



Chandrababu and Pawan Kalyan lays stone for Green Ammonia project in Kakinada

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan have officially laid the foundation stone for what will become the largest green hydrogen-based green ammonia project in Kakinada. This ambitious initiative is being developed by AM Green, a subsidiary of the Greenko Group, with plans to export green ammonia to Germany, Japan, and Singapore.

The investment for this project is estimated at around ₹18,000 crore (approximately US\$2 billion). During the construction phase, the project is anticipated to create approximately 8,000 job opportunities. Furthermore, following completion, a significant number of additional jobs are expected to be generated in logistics, storage, and port services.

The green ammonia produced at this facility is earmarked for export to Uniper, a major German energy company. The project also involves partnerships with prominent firms, including Malaysia's Petronas, Singapore's GIC, and the UAE's ADIA, reinforcing its international significance.



PM for startups to focus on deep tech, global aims

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday called on Indian startups to focus on manufacturing, deep technology, and global leadership, saying the next decade of Startup India must position the country at the forefront of innovation. Speaking at Bharat Mandapam on the 10th anniversary of Startup India, he said startups are key to shaping India's economic and technological future. The Prime Minister hailed Startup India as a "revolution" that has transformed India into the world's third-largest startup ecosystem, growing from fewer than 500 startups in 2014 to over 2 lakh today, including nearly 125 unicorns. He emphasised that risk-taking has become mainstream, and startups are increasingly driving employment, innovation, and global competitiveness. "The government is with you in all your efforts. I have faith in your capabilities. Your courage, confidence and innovation are shaping India's future," he said. The last 10 years have proven



India's entrepreneurial capabilities, he said, adding, "Our goal should be to lead the world in the next 10 years in India's new startup trends and technologies." Launched on January 16, 2016, Startup India aims to nurture innovation, promote entrepreneurship, and create a generation of job creators, enabling India to build a robust ecosystem of over 2 lakh startups across sectors and geogra-

phies. Modi said the mission has grown into a revolution and the tally of unicorns jumped from four to 125 during the period. Outlining a slew of government measures to boost artificial intelligence, Modi said the more a nation leads in AI innovation, the greater is its advantage. "We need to work on new ideas. Today, many such domains are emerging, which will play an important role in economic secu-

urity and strategic autonomy in the future. An example of AI is in front of us. The more the nation will be ahead in the AI revolution, the higher the advantage it will have," Modi said. He said that IndiaAI mission has onboarded more than 38,000 GPUs to address challenge of high computing cost related to the AI development. "We are also making sure that Indigenous AI should be developed by Indian talents on Indian servers. Similar efforts are being made in semiconductors, data centers, green hydrogen and many other sectors. Friends, as we move forward, our ambition should not only be of partnership. We have to aim for global leadership," Modi said. He asked startups to work on new ideas and solve problems. "In the past decade, we have done great work in the digital startup and service sector. Now is the time for our startups to focus more on manufacturing. We have to make new products. We have to make products of the best quality in the world," Modi

said. Modi said while new heights will be reached through hardwork, efforts also need to be supplemented with courage and risk-taking ability. The PM said, earlier, risk-taking was discouraged in the country but it has become mainstream now and those who think beyond their monthly salary are not only accepted, but also respected. "I have always emphasised risk-taking because it is an old habit of mine. The work that no one is ready to do, the work that the previous decade old governments did not touch, because they were afraid of losing the elections," Modi said. The PM said he used to take upon the task that others used to avoid as they were perceived to have high political risk. "I do those things as my responsibility for sure. Like you, I also believe that the work that is necessary for the country, someone has to do it. Someone has to take the risk. If there is a loss, it will be mine. If there is a gain, it will benefit millions of families in my country," Modi said.

Telangana: Special buses announced to Medaram

The Medaram S a m m a k k a - Saralamma Jatara, renowned as the largest festival in Asia, is fast approaching, with families already making their way to offer prayers. This grand celebration is scheduled to take place from January 28th to 31st, prompting the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (RTC) to arrange special bus services for the influx of devotees.

RTC officials at the Bhupalpally depot have announced that special bus services will commence on January 25th and continue until February 1st, ensuring convenient transportation over the eight-day festival period. A total of 340 special buses have been organised to accommodate the



expected crowds, with approximately 50 trips being operated each day. To facilitate the smooth flow of passengers, four dedicated ticket counters will also be established at the depot. As anticipation builds for this significant event, RTC officials are committed to providing safe and efficient transport for all attendees.

