught from young?a rit-
ual woven into our
lives.?To offer flowers
and fruits,?to pray,?to
worship

We stand in long
queues?with a hundred
others,?all waiting,?all
hoping?for that one
moment of Darshan

Inside the temple,?the
divine is almost touch-
able
the incense smell in the
air,?the bells sounds,
?beautiful bhajans
?voices singing in
devotion



Prasadam warm and
sweet,?seva offered
with open hearts,?a
feeling of divine all
around

And when the visit
ends,?the longing
begins?for the next
visit,?for the next
moment?in the pres-
ence of the sacred

—Dr Seshni Moodliar Rensburg

Mark Wood fit to play as England name 12-man squad for Ashes opener



Perth: Mark Wood has been cleared to play and is likely to participate against Australia in the first Ashes Test on Friday. England have kept their options flexible by including off-spinner Shoaib Bashir alongside five fast bowlers as they named their 12-man squad on Wednesday for the opening game.

If England choose an all-pace bowling attack, consisting of four specialist fast bowlers plus all-rounder Ben Stokes, it would likely be the quickest group of bowlers they have fielded in an Ashes Test on this soil. The final selection probably comes down to off-spinner Bashir or seamer Brydon Carse.

Since the pitch is expected to provide pace and bounce, the visitors might as well continue with their traditional strategy of relying solely on a pace attack.

Tourists have also observed a dryness on the pitch, making Bashir a contender. In this venue's brief history of hosting five Tests, Australia off-spinner Nathan Lyon is the top wicket-taker with 29.

England have supported Bashir, 22, as their primary spinner for over a year and he became the youngest England bowler to score 50 in Tests back in May. However, he has not participated in a competitive match since his final wicket in a thrilling win against India during the third Test at Lord's in July.

Bashir has been sidelined with a broken finger and struggled in England's sole warm-up match against England Lions, where he finished with combined figures of 2-151 from 24 overs. The situation also increases the likelihood that Bashir will play in an Ashes Test without being tied to a county team, as his contract with Somerset ended after the summer.

Meanwhile, the most probable England lineup includes bowlers like Wood, Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, captain Stokes, and Carse, all of whom can bowl at speeds of 90mph.

England squad for first Ashes Test: Ben Duckett, Zak Crawley, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (captain), Jamie Smith (wk), Gus Atkinson, Brydon Carse, Mark Wood, Jofra Archer, Shoaib Bashir

Pramod Ritvika Wins Best Child Artist Award in Theatre Competitions



Hyderabad, Metro udayam, November 19... Pramod Ritvika has won the Best Child Artist Award at the theatre competitions (Kshetriya Hindi Natak Pratiyogita) organized under the auspices of South Central Railway. The competitions were held over two days at the Railway Nilayam Auditorium in Secunderabad. Ritvika, who belongs to the Sitafalmandi Division, is currently studying in the 4th grade at Vaidik Vidyalay. On this occasion, railway officials and school teachers congratulated her on her achievement.

Vishal wraps massive 17-day climax shoot for 'Makutam'



Puratchi Thalapaty Vishal's ambitious project Makutam has hit a major milestone, with the team officially completing its grand climax schedule. Marking Vishal's debut as a director, the film is being produced by Super Good Films as RB Choudary's 99th production, with the story written by Ravi Arasu. The makers revealed that the climax was shot over an intense 17-day stretch, running daily from 6 AM to 6 PM. Designed on the scale of a war sequence, the shoot brought together hundreds of stunt performers and nearly 800 technicians, making it one of the film's biggest production efforts. The team described the schedule as a blend of "raw emotions, visual spectacle, and high-voltage action," promising audiences a never-before-seen cinematic experience. With stunt choreography handled by Dilip Subbarayan, the action portions have reportedly been mounted with international-level precision. A newly released behind-the-scenes video further showcases the hard work poured into the sequence, highlighting Vishal's commitment both in front of and behind the camera, as well as the remarkable enthusiasm of the entire crew. Makutam also boasts strong technical support with music by GV Prakash Kumar, cinematography by Richard M Nathan, editing by NB Srikanth, and art direction by Durairaj. The film is now moving swiftly toward completion and is expected to gear up for a grand release soon.

Balakrishna pairs with Samyuktha Menon; age-gap debate reignites

The recurring discussion over the significant age gap between Tollywood heroes and their much younger heroines has resurfaced once again on social media. For years, senior stars such as Chiranjeevi, Balakrishna, Venkatesh, and Ravi Teja have been under scrutiny for being paired with actresses young enough to be their daughters. With commercial entertainers frequently showcasing such combinations, netizens have consistently voiced their concerns over what they consider "mis-casting."

The debate has intensified ahead of the release of the second single from Nandamuri Balakrishna's highly anticipated Akhanda

2. The makers recently unveiled a new poster featuring the 65-year-old actor alongside 30-year-old Samyuktha Menon, who appears in a glamorous avatar. The stark age difference between the lead pair has become a talking point once again, sparking mixed reactions online.

