



## India's 'Reform Express' continues to gain momentum: PM Modi on GDP growth

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that India's "Reform Express" continues to gain momentum, as official figures showed that real GDP has been estimated to grow by 7.4 per cent in FY 2025-26 against the growth rate of 6.5 per cent during FY 2024-25.

According to the National Statistics Office (NSO), nominal GDP is estimated to grow at 8.0 per cent in FY2025-26. In an X post, PM Modi said: "This is powered by the NDA Government's comprehensive investment push and demand-led policies". "Be it infrastructure, manufacturing incentives, digital public goods or 'Ease of Doing Business', we are working to realise our dream of a prosperous India", the Prime Minister emphasised. The buoyant



growth in the services sector has been found to be a major driver with a robust growth of 9.9 per cent at constant prices in FY 2025-26 for financial services, real estate, professional services, and public administration.

Trade, hotels, transport, and communication & services related to the

broadcasting sector have been estimated to grow by 7.5 per cent, the official statement said. Manufacturing and construction in the secondary sector have been estimated to achieve a growth rate of 7 per cent, while the agriculture sector growth rate is estimated at 3.1 per cent. Real Private Final

Consumption Expenditure (PFCE) has been estimated to attain a growth rate of 7 per cent during FY 2025-26, backed by the income tax exemptions announced in the Budget for 20205-26 and subsequent GST rate cuts across goods and services. Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) has been estimated to have a 7.8 per cent growth rate at Constant Prices during FY 2025-26, compared to a 7.1 per cent growth rate in the previous FY. India's GDP growth had accelerated to a robust 8.2 per cent in the second quarter (July-September) of the current financial year compared to the corresponding figure of 5.6 per cent during the same quarter of FY 2024-25, according to figures released in November.

## Chandrababu Naidu Inspects Progress of Polavaram Project



Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu recently visited the Polavaram project to assess the ongoing construction work. During his visit, he sought detailed updates from officials regarding the status of the coffer dam and the ECRF Gap-1 and Gap-2 works. Prior to his ground inspection, the Chief Minister took an aerial tour of the project area. His visit was met with a warm reception from Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, several MLAs, and other public representatives, who welcomed him with enthusiasm.

## Centre invites suggestions from public on new Pesticides Bill



New Delhi: The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare on Wednesday invited suggestions from stakeholders and the general public for its new draft Pesticides Management Bill, 2025, which aims to ensure the supply of quality pesticides for farmers and decriminalise petty offences, thereby promoting ease of living as well as ease of doing business.

The fresh draft Pesticides Management Bill, 2025 prepared in alignment with current requirements. It is intended to replace the present Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Insecticides Rules, 1971, according to an official statement. The draft Pesticides Management Bill, 2025, is a farmer-centric legislation with several salient features. The revised Bill incorporates provisions such as transparency and traceability to ensure better services to farmers, thereby promoting ease of living. It includes reform-oriented measures, including the use of technology and digital methods for streamlining processes, along with stricter control over spurious pesticides through higher penalties.

Provisions have also been made for compounding of offences, with enhanced penalties to act as a deterrent, to be defined by State-level authorities. Further, amendments have been introduced to strengthen administrative control and management of pesticides, striking a balance between ease of life and ease of doing business. This bill also provides for mandatory accreditation of testing laboratories, ensuring that only quality pesticides are available to farmers. The Government has fixed February 4, 2026, as the last date for the submission of suggestions on the Bill. The government will take all the comments or suggestions into consideration while finalising the draft bill. However, these suggestions have to be received before the February 4 deadline in the fixed format, the statement added. As part of the pre-legislative consultation process, the draft Pesticides Management Bill, 2025 and the prescribed format are available on the Ministry's website: <https://agriwelfare.gov.in>. "Comments and suggestions on the draft bill and its provisions are invited from all stakeholders and the general public. The comments/suggestions may be sent by email to [pp1.pesticides\[at\]gov\[dot\]in](mailto:pp1.pesticides@gov[dot]in) [rajbir.yadava\[at\]gov\[dot\]in](mailto:rajbir.yadava[at]gov[dot]in) [jyoti.uttam\[at\]gov\[dot\]in](mailto:jyoti.uttam[at]gov[dot]in) in MS Word or PDF format as early as possible but latest by February 4, 2026," the statement said.