Lokesh releases novel written by visually-impaired woman

Mangalagiri: Education and IT minister Nara Lokesh on Friday released the novel 'Cheyi Veedani Chelimi' written by Chintakrindi Saijyothi, a visually-impaired writer from Mangalagiri. Saijyothi, accompanied by her family, met the minister at his Undavalli residence, where the book was formally released.

Despite being visually impaired, Saijyothi has emerged as a writer of notable talent by effectively using voice-input technology on her mobile phone to create literary works. Writing under the pen name 'Chaithrashree,' she earlier published a poetry collection titled 'Kavithanjali,' along with novels such as 'Manchutakina Prema' and 'Evaru Athanu.' She has also authored several socially conscious short stories that reflect contemporary issues.

Saijyothi is currently working as a junior assistant at Nuthakki High School. Her journey of overcoming physical challenges through determination and creativity has made her a source of inspiration for the younger generation. Congratulating the author, minister Lokesh praised her courage, perseverance, and literary contribution. He said her achievements stand as a powerful example of how determination and technology can help overcome limitations. The Minister wished her continued success and encouraged her to achieve greater milestones in the field of literature.

Padmashali Welfare and Development Corporation chairman Nandam Abaddayya, TTD Board Member Tammiseti Janaki Devi, along with family members and well-wishers of the author also attended the programme.



Osmania University Announces DA Hike for Employees as 'Sankranti Gift'

Hyderabad, Metro Udayam,
January 17, 2026:

In a major boost to employee welfare, the Osmania University (OU) administration has issued official orders revising the Dearness Allowance (DA) for all teaching, non-teaching, time-scale, and work-charged employees of the university. The decision comes in line with the Telangana State Government's recent announcement of a festive "Sankranti Gift" for government employees, as declared by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Acting swiftly

on the state government's initiative, Osmania University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Kumar Molugaram directed officials to extend the benefits to university employees without delay. DA Revision Details: The revised DA rates will be effective retrospectively from July 1, 2023. The pay-scale-wise enhancement is as follows: * Teaching Staff (UGC 2016 Scales): DA increased by 4 per cent, from 42 per cent to 46 per cent. * Teaching Staff (UGC 2006 Scales): DA increased by 9 per

cent, from 221 per cent to 230 per cent.

* Non-Teaching Staff (RPS 2020): DA increased by 3.64 per cent, from 30.03 per cent to 33.67 per cent.

* Non-Teaching Staff (RPS 2015): DA increased by 4.716 per cent, from 68.628 per cent to 73.344 per cent.

Payment and Arrears Schedule: The enhanced DA will be paid along with the January 2026 salary, which will be disbursed on February 1, 2026. Arrears for the period from July 2023 to December 2025 will be credited

to the respective employees' General Provident Fund (GPF) accounts.

Employees retiring on or before April 30, 2026, and time-scale employees not covered under the GPF scheme will receive the arrears in 30 equal monthly installments. In the event of an employee's demise, the arrears will be paid in a lump sum to the legal heirs.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Kumar Molugaram expressed gratitude to the state government on behalf of Osmania University

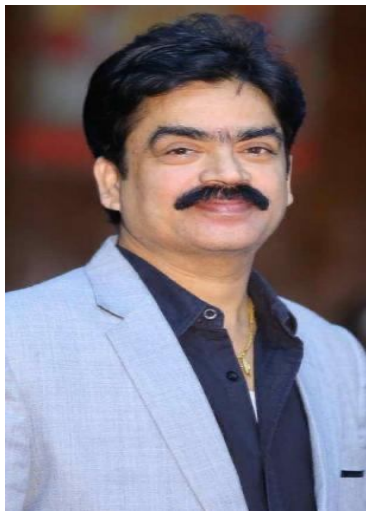
employees. He stated that the DA hike reflects the government's commitment to employee welfare and the university's resolve to support its workforce. He also clarified that the additional financial burden arising from the DA revision will be met through the University Fund (Block Grant) and concerned UGC and agency schemes.

The move has been widely welcomed by employees, who see it as timely relief amid rising living costs and a positive gesture during the Sankranti festival season.

Democracy at a Crossroads: Responsible Governance and Ethical Media Are Imperative

Hyderabad,
metro udayam
January 17:

Senior journalist and President of the Telangana Youth Journalist Federation (TYJF), Dr. Jitender Rao Tanugula, has stated that Indian democracy is currently passing through a crucial and testing phase.



Amid rapid technological changes, economic pressures, social transitions, and evolving global political dynamics, public trust remains the true strength of democracy, he said. Safeguarding this trust, he emphasized, is a shared responsibility of both governance systems and the media.