Several social media users, including fans of the actors, have expressed discomfort, arguing that such pairings feel unnatural and outdated. Critics point out that many of these actresses are closer in age to the heroes' children, urging filmmakers to break away from this long-standing tradition. Similar debates erupted previously when actors like



Chiranjeevi, Ravi Teja, and Venkatesh faced backlash over their on-screen pairings. Despite heated online criticism, the trend continues in mainstream cinema, primarily because the general audience beyond social media seems more focused on the entertain-

ment value than the age disparity. As long as the content works at the box office, filmmakers show little hesitation in proceeding with such casting choices. This isn't the first time Balakrishna has faced comments about romancing much younger actresses.

Mitchell replaces Rohit as top ranked men's ODI batter, Bumrah retains No 1 spot in Tests

New Delhi: New Zealand's Daryl Mitchell has replaced Rohit Sharma as the top-ranked batter in the latest update to the ICC Men's ODI rankings, while India pacer Jasprit Bumrah continues to hold the pole position in the Test bowlers rankings.

Mitchell has become the first New Zealand player since Glenn Turner in 1979 to be on top of the men's ODI batting rankings, following his match-winning century against the West Indies in the series opener. Before being ruled out of the series due to a groin injury, Mitchell hit a 118-ball 119, which earned him the Player of the Match award. That knock has lifted him past Afghanistan's Ibrahim Zadran and Rohit by a single rating point, ending the latter's brief 22-day reign at the summit of the rankings. While Turner was the last New Zealander to hold the number one spot 46 years ago, others such as Nathan Astle, Ross Taylor and Kane Williamson have climbed as high as third in the rankings.

Pakistan's Babar Azam, meanwhile, rose to sixth



place after hitting an unbeaten 102 against Sri Lanka in Rawalpindi, while his teammates Mohammad Rizwan and Fakhar Zaman have moved up to 22nd and 26th places respectively after scoring two half-centuries each in the series.

In terms of bowling, Pakistan leg-spinner Abrar Ahmed attains a career-best ninth position, after gaining 11 slots post picking a three-wicket haul in the second ODI against Sri Lanka. Pakistan pacer Haris Rauf has moved up five places to 23rd while the West Indies' Jayden Seales (up three places to 20th) and Roston Chase (up 12 places to 46th)

have also made moves in the rankings.

In terms of Tests, Bumrah has retained his position as the number one bowler in the Test rankings after claiming six wickets, including a five-wicket haul, in the opening Test against South Africa at Eden Gardens. His teammates Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja also made gains, with the former rising two places to a career-best 13th spot and the latter climbing four slots to be at 15th place.

Off-spinner Simon Harmer also made significant gains by rising 20 places to a career-best 24th following a match-winning

eight-wicket haul at the Eden Gardens. South Africa captain Temba Bavuma has climbed to a career-best fifth spot in the Test batting rankings after making an unbeaten 55 in the second innings of the low-scoring Kolkata Test.

Bangladesh captain Nazmul Hossain Shanto (up four places to 34th) and Mahmudul Hasan Joy (up 19 places to 74th) have made gains after their centuries led to the side securing an innings victory over Ireland in Sylhet. Ireland opener Paul Stirling has progressed from 96th to 80th position.

In the men's T20I Player Rankings, New Zealander Tim Robinson's knock of 45 in the final match against the West Indies has helped him move up eight places to a career-best 15th position. Seam bowler Jacob Duffy has moved up from third to second position, while Mitchell Santner (up five places to 18th) and Mohammad Nawaz (up four places to 27th) also made good progress in the men's T20I bowler rankings.

Nayanthara comes onboard for 'NBK111'

Nandamuri Balakrishna, riding high on consecutive blockbusters, is reuniting with director Gopichand Malineni for their next massive venture, #NBK111. Bankrolled by Venkata Satish Kilaru under the Vriddhi Cinemas banner, the film is being mounted on an impressive scale, promising a powerful blend of history, grandeur, and Balakrishna's

trademark screen presence. Marking a major casting highlight, Nayanthara has officially signed on as the leading lady. The announcement, made on the occasion of her birthday, has thrilled fans as this film marks her fourth collaboration with Balakrishna after Simha, Jai Simha, and Sri Rama Rajyam. Her role is said to be crucial to the narrative,

adding depth and elegance to the story's royal backdrop. The announcement video unveiled by the makers showcases a visually rich glimpse into the film's world, with director Gopichand Malineni introducing Nayanthara in a majestic sequence. The visuals hint at a grand historical canvas, featuring lavish sets, power-

ful imagery, and a never-seen-before scale in Malineni's filmography. For the first time, the director is venturing into the historical genre, bringing his mass storytelling style to an entirely new setting. With Balakrishna set to appear in a striking new avatar, the film promises intense action, high emotion, and cinematic spectacle.