## Grand Kite and Sweet Festival will be celebrated grandly for Sankranti: Jupally Krishna Rao

Telangana Minister Jupally Krishna Rao has announced that the Sankranti festival will be celebrated with grandeur this year, emphasising the importance of preserving tradition and culture. To enhance state tourism, a series of special programmes have been organised, highlighting the upcoming 'Kite and Sweet Festival' set to take place at Parade Ground from January 13th to 17th. The festival will welcome participation from 40 international kite flyers representing 19 countries, along with kite enthusiasts from 15 Indian states. Additionally, stalls featuring sweets from various states will be established at the event, offering a taste of diverse regional delicacies. Minister Krishna Rao also shared that aviation clearance has been secured for a hot air balloon show,



scheduled for January 16th to 18th, with an online booking facility arranged for attendees. For those seeking outdoor recreation, golf courses will operate at Gachibowli Stadium during the day, while captivating drone

shows are planned for the Parade Ground at night. In a bid to protect the city's lakes, the kite festival will extend its activities to all local lakes, further promoting environmental awareness alongside the celebratory festivities.

## Axis Bank engaged over 995 schools across India to host SPLASH 2025 — its annual Art, Craft, and Literature competition

Guntur, 7th January 2026: Axis Bank, one of the largest private sector banks in India, successfully hosted SPLASH 2025, the 13th edition of its annual art, craft and literature competition, engaging students from over 995 schools across the country. Inspired by Axis Bank's brand philosophy - dil se open, this year's edition witnessed enthusiastic participation from more than 2.66 lakh students on the theme 'Dreams', encouraging these young minds to unleash their imagination and creativity. In the southern region, the Bank conducted the competition across 308 schools in Hyderabad,



Bangalore, Guntur, Bagalkot, Vishakhapatnam, Cuddapah, and Nellore to name a few. Over 1.01 lakh students participated, submitting entries under two sub-themes: 'A Day in My Dream Life' for the 7-10 years age group, and 'The Future as I Dream It' for those aged 11-14

years. Aligned with the theme, Axis Bank also launched the 'AI Dream Generator', an interactive digital tool designed to help children bring their dreams to life. From flying cars and talking animals to building cities on the moon, children can enter their dreams and choose their

favourite medium—art, craft, or literature—to see their imagination come to life. The competition will culminate with six national winners and six national runners-up, who will be awarded ₹1 lakh and ₹50,000 each, respectively. They will also have the opportunity to attend a special Art and Craft Workshop at Tashkeel, Dubai. The artwork of these winners will be showcased at the Museum of Art and Photography (MAP), Bengaluru. Additionally, the top 400 qualifiers will receive exciting goodies and vouchers from partner brands like Ixigo and American Tourister.

## South Central Railway Stenographers' Association Holds Annual General Body Meeting



Hyderabad, metro udayam, January 7:

The South Central Railway Stenographers' Association (SCRSA) held its Annual General Body (AGB) Meeting on Wednesday at the Railway Sports Complex (RSC), Secunderabad, marking a historic and commemorative gathering. The meeting was organized to honour Sir Isaac Pitman (04-01-1813 to 22-01-1897), revered as the "God of Stenographers", whose contributions laid the foundation for modern shorthand systems. Dr. M. Raghavaiah, General Secretary of NFIR and SCRES, attended the event as the Chief Guest. The General Body Meeting was conducted under the leadership of Sri T. Anil Kumar, Zonal President, and Sri J. Ramakrishna, Zonal Secretary of the Association. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Raghavaiah lauded the dedication and professional commitment of stenographers in South Central Railway and acknowledged their vital role in the efficient functioning of the organisation. As part of the programme, seven retired stalwarts of South Central Railway stenographers were felicitated with "Lifetime Achievement Award" mementos and certificates in recognition of their decades-long, selfless service and relentless efforts towards the welfare and upliftment of the stenographers' community. The event witnessed active participation from members across zones and concluded with a renewed commitment to safeguard the rights, dignity, and professional growth of stenographers within South Central Railway.