Dr. Jitender Rao observed that governance is not merely about the exercise of power, but about understanding public concerns and delivering effective solutions. Meaningful governance, he noted, is reflected in tangible outcomes in key areas such as employment generation, farmer welfare, healthcare, and education. Policy announcements alone are insufficient, he said, stressing the need for transparency, equity, and accountability in implementation.

He pointed out that today's citizens are more aware and increasingly questioning authority. In this context, rulers must move beyond reactive approaches and adopt a forward-looking, people-centric model of governance. Commitment to constitutional values and the preservation of institutional ethics, he added, are essential for strengthening democracy. Highlighting the critical role of the media, Dr. Jitender Rao said that it is not merely a platform for disseminating news but a powerful force that shapes public opinion. However, the growing tendency to prioritize sensationalism and circulate unverified information is eroding the credibility of journalism, he warned.

The media, he asserted, must function as the voice of the people rather than as a platform for political appeasement. At the same time, it should act responsibly and maintain balance. Truth-seeking, he said, is the foundational principle of journalism, and the courage to question power without succumbing to political or commercial pressures is the true lifeblood of the media.

Dr. Jitender Rao also stressed that the future of India lies in the hands of its youth. Without critical thinking and civic awareness, he cautioned, the demographic advantage could turn into a liability. Increased participation of young people in democratic processes is vital for the nation's progress, he said.

He concluded by stating that Indian democracy can flourish sustainably only when it rests on three strong pillars—responsible governance, ethical media, and informed citizens.

Kondapalli Sitaramchander Rao was the idealist....

Kodad Janavary 17
Metro Morning.....

Kodada Public Club president and general secretaries Gaua Pattabhi Reddy and Bollu Rambabulu said that the death of Kodada Public Club permanent member and superintendent of KRR Degree College Kondapally Sitaramachander Rao is sad. In his condolence meeting organized at the premises of the public club in Kodada town on Saturday, members of the club laid floral wreaths on



his portrait and paid tributes. On this occasion, they said that his services

in the development of the club are memorable and he also served with commit-

ment in his job and praised his services. Venepalli Satyanarayana, Oruganti Ravi, Karumanchi Satyanarayana, Gunda Puneni Venugopala Rao, Ravella Sitaramaiah, Madala Venkateswara Rao, Avula Rama Rao, Sattu Nageswara Rao, Kakkireni Haribabu, Kotamarthi Vidyasagar Rao, Ramishetti Ramakrishna, Chintalapati Srinivasa Rao, Satyanarayana, Vangaveeti Gurunatham, Banerjee and others participated.....

A captivating treat of laughter... 'A Feast of Humor'

Chikkadapally, January
17 (Metro udayam) :

The comedy skits presented on Saturday at the Ashok Nagar Cultural Welfare Association, under the auspices of the Hyderabad Humor Club, under the title 'A Feast of Humor', were captivating. This event was organized on the occasion of the birth anniversary of renowned film writer and director Jandhyala. Comedians M.V. Subramanyam (Friends Comedy Club), Mohana Krishna, Sharada, Jyothi, Nanduri Sundari,



Nagamani, Annapurna, ASR Murthy Kutumba Rao, R.V. Ramana, and others performed various comedy skits, spreading laughter. Former Doordarshan Director Palakurthi Madhusudhana Rao attended the program, presided over by Lanka Lakshminarayana of



Yuvakala Vahini, as the chief guest, and felicitated and congratulated the artists. Later, the organizers stated that in today's times, when people are distanced from humor due to stress, their organization's goal is to make them laugh for a while.

The organizers informed that the club has been conducting programs for the past 5 years. Before the program, Lakshmi Vaishnavi Pragna performed a traditional dance. The program, organized under the leadership of L.S.R.K. Murthy Kutumba Rao, was attended by Andhra Bank employees, members of the Ashok Nagar Cultural Welfare Association, and others.

Adarshaprayudu Kondapalli Sitaramachander Rao.....



kodad Janavary 17 metro Udayam.....