## Queenie Victoria appointed as AIPC State Deputy In-Charge.



Kadthal, January 7, (Metro udayam) :

International open water swimmer Dr. Gandham Queenie Victoria has been newly appointed to the All India Professional Congress Committee (AIPC). Originally from Amangal town in Rangareddy district, she currently resides in Barkatpura. Four new members have been given opportunities in the AIPC from Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Rajasthan. Queenie Victoria has been appointed as the Deputy State Head from Telangana. She received the appointment orders from AIPC National Sports President Smith Singh on Wednesday. Following her appointment as State Deputy In-Charge, Queenie Victoria paid a courtesy visit to Telangana State Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy and Telangana AIPC President Aditya Reddy. On this occasion, they felicitated and congratulated Queenie Victoria. She expressed her special gratitude to the committee for appointing her as the AIPC Deputy Head from Telangana state, showing their trust in her.



## 2 BHK Colony Presidents submit a memorandum to the DCC President on various issues...

Jawaharnagar  
January:07 (Metro  
udayam)

The newly appointed DCC President of Medchal-Malkajgiri district, Thotakura Vajresh Yadav, visited the KCR 2 BHK Colony. Under the leadership of Colony Chairman Sampath Kumar, and in the presence of various block presidents, a memorandum detailing the numerous problems plaguing the colony was submitted to him.

On this occasion, Sampath Kumar stated that although they have government-provided houses, the colony faces many problems. He mentioned the lack of proper road and transportation facilities, the drinking water problem, and the foul odor emanating from the STP pump house, which is causing severe



difficulties for residents of some blocks.

He also expressed concern that the security situation in the colony has become alarming, with women, in particular, feeling unsafe. He stated that some people from surrounding areas are coming to the colony, consuming drugs, and

behaving inappropriately. He further explained that there is serious injustice regarding electricity bills, with residents receiving bills ranging from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000, even though they only have fans and light bulbs in their homes. DCC President Thotakura Vajresh Yadav listened

attentively to the problems of the colony residents and assured them that he would speak with the concerned officials and work towards resolving the issues.

Govind Raj, Balaraju, Sudhakar Naik, Saleem, Javed, Naveen, Kumar, Hamid, and others participated in this program.

## Trying to solve the teacher's problems- Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar

Jangaon, January  
07, Metro udayam:

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar said that he will try to solve the problems of teachers. The Telangana United Teachers' Federation (TUTF) has released its annual calendar. TUTF State General Secretary Raghunandan Reddy submitted a memorandum containing the problems to State Finance Secretary P. Mogulaiah. Teachers who



were appointed before 2010 were asked to be exempted from passing TET. He also demanded

scrapping of GO No. 2, which has become a hurdle in the recruitment and promotion of SC and ST

teachers, payment of pending bills and implementation of health cards. Speaking on the occasion, the head of the legislature assured that he would do his best to solve the problems of teachers. It was followed by joint Secretary Jampala, Vikarabad District President P. Sathyanarayana Reddy, General secretary B. Sudharshan, State executives and others participated.

## DIVISIONAL RAILWAY MANAGER CONDUCTS INTENSIVE INSPECTION OF MAIN LINE FROM SIMHACHALAM NORTH TO CHIPURUPALLI



In a comprehensive drive to ensure smooth operations, enhanced safety, and infrastructure development, Divisional Railway Manager, Waltair Division, Shri Lalit Bohra, today conducted an intensive inspection of the main line stretching from Simhachalam North to Chipurupalli station. He was accompanied by Senior Officials of Waltair Division from various

departments. Shri Lalit Bohra commenced the inspection at the proposed site of the Rail Over Road (RoR) project near North Simhachalam. DRM's drive covered key stations including Simhachalam North, Pendurthi, Kottavalasa, Kantakapalli, Alamanda, Vizianagaram Yard, Nellimarla, Garividi, and Chipurupalli. At each location, he examined cir-



culating areas, yards, bridges, and critical safety installations, issuing on-spot directions to divisional teams for timely execution and quality compliance. He meticulously reviewed station amenities, staff facilities, safety and security measures, developmental activities, signaling systems, points & crossings, yard remodeling, LC gates and Foot Over Bridges (FOBs). Special emphasis

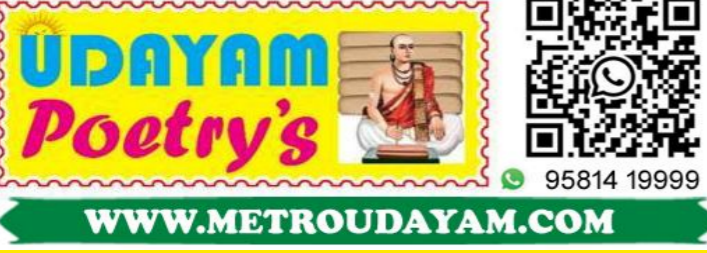
was placed on the progress of Amrit Bharat Station Scheme works, infrastructure upgrades, and new line constructions to strengthen passenger convenience and operational efficiency. He also inspected staff amenities with a detailed Running Room inspection. DRM Inspection of Garividi railway station Circulating area inspection at Vizianagaram

## second Phase of Land Pooling Commences in Amaravati

The second phase of land pooling has officially commenced in Amaravati, with Minister Narayana and local MLA Shraavan Kumar launching the initiative in Vaddemanu village within Thullur mandal. Officials are currently gathering consent letters from farmers regarding

the acquisition of their land. In an upcoming village meeting scheduled for this evening in Endroy village, part of Amaravati mandal, further discussions will take place. The government plans to acquire a total of 16,666.57 acres from farmers across seven villages located in Thullur and

Amaravati mandals. The land pooling process is underway specifically in the villages of Vaddemanu, Haris hchandra puram, and Pedaparimi in Thullur mandal, as well as Vaikunthapuram, Pedamadduru, Endroy, and Karlapudi in Amaravati mandal.



## Heart to Heart

Heart beats  
Sounds, feelings  
So palpable  
So precious

Our heart needs  
Attention,?Needs  
Love  
Fragile in  
Heartbreak  
Tender in grief

Be strong  
Take care  
Cultivate love  
Heart to heart  
Our heart asks  
For love  
Self-love  
Love from  
Others,?And the  
Courage to  
Give love



How precious,  
The single  
heart beats  
A sound, a guide  
A source of joy  
A well of feeling  
Love with all  
Your heart

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Rensburg

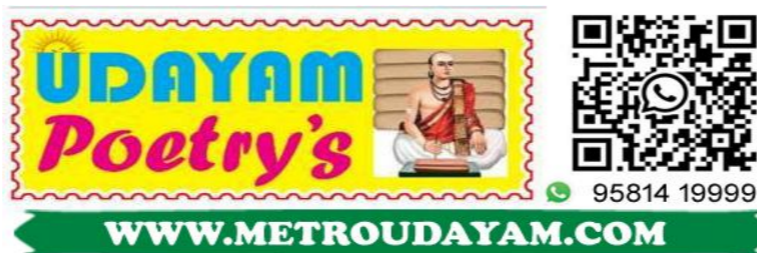
## Rashmika's Italy trip was all about love, laughter & a tummy filled with cheese



Actress Rashmika Mandanna ushered in the New Year with a joyful vacation in Italy, spending quality time with close friends and soaking in the breathtaking beauty of Amalfi. The actress, who had a successful year professionally, took to social media to give fans a glimpse into her memorable getaway in the scenic Campania region.

During the trip, Rashmika and her friends explored Amalfi, making the most of their time with laughter, sightseeing, and indulging in local treats. Sharing photos from the vacation on Instagram, the Pushpa and Animal actress described the experience as magical. She wrote that the sunshine, lemon trees, and stunning surroundings made the place unforgettable, while the days were filled with love, laughter, and generous helpings of cheese and tiramisu. In the pictures, Rashmika is seen sporting a relaxed look in a loose grey hoodie paired with black trousers, striking cute and goofy poses that reflected her cheerful mood. The candid moments quickly won hearts online, with fans praising her effortless charm.

Alongside her travel pictures, Rashmika also shared a heartfelt New Year message for 2026. Posting a warm photo of herself seated inside a vehicle, wearing a sweater and oversized black-framed glasses, she urged her fans to begin the year with positivity. "Let's all start the new year with love and gratitude," she wrote, expressing affection for her followers. On the professional front, Rashmika has an exciting lineup ahead. She has been cast as the female lead in the much-anticipated Cocktail 2, where she will share screen space with Shahid Kapoor and Kriti Sanon for the first time. Produced by Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films and written by Luv Ranjan, the film is currently under production. Additionally, Rashmika will headline Mysaa, an emotional action thriller directed by Rawindra Pulle, in which she plays a woman from the Gond community.