Kodada Public Club president and general secretaries Gaua Pattabhi Reddy and Bollu Rambabulu said that the death of Kodada Public Club permanent member and superintendent of KRR Degree College Kondapally Sitaramachander Rao is sad. In his condolence meeting organized at the premises of the public club in Kodada town on Saturday, members of the club laid floral wreaths on his portrait and paid tributes. On this occasion, they said that his services in the development of the club are memorable and he also served with commitment in his job and praised his services. Venepalli Satyanarayana, Oruganti Ravi, Karumanchi Satyanarayana, Gunda Puneni Venugopala Rao, Ravella Sitaramaiah, Madala Venkateswara Rao, Avula Rama Rao, Sattu Nageswara Rao, Kakkireni Haribabu, Kotamarthi Vidyasagar Rao, Ramishetti Ramakrishna, Chintalapati Srinivasa Rao, Satyanarayana, Satyanarayana, Satyanarayana and others participated.....

Matrudeobhava Asara blankets for the poor Distribution.....



Kodad Janavary 17 Metro Morning....

Matrudevobhava Charitable Society stands by the poor who are suffering due to extreme cold. On Saturday, blankets were distributed to the poor shivering in the cold in the premises of Tirumalagiri Venkateswara Swamy temple near Chillakallu. Society's members and donors, Konduru Madhavi and Srinivas, organized this program with their financial support on the occasion of their birthday. On this occasion she said that true satisfaction lies in helping fellows and this program was undertaken in recognition of the hardships of the poor during winter. Society members Oruganti Ramadevi, Boggarapu Rekha Ramurthy, Vankayala Swathi, Garine Kiranmayi, Srinivas, Vangaveeti Satya, Mukka Sushila, Radhika and others participated in this program.....

As we look around ourselves—in families, institutions, workplaces, communities, and nations—we are confronted with a sobering reality. Experiences of trust deficits appear to be widening across every sphere of life. Almost daily, we encounter stories of trust rupture that reveal its fragility. The Dutch proverb captures this poignantly: "Trust arrives on foot but leaves on horseback." What takes years to build can be lost in moments.

In families, people speak of emotional distance, unresolved hurt and silent resentments that corrode intimacy over time. In workplaces, an overwhelming number of individuals express distress and frustration arising from toxic cultures marked by suspicion, disengagement, transactional relationships, and moral fatigue. At the institutional level, declining credibility, opacity, and perceived injustice weaken public confidence and erode social bonds. At the global level, cooperation among nations appears increasingly fragile, and shared values that once anchored collective action seem to be eroding.

We have come to believe that this widespread trust deficit is not merely a social, political, or organizational problem. At its core, it is a moral and spiritual crisis. These ruptures are not isolated failures; they reflect a deeper collective wound—one that cannot be addressed through reform alone, but calls for healing.

It is against this backdrop, and as a continuation of our own conversations, that we were nudged to bring together this book, *Building Trust Together: Collective Healing through JoyfulTalisman Values*. Ever since, we published *The JoyfulTalisman: Conversations on Human Values for a Joyful World*, we have received reflections from individuals across cultures and continents on the practical relevance of the JoyfulTalisman framework. Readers have shared how its pillars have helped them navigate personal dilemmas, professional challenges, and ethical crossroads with greater clarity and compassion.

Each pillar of the JoyfulTalisman has opened new pathways for applying this philosophy to lived realities. Trust, we realized, was emerging repeatedly as a central concern—both as a longing and as a challenge. This realization led us to ask: Could the JoyfulTalisman framework offer a meaningful approach to understanding trust rupture, trust repair, and trust renewal?

As we began working on this book—

Building Trust Together: Collective Healing through JoyfulTalisman Values

using our conversational style that has guided our earlier writings—we arrived at a clear conviction: trust cannot be sustainably rebuilt through systems, policies, or procedures alone. While such mechanisms are necessary, they are not sufficient. Trust must be regenerated through the human conscience. It is not an abstract construct; it is lived, practiced, broken, and repaired through values such as integrity, care, accountability, compassion, and inner discipline. At its core, trust is a moral relationship. Our engagement with contemporary literature further strengthened this insight. In much of today's discourse, trust is often framed as an outcome of efficiency, transparency, incentives, or compliance. These factors certainly matter, but when detached from ethical grounding, they remain fragile and reversible. Trust ultimately rests on moral character—on the alignment between values and actions, words and intentions. We trust those whose conduct reflects sincerity, whose commitments are honored even when inconvenient, and whose actions demonstrate care for the common good.

Within the JoyfulTalisman philosophy, the first pillar emphasizes the importance of turning inward and attending to inner growth. From this standpoint, trust is understood as a spiritual capacity—the capacity to act from one's inner sanctuary with authenticity, responsibility, and reverence for life. Trust is not merely confidence in another's competence; it is faith in their ethical reliability. This faith grows when individuals consistently demonstrate alignment between thought, word, and deed.