कर्म अगर चेतना  
सहित हो तो मुक्ति  
है और चेतना रहित  
हो तो बंधन है।  
कर्मों की शुद्धता  
कर्ता के होश  
(जागरूकता) पर  
निर्भर रहती है...  
(शकील उवाच  
-७८३)



आदमी अपने ही कर्मों से अपना स्वर्ग या नरक का निर्माण करता है। दुनिया में ऐसा कोई धर्म या ऐसा कोई मजहब नहीं है जो कर्म सिद्धांत को लोगों के सामने ना रखा हो। हर एक धर्म और धर्म का हर एक पंथ साफ-साफ कहता है कि शरीर को मौत है और कर्मों को मौत नहीं है। कर्म फल दिये बगैर कभी भी मरते नहीं हैं। इन कर्म फलों के दुष्प्रभाव को ईश्वर भक्ती, तौबा (प्रायश्चित्त), दान, धर्म, सेवा जैसे शुभ कर्म और दया, क्षमा इत्यादि कम कर सकते हैं। इस जीवन के कर्म इस जीवन और मरणोत्तर जीवन को भी प्रभावित करते हैं।

मरकर हमारा इस दुनिया से गुजर जाना यानी हमारा मिट जाना नहीं है, हमारा खत्मा (अंत) नहीं है। किसी के मर जाने को दर्शाने के लिये उर्दू में एक प्यारा शब्द है, वह शब्द है "इतेकाल करना"। इतेकाल याने एक जगह से दूसरी जगह ले जाना। यह इतेकाल का शब्द "मुत्तकिल" से बना है, और मुत्तकिल का मतलब है एक जगह से दूसरी जगह के लिए चला जाना। मौत दर असल दूसरी ज़िंदगी की शुरुआत है। और उस दूसरी ज़िंदगी में भी वही अच्छे या बुरे कर्म असरदार (प्रभावी) होते हैं जो हमने अपने इस ज़िंदगी में किये हैं।

हमारे इस दुनिया में किये गये वही अच्छे या बुरे कर्मों पर ही हमें हमारे मरणोत्तर जीवन में सुख, दुःख मिलते हैं। यही हमारे कर्म हमारे मौत के बाद के भी अच्छी या बुरी दशा को निर्धारित करते हैं। जो ज़िंदगी में सच्चा रहा हो, अपने प्रति, दूसरों के प्रति वही मौत से कभी नहीं डरता। जिनके कर्म अच्छे हो वही मौत से निडर है, इसलिए पवित्र कुरआन के सुराह अल जुमा में खुदा (ईश्वर) कहता है कि, "अगर सच्चे हो तो मौत की तमन्ना (इच्छा) करो!" जो झूठे हो और जिनके कर्म ही गलत हो वह क्या खाक मौत से नज़रें मिला पायेंगे भला?

हमें कभी यह भूलना नहीं चाहिए कि हमारे पालनहार परमात्मा के सम्भ इस जीवन में किये हुये कर्मों के साथ लौटकर जाना है। और धर्म विरोधी और सत्य विरोधी आचरण कभी आदमी को नजात (मोक्ष) दिला नहीं

सकते। पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के पहिले उत्तराधिकारी इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब अलैहिस्सलाम का फरमान है कि, "हक (न्याय, धर्म) के साथ उस दिन के लिये अमल (कर्म, आचरण) करो जिस दिन सिर्फ हक (न्याय) के साथ फैसला होगा।" (हेदरी कुतुबखाना मुंबई द्वारा प्रकाशित उर्दू पुस्तक, तजल्लियाते हिकमत, बाब 66, हक, हदीस क्रमांक 17, पुष्ट क्रमांक 145)।

कर्मों के बारे में महात्मा बुद्ध जी ने धम्मपद के प्रथम अध्याय 'मनुस्सवग्ग' (मनुष्य वर्ग) में अपने भिक्षुओं को उपदेश करते हुए कहते हैं कि "चेतना हं भिस्खवे, कम्म वदामी स" यानी ऐ भिक्षुओं! मैं (बुद्ध मन की) चेतना को ही कर्म कहता हूँ। जिसमें महात्मा बुद्ध जी कहते हैं कि कर्म अगर चेतना सहित हो तो मुक्ति है और चेतना रहित हो तो बंधन है। कर्मों की शुद्धता कर्ता के होश पर निर्भर रहती है। और होश का मतलब जागरूकता है। बेहोशी नहीं बल्कि अपने प्रति पूर्ण सजगता का नाम होश है।

हमें पाली भाषा का एक प्रसिद्ध वाक्यांश को भी याद रखना चाहिये जो महात्मा बुद्ध जी के उपदेशों में से एक उपदेश है। जिसमें कहा गया है कि "अत्त दीपो भव" याने अपना दीपक (प्रकाश) स्वयं बनो। हमें स्वयं प्रकाशित होना पड़ेगा। अंतस जगत के सफर में कभी भी दूसरों का प्रकाश हमारे काम नहीं आता। नजात याने मुक्ति का एक ही मार्ग है अपनी आत्मा से जुड़ जाना। मोक्ष का एक ही सरल मार्ग है अपने स्वभाव को जानकर अपने स्वभाव पर जीते हुये इलाही (ईश्वर के) हदों में प्रवेश करना।

वासनाओं के अंधकार को मिटा देने से नजात की शुरुआत होती है। और याद रहे कि, वासनाओं के अंधकार को बाहर की रोशनी मिटा नहीं सकती। इस अंधकार को मिटाने के लिए स्वयं को प्रकाशित करना पड़ेगा। और वह चेतना का प्रकाश हमारे अपने आत्मा में है। हमें आत्मा तक पहुंचे बिना मुक्ति का मार्ग नहीं मिल सकता। वहीं से धर्म और परमात्मा का रास्ता शुरू होता है जो निजात की पहला कदम है। और जो प्रकाश चाहता है उसे प्रकाश मिल भी जाता है।

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

## ICC Women's T20 WC 2026 Qualifier to kick off on January 18

Dubai: The International Cricket Council (ICC) has finalised the full schedule of the Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier 2026, including the Super Six stage. Ten teams will compete in Nepal from January 18 to February 1, vying for four spots in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026, which will take place in England and Wales in June-July. Warm-up games are scheduled for January 14 and 16 at three venues: Tribhuvan University Cricket Ground, Upper Mulpani Cricket Ground, and Lower Mulpani Cricket Ground. Tribhuvan University Cricket Ground and Upper Mulpani Cricket Ground will exclusively host competitive matches once the group stage begins on January 18. Nepal face Thailand, while Bangladesh compete against the USA in the morning (9 am local). In the afternoon (1 pm local), Zimbabwe will play the Netherlands, and Ireland will challenge Papua New Guinea. Scotland and Namibia will play their first matches on January 20. Four games are scheduled every other day during the group stage, which ends on January 26. The top three teams from both Group A and Group B will advance to the Super Six.

## Suddapalli Sudhakar, the leader of Rythu Kuli Sangam, Srikanth should be produced in the court

The national secretary of the CPI (ML) party  
Hyderabad, January: 7,  
Metro Udayam

CPI (ML) Chandra Pullareddy affiliate  
Telangana Rythu Kuli Sangam president  
Suddapalli Sudhakar  
Srikanth was detained yesterday afternoon by cirisilla town police. In a statement, CPI (ML) party national secretary Azad asked the cirisilla police officials to immediately produce them in court without causing any harm.



Today, in the background of Maoist, surrender and encounter, they are always working for the public problems among the people in a democratic manner. Sudhakar and Srikanth are not in good health, but he asked them to appear in the court immediately.

## Samantha's intense first look from 'Maa Inti Bangaram' unveiled



Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu is preparing for a strong comeback to Telugu cinema with her upcoming action drama Maa Inti Bangaram. Heightening anticipation around the project, the makers have unveiled the film's powerful first look poster, directed by BV Nandini Reddy.