Here, we offer a small verse that captures the essence of this inner alignment:

To trust is to rest the heart in the truth one dares to live. From the JoyfulTalisman perspective, breaches of trust are not simply failures of behavior; they are signs of inner dissonance. When fear, greed, insecurity, or ego override conscience, trust fractures. Consequently, trust repair cannot be reduced to apologies, assurances, or procedural fixes alone. It requires inner reconciliation, moral courage, and sustained ethical action.

As our conversations deepened, we began to ask whether trust deficits might also be understood as collective wounds. Across cultures and societies, countless individuals carry layers of mistrust shaped by betrayal, exclusion, injustice, and unacknowledged pain. These experiences leave emotional and moral scars that shape how people relate to authority, systems, and even one another. The JoyfulTalisman framework recognizes that collective mistrust accumulates when individual wounds remain unseen and unaddressed. When societies fail to acknowledge harm—whether historical or contemporary—mistrust becomes embedded in social memory. Over time, this manifests as cynicism, disengagement, polarization, and moral fatigue.

From this perspective, collective healing becomes inseparable from trust building. Healing requires spaces for reflection, listening, accountability, and ethical renewal.

It calls for a shift from blame to responsibility, from defensiveness to dialogue, and from transactional interactions to value-based relationships. In this book, we explore different dimensions of trust through lived examples and reflective conversations.

A particularly illuminating exchange with Ishita helped us understand the psychological underpinnings of trust—how early experiences, emotional safety, and cognitive patterns shape trust formation and erosion. This conversation, as we mentioned earlier, catalyzed our broader inquiry into trust within families, organizations, institutions, and society at large.

From this exploration emerged the JoyfulTalisman Trust Repair Model, which forms the central framework of this book. We then apply this model to examine pathways for trust repair in families, institutions, and social systems, highlighting both challenges and possibilities.

The emphasis on together in the book's title is deliberate. Trust cannot be built in isolation; it is inherently co-created. While personal integrity and inner discipline are essential, trust flourishes only when

values are practiced collectively. Relationships, communities, and institutions become the living laboratories where trust is tested, broken, and rebuilt.

The JoyfulTalisman philosophy affirms that trust is a shared moral responsibility. Families, organizations, communities, and institutions all shape the trust ecosystem through everyday actions—keeping promises, listening with empathy, admitting mistakes, and acting fairly. These actions either strengthen or weaken the moral fabric of collective life. Building trust together also requires recognizing interdependence, another core pillar of the JoyfulTalisman philosophy. In an interconnected world, mistrust rarely remains confined to one domain. Distrust in institutions weakens social cohesion; breakdowns in community trust undermine democratic participation; unresolved interpersonal mistrust perpetuates cycles of harm.

Healing, therefore, must be both personal and systemic. On the essence of interdependence, we offer this JoyfulTalisman reflection: "We are not separate beings negotiating trust; we are interconnected lives remembering it."

The JoyfulTalisman Trust Repair Model is grounded in the understanding that trust is sustained not by perfection, but by honest accountability and moral reliability. Breaches of trust are inevitable in human relationships; what defines individuals and institutions is how they respond to those breaches. Trust is repaired not by flawless behavior, but by conscience in action. In developing this model, we felt it essential to acknowledge certain truths that repeatedly surfaced in our conversations:

- Trust cannot be commanded or rushed
 - Apologies without accountability deepen mistrust
 - Forgiveness without safety becomes self-betrayal
 - Behavioral change without moral reflection lacks credibility
 - The model thus offers a value-based, relational pathway for repairing trust—integrating inner work, ethical responsibility, dialogue, and sustained action.
- We hope readers will find this exploration of trust both engaging and illuminating. This book seeks to:
- Reframe trust as a moral and relational practice
 - Provide a coherent model for

repairing trust

- Integrate inner transformation with systemic change
- Offer case-based insights grounded in lived realities
- Invite readers into reflective and ethical engagement

It is written for practitioners, leaders, educators, and all who recognize that trust renewal is one of the defining moral challenges of our time. *Building Trust Together: Collective Healing through JoyfulTalisman Values* is ultimately an invitation—to pause, reflect, and act with conscience. In a world marked by fragmentation, repairing trust is not optional; it is essential for both individual and collective flourishing.

The JoyfulTalisman Trust Repair Model offers a pathway—not a shortcut—toward ethical renewal. By turning inward, engaging honestly, taking responsibility, and acting consistently, individuals and societies can transform trust from a fragile expectation into a shared moral commitment.