The poster shows Samantha standing inside a bus, dressed in a simple brown saree, with fierce determination reflected in her eyes. The raw and intense visual hints at a hard-hitting character rooted in emotion and strength. Sharing the first look with her fans on Instagram, Samantha wrote, "You just keep watching... #MaIntiBangaram will be connecting with y'all," sparking widespread excitement on social media. Alongside the poster, the actress also announced the teaser trailer release. "#MiBTeaserTrailer out on 9th JAN at 10 AM," she revealed, officially kick-starting the film's promotional campaign.

Maa Inti Bangaram is produced under Samantha's banner Tralala Moving Pictures, in association with Raj Nidimoru and Himank Duvurru. The film's shoot has already been completed, and early reports suggest that it showcases Samantha in one of her most demanding roles to date. Remarkably, the actress has performed most of the action sequences herself, many of them in a saree, adding a unique and grounded realism to the character. A source close to the film shared that after projects like The Family Man and Citadel, Samantha was keen to push her physical and emotional boundaries further. "This role is intense, challenging, and visually striking," the source said. Producer Himank Duvurru described the film as an emotional, value-driven story presented with the scale of an action spectacle. With world-class technicians and Samantha in a never-seen-before avatar, Maa Inti Bangaram is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated Telugu films ahead.

# OCs' Simhagarjana Samarabheri should be successful in Warangal

National President of OC Social Welfare Associations Federation Poladi Rama Rao.

Hyderabad, January:7, Metro Udayam

OCs' Simhagarjana Samarabheri should be successful, National President of OC Social Welfare Associations Federation Poladi Rama Rao. IKASA leaders, National President of OC Social Welfare Associations Federation Poladi Rama Rao and National General Secretary Katanguri Buchi Ramreddy have called for the state-level OCs' Simhagarjana Samarabheri meeting to be held in Hanmakonda on January 11th with one lakh people. He said that this meeting will be held under the auspices of the State OC JAC formed by Reddy, Vyshya, Velama, Brahmin, Kamma and Marwadi communities at the Arts and Science College grounds in Hanmakonda, Warangal district. In this context, a preparatory meeting of



state-level OC IKASA leaders was held at the Press Club in Basheer Bagh on Wednesday, in which leaders of various social groups participated. Poladi Rama Rao said that only when all OCs are united can they protect their rights. He warned that false propaganda and conspiracies being carried out for political gain on the 10 percent EWS reservations that have been achieved after years of struggle will not be tolerated. He said that he is placing several demands before the central and state governments. He demanded that a special OC commission

with legality be set up at the national and state levels for the strong implementation of EWS reservations, and that the TET qualifying marks for OC students be reduced from 90 to 70. He also demanded that the age limit for EWS candidates in educational and job competitive examinations be increased, and that the EWS certificate be issued with a five-year term without any conditions. They demanded that the backlog posts allocated to EWS be immediately filled with the same category, that the annual income limit for issuing certificates

be increased to Rs. 10 lakhs, and that the welfare schemes of the central and state governments be applied to poor OC students.

Union Minister Kishan Reddy, state ministers Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Jupalli Krishna Rao, Tummala Nageswara Rao, AP Minister Bharat, former ministers Harish Rao, Dayakar Rao, Prashanth Reddy, along with several MPs, MLAs and MLCs are attending this meeting, Rama Rao said. The meeting was attended by the National General Secretary of the United Front Katanguri Buchi Ram Reddy, the General Secretary of All India Velama Welfare Associations Tandra Srinivas Rao, the General Secretary of the State Arya Vaishya United Forum Thodupu Nuri Vishweshwar Rao, the State Secretary Sakilam Raju, the State General Secretary of the Kamma Sangam Rayapati Venkateswar Rao and others.



07/01/2026 Metrodayam

The film THE NEERU is based on a true event that occurred during the British era. The film's banner is Count CineFlix, producers are Shesha and Esha, director is Jabi Billa, music director is Himakar Bhat, and cinematography is by Tarun Nayak. The film's title and poster launch was done by actor Suhas. The film is set to release soon on an OTT platform. We hope everyone will support and promote this film.

## Senior BRS Leaders Extend New Year Greetings to Former Deputy Speaker Padma Rao Goud



Hyderabad, Metro udayam, January 7:

Senior BRS leaders Korelli Nagaraju Goud and Erra Nagu extended New Year greetings to former Deputy Speaker and Secunderabad MLA T. Padma Rao Goud on Wednesday at his camp office in Sitaphalmandi. On the occasion, the leaders met the MLA and conveyed their best wishes for the New Year. They also felicitated Padma Rao Goud by draping a shawl as a mark of respect. The meeting took place in a cordial atmosphere, reflecting party unity and mutual regard.

## Aam Aadmi Party state women president Hema jilloju Sudarshan condemns CM Revanth Reddy's inappropriate comments on MLAs in the Legislative Assembly

Hyderabad, January:7, Metro Udayam

Aam Aadmi Party state women president Hema jilloju Sudarshan strongly condemned CM Revanth Reddy's inappropriate comments on MLAs in the Legislative Assembly. Speaking at a press conference at the AAP state office in Hyderabad, she said that it is not right for a CM elected by the people to speak like this in a democracy. She said that it is wrong to interfere with the CM's security because the power of the Home Minister is in his hands. Taking the CM's support, he questioned



how justified it was for his Brother to remove the huts where 50 tribal women live in Pedda Mangalaram, Moinabad mandal. She said that it is not right for the party to commit such acts without giving notice to a pregnant woman. She warned that former ministers who are still in the post of Chief Minister of the state should behave politely with their colleagues or else the Aam Aadmi Party will launch a large-scale agitation..

# Rising Employment, Unequal Pay: Telangana's Women Workers Still Struggle for Wage Parity

.....By Vaishali Tiwari

Hyderabad, metro udayam January 7....

Women's participation in the workforce in Telangana has witnessed a steady and encouraging rise over the past few years. However, this progress continues to be overshadowed by persistent wage inequality, particularly in the informal sector, according to official data and interactions with women workers across the state. Data from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2023-24 indicates a significant improvement in female labour force participation. The urban female labour force participation rate (LFPR) in Telangana stands at around 50-51 per cent, while rural participation remains lower at 25-26 per cent. Notably, the women's workforce participation rate (WPR) has almost doubled in seven years—from 22 per cent in 2017 to 40.3 per cent in



2024. The overall LFPR for the period between July 2023 and June 2024 was close to 60 per cent, reflecting a broader shift towards economic engagement. Despite this upward trend, wage parity remains a distant goal. Multiple studies and sector-wise data reveal that women workers in Hyderabad earn 30 to 40 per cent less than men on average. In sectors such as

retail and manufacturing, the wage gap ranges between 15 and 17 per cent, while in the IT sector it fluctuates between 10 and 17 per cent. Although healthcare and pharmaceuticals show relatively lower disparity at around 10 per cent, the gap persists. Agriculture continues to report the highest wage inequality, underscoring deep-rooted gender biases in traditional occupations. According to data from TeamLease Digital and the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), women typically earn only 60 to 70 per cent of male wages. Experts attribute this disparity to women's concentration in low-paying roles, limited access to leadership positions, and frequent mid-career exits caused by work-family pressures and inadequate institutional support. The situation is particularly grim in the informal sector, where regulation and enforcement remain weak.

Women workers reportedly earn 20 to 60 per cent less than men for similar work, often under strenuous conditions. Many earn as little as ₹5,000 per month, far below Telangana's minimum wage benchmark of ₹12,000. Savita Devi, a garment factory worker from Nacharam Chilaka Nagar, shared her ordeal: "I come early every day and work till evening. There are nearly 3,000 women workers here. Men doing the same work earn about ₹14,000, while women are paid only ₹9,500. After factory work, we also handle household responsibilities, but our wages never improve," she said. Echoing her concerns, Arjun, a local factory worker, remarked, "Women operate the same machines and work just as hard as men, yet they are always paid less, even when they put in long hours."

Repeated attempts to seek clarification from officials of the Hyderabad Labour Department on wage disparities and enforcement of minimum wage norms elicited no response, raising serious concerns over monitoring and accountability. While the rising participation of women in Telangana's workforce reflects social and economic progress, the persistent wage gap reveals a troubling reality. Employment alone does not guarantee empowerment. Without strict enforcement of labour laws, transparent wage structures, and gender-sensitive workplace policies, women's growing presence in the workforce risks remaining a statistic rather than a marker of true equality. Bridging the gap between participation and fair pay remains an urgent challenge for policymakers, employers, and society at large.