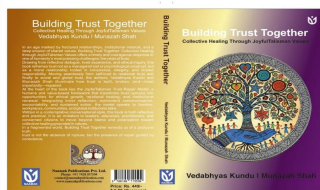
In doing so, trust becomes more than confidence—it becomes a living expression of our shared humanity, and a foundation for a more just, compassionate, and joyful world.

To conclude, we share our poem on trust repair, grounded in the philosophy of the JoyfulTalisman:

The Quiet Return of Trust
When trust breaks,
It does not shatter all at once—
It fractures quietly,
Where words and deeds drift apart.
So, we pause;
Not to defend, not to flee,
But to turn inward,
Where conscience still speaks.
We name the wound,
Without sharpening blame,
And listen—
Not to reply, but to understand.
We stand in ownership,
Bare of excuses,
Letting humility do,
What pride never could.
With care, we remake the path—
Promise by promise,
Act by act,
Time as our witness.
Trust returns slowly,
Not as it was,
But wiser—
Held together by integrity, courage,
and grace.
Here, repair becomes renewal,
And broken ground,
Learns how to hold—
A more honest joy.

--Author

Vedabhyas Kundu & Munazah Shah



100 YEAR OLD FAMOUS BOOKS-1

TIMELESS BED TIME STORIES

Bed time story telling is a universal practice

for ages. Parents love reading out moral and inspiring stories from Scriptures and children magazines. Mothers often sing story lullabies to silence a crying child in a rocking/ swing cradle. To make their wards involve more in the yarn, some parents with a creative bent of mind assign a role for them in the narrative to imbibe virtues such as courage, self respect, empathy, adventurousness, helping nature, and self reliance. Winnie the Pooh is a collection of 10 such bed time stories by A A Milne published in 1926.

A A Milne to entertain his son Christopher Robin goes on telling these fascinating short stories in which his son, a fictional bear called Edward and seven other animals lead happy and adventurous life in a Hundred Acre Wood called Ashdown Forest.

In choosing a bear as a protagonist and giving him a funny name the sole purpose of a loving father is to entertain his little lone son. Christopher comes to the rescue of adventurous Edward in the opening story when Winnie climbs a tall oak tree carrying a balloon to polish off honey at the top.

We need friends who can free us from sticky situations. This is the moral of the story in which our Winnie goes on visiting his friend Rabbit in his burrow and after a



heavy meal with his friend finds himself stuck at the exist. You will role in the aisle to know how Christopher and other friends pull him out eventually.

On another occasion, Pooh finds Eeyore, his donkey friend dull and crestfallen. When his friend says that he has lost his tail somewhere, Pooh feels sorry for him and goes on a mission to retrieve it for their friendship sake. He goes deep into the Hundred Acre Wood and on the way meets his friend Owl. The climax of the episode touches our hearts and we can't help praising Pooh for his pres-

ence of mind.

His way of telling stories is a model for parents and script writers that teaches them when and where to introduce new characters or new elements to sustain suspense and interest in the narrative.

Pooh and his friends one day put their little heads together to chalk out a plan to send out the new comer Kanga and her beautiful babe Roo. Directing all other animals in its plan to kidnap Roo, Rabbit appears in its true colours. How they plot and execute a scheme and how Christopher Robin, like our Lord Krishna, comes at the right time to the rescue of his friends makes the core of this interesting story.

Like many other authors, Milne also in these stories uses malapropism and solecism for comic effect and to add an element of child-like innocence to his charac-

ters.

In another story Christopher Robin takes Pooh and all other friends on an EXPEDITION to the North Pole. Pooh and some of his other friends mispronounce words like EXPEDITION as EXPOTITION. This is the one story in which Christopher Robin does some heroic adventures as the real ring master and all other friends appear in their real old helpful disposition.

In narrating, some writers use props such as dolls or tools to highlight the nature of a character or enhance the appeal of the story. Author Kamala Das does this in a way at once poignant and symbolic in the story, A DOLL FOR A CHILD PROSTITUTE!

In a farewell sort of story Milne also uses a SPECIAL PENCIL CASE with all items in place that is liked by all children to own as Christopher Robin gives one to Pooh for saving piglet from floods.

Though written in 1926, these stories have been in great demand even now. Why and what is the secret behind the success? After reading them, one can reasonably argue that Milne has followed the simple way of presenting them as STORIES OF CHILDREN, FOR CHILDREN, AND BY CHILDREN.

It all began when Milne had gifted a teddy bear to his only son on his first birthday. The toddler used to carry it always and perhaps he might have even kept it beside him in bed as Milne told the stories which later appeared in a book form.

Each story comes with a rele-

vant sketch drawn by Milne's close friend E H Shepherd. In circulation are a couple of stories about how and why Milne chose the funny moniker for the bear. As these animals teach us many simple life lessons, toys named after them are in great demand today. Thus Milne's work stands the test of timeless quality of a great literary work as discussed by T S Eliot in his essay, Tradition and Individual Talent.

Milne was born on this day, 18th January 1882, he and Shepherd made lots of money and name from these stories before Milne died at the age of 74 and Shepherd in his 90s. A couple of new biographies about Milne have come into market recently, to mark the birth centenary of WINNIE THE POOH.

In real life Christopher Robin inherited a big fortune from his father and in later years he started a book publishing business. It is said that though he as a child loved the stories, at times when his schoolmates made fun of him for the way he was depicted in the stories and poems, Christopher hated his parents.

After the death of Milne, Christopher stopped talking with his mother for 15 years for selling a poem which spoke lightly of him and she too didn't permit him to see her when she was in her death bed!

Robin wrote his autobiography and lived happily ever after with his family.

M SOMASEKHAR PRASAD
HOD DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
RETD
GANDHINAGAR
HYDERABAD 500020.



Today's 'Chalo Khammam' public meeting must be made a success:

- B. Venkatesham, CPI Amberpet Constituency Secretary



Chikkadapally, January 17
Metro udayam

CPI Amberpet constituency secretary B. Venkatesham

urged everyone to make the CPI's 100th-anniversary celebrations a grand success. To ensure the success of the 'Chalo Khammam' massive public meeting on the 18th of this month, a large rally was organized under the auspices of the Amberpet constituency committee, from 6th Number Chowrasta through Gohnaka Chowrasta to Zinda Tilismat Road. Later, at the program, CPI State Executive Committee member Comrade V.S. Bose and constituency CPI secretary B. Venkatesham spoke, stating that the Communist Party has waged numerous struggles over the past 100 years, creating employment opportunities for lakhs of people. They said that many leaders sacrificed their lives in the Telangana Armed Struggle. They reminded that the Communist Party has stood by the workers, farmers, and the poor and weaker sections of society, waging many struggles. They said that a massive public meeting with 5 lakh people is being held in Khammam today, on the 18th of this month. They mentioned that the Chief Minister and representatives from 40 countries are attending this program, and therefore, they called upon CPI activists, workers, and farmers from the Amberpet constituency to attend and make the massive public meeting a success. CPI Amberpet leaders Comrade Kasayya, MD Nadeem Khadir, Rajugoud, Tirumalesh Goud, Ravinder Reddy, Bhupal Goud, Jangayya, MD Umar Khan, Ashok Raju Yadav, AITUC leader Lingaswamy, and others participated in this program.

DIVISIONAL RAILWAY MANAGER CONDUCTS INTENSIVE INSPECTION OF MAIN LINE FROM TILARU TO PUNDI



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 Tilaru to Pundi station. He was accompanied by Senior Officials of Waltair Division from various departments. Shri Lalit Bohra commenced the inspection from Tilaru Station after the commencement of experimental stoppage. DRM's drive covered important stations including Kotabommali, Naupada, Pundi, Srikakulam Road, Dusi stations. At each location, he examined circulating 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.

EXPERIMENTAL STOPPAGE OF BRAHMAPUR-VISAKHAPATNAM-BRAHMAPUR EXPRESS AT TILARU

In a significant move aimed at enhancing passenger convenience and improving rail connectivity in the region, East Coast Railway has introduced an experimental stoppage of Train No. 18525/18526 Brahmapur - Visakhapatnam - Brahmapur Express at Tilaru Railway Station.



The experimental stoppage was formally inaugurated today at Tilaru Station at 11:50 hrs by Shri K. Ram Mohan Naidu, Hon'ble Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Government of India, Shri K. Atchannaidu, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Co-operation, Marketing & Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries, Government of Andhra Pradesh, and Shri B. Ramanamurthy, Hon'ble MLA, Narasannapeta and Divisional Railway Manager Shri Lalit Bohra and other dignitaries.

This initiative is expected to greatly benefit passengers from Tilaru and surrounding areas by providing improved access to Visakhapatnam,

Brahmapur and intermediate destinations. The stoppage has been introduced on an experimental basis, keeping in view the long-standing demand of local rail users and public representatives. East Coast Railway remains committed to improving passenger amenities, enhancing connectivity and responding positively to public needs through such passenger-friendly initiatives. The performance and utility of this experimental stoppage will be reviewed periodically based on passenger response and operational feasibility.

Further, the train No.12844 Ahmadabad - Puri SF Express is also given experimental halt at Ichchapuram at 03:58hrs and departure at 04:00hrs with effect from 17.01.2026 and in return direction the train No. 12843 Puri-Ahmadabad SF Express will stop at Ichchapuram at 20:59hrs and departure at 21:01hrs with effect from 17.01.2026.

The train No 22819 Bhubaneswar New - Visakhapatnam Intercity Express will stop at Baruva at 10:50hrs and departure at 10:51hrs with effect from 18.01.2026 and in return direction the train No. 22820 Visakhapatnam- Bhubaneswar New Intercity Express will stop at Baruva at 20:08hrs and departure at 20:09hrs with effect from 18.01.2026. People are requested to make use of these facilities

People are requested to make use of these facilities

Strict Action Against Excessive Bus Fares During Sankranti Festival

In view of the huge increase in the number of passengers traveling to and from their native places during the Sankranti festival, the Andhra Pradesh Transport Department has taken strict measures to prevent private buses from collecting excessive fares, said the Visakhapatnam District Deputy Transport Commissioner.

He stated that for the past six days, bus fares on all online booking platforms (Abhibus, Redbus and other apps) are being continuously monitored through RTGS supervision and specially constituted Fare Monitoring Teams. Whenever excessive fares are detected, immediate coordination is being done with the concerned private bus owners and steps are being taken to reduce the fares at once.



He clarified that only up to a maximum of 50% extra fare over and above the RTC prescribed fare is allowed. If tickets are sold at prices higher than this limit, legal action is being taken against the concerned bus owners. For the convenience of passengers, a statewide 24x7 helpline number - 92816 07001 has been set up. He said that as soon as complaints regarding bus fares or other issues are received, officials will respond and provide immediate solutions. Bus owners have been instructed



to clearly display this helpline number in every private bus. He further stated that special teams comprising Motor Vehicle Inspectors have been formed and inspections are being carried out at the field level. In today's inspections, 2 private buses were seized for collecting excess fares, cases were booked against another 5 buses, and a total fine of ₹60,000 was imposed. He also revealed that over the past week, cases have been registered against 32 buses for violations related

to tax, permits and other rules.

He clarified that these special inspections and monitoring activities will continue till January 19, 2026.

He also informed that Transport Department officials are creating awareness among the public who come to the RTA office for LLR and other services about road safety and traffic rules.

As per the orders of the Transport Commissioner, he warned that strict legal action will be taken against private buses if they collect excess fares.

He concluded by stating that providing safe, comfortable and secure travel to the public is the main objective of the Andhra Pradesh Government, and all necessary steps are being taken to ensure the welfare of passengers during the festival season

Today marks the 30th death anniversary of Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao

- His death anniversary celebrations should be grandly organized in the city:
- Telugu Desam Party National Publicity Secretary J. Dasarath calls upon party leaders.

Chikkadapally, January 17 Metro udayam :

On the occasion of the 30th death anniversary of Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, the founder of the Telugu Desam Party and former Chief Minister of undivided Andhra Pradesh, Telugu Desam Party National Publicity Secretary J. Dasarath appealed to various organizations and social groups to conduct social service programs in the Telugu states and in several areas of Delhi, commemorating the great leader. Speaking in Nallakunta on Saturday, he recalled that the great leader, as the MLA of Hindupur, had initiated numerous service programs for the people in the Telugu states. He stated that his death anniversary celebrations are being grandly organized in various parts of the city. Therefore, Dasarath appealed to NTR fan associations, Telugu Desam Party leaders, and workers to remember N.T. Rama Rao on this occasion.



Children's Literature Award to Kondle Ravikumar.....



Kodada January 17 Metro morning.....

Kondle Ravikumar from Kodada town who excels with his pen in the world of literature has got a rare honor. The Balala Nestham Sanstha presented the award for the story 'Samishti Krishi' written by Ravikumar at the Bala Sahityotsava held in Tirupati on Saturday. Garipelli Ashok, representative of Andhra Sarasattva Parishad, who participated in the program, said that Ravikumar, who was dubbed as 'Cuckoo' by Naini Krishnakumari, was also very popular as a radio commentator. He expressed happiness that this award is a fitting recognition for his literary service through various stories and poems. He aspires to climb many more peaks in the future. Many prominent people of Kodada town congratulated Ravikumar on getting the award...