



Mann Ki Baat: Andhra CM Chandrababu Naidu thanks PM Modi for highlighting Anantapur's water conservation efforts

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for highlighting the efforts of the people of Anantapur in water conservation during his radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat'.

"Thank you, Hon'ble Prime Minister Sir, for highlighting the inspiring efforts of the people of Anantapur in water conservation during your first Mann Ki Baat of the year today," the Chief Minister posted on X. Naidu said that water security is one of the "Padi Sutralus" (10-point principles) adopted under the Swarna Andhra Vision.

"We are committed to building resilient water conservation infrastructure by integrating modern technology with traditional water management practices. Your message today



further motivates us in this mission," he added. During his address, Prime Minister Modi highlighted the community-led water conservation initiative in Anantapur, noting the active participation of local residents. He pointed out that the region has long struggled with severe drought due to its red and sandy soil and erratic rainfall patterns.

"The soil here is red and sandy. This is the reason people face water scarcity. Many regions do not witness rainfall for long periods. Many a times, people even compare Anantapur with the drought conditions of a desert," the Prime Minister said. He said that to address the problem, residents took a pledge to clean reservoirs and, with

administrative support, launched the 'Ananta Neeru Samarakshanam' project.

The Prime Minister noted that more than 10 reservoirs have been revived under the initiative and are now filled with water. Over 7,000 trees have also been planted, leading to an increase in green cover.

"In Anantapur, along with water conservation, greenery has also increased. Children can now enjoy swimming here. In a way, the entire ecosystem has blossomed again," he said.

Prime Minister Modi also shared a video clip of the water conservation efforts in Anantapur on X, along with a post in Telugu.

"I congratulate the people of Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh who are working to rejuvenate water tanks," he wrote.

KCR finalises strategy to win municipal elections



Hyderabad: The Bharat Rashtra Samithi has finalised its strategy to win a significant number of municipalities and corporations in the upcoming elections to urban local bodies in the state. Party supremo K Chandrashekhara Rao held a crucial meeting at his farmhouse with party's working president KT Rama Rao and senior leaders, including T Harish Rao, and gave them specific instructions to galvanise the party cadre to give a tough fight to ruling Congress in the municipal elections. As part of the strategy, the party has appointed special coordinators for each municipality and municipal corporation. A special system has been established to ensure that election trends and ground reports are regularly submitted to the party's central office at Telangana Bhavan and to the working president every day.

Party leaders said that a senior leader has been designated as the election in-charge for each municipality across the state. The main responsibility of these coordinators will be to unite the party ranks at the grassroots level and formulate election strategies according to local conditions. They will be continuously available in their respective municipalities from the beginning to the end of the election process. The coordinators will also play a crucial role in the candidate selection process. They will discuss with the local leaders, identify candidates with potential to win, and submit reports to the party high command regularly. Furthermore, they will oversee the effective implementation of the party's campaign programs among the public and coordinate with booth-level agents. Accordingly, KTR officially released the complete list of municipal election coordinators appointed by the party. The party working president called upon the party cadre to work towards the goal of BRS winning the municipal elections with the support of the people. Leaders said that KCR also discussed political developments in the state, mainly the SIT probe into the phone-tapping case in which KTR and Harish Rao were summoned and questioned recently. The two leaders also briefed the party chief about the Singareni tenders issue and the state government's involvement in the entire episode.

Devotees throng Medaram ahead of Maha Jatara

Medaram witnessed a massive influx of devotees as Asia's largest tribal festival drew closer. With Sunday being a public holiday, pilgrims arrived in large numbers from various regions to offer prayers at the altars of forest goddesses Sammakka and Saralamma.

The shrine was abuzz with activity as devotees fulfilled their vows by offering jaggery, regarded as gold, to the goddesses. The Tadwai-Medaram routes experienced heavy traffic congestion, with pilgrims travelling in tractors, DCMs, private vehicles and RTC buses. Authorities are on alert as the Medaram Maha Jatara is scheduled to commence on the 28th of this month, with footfall



expected to rise significantly in the coming days.

Democracy thrives on responsible voting: Telangana Guv

Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma on Sunday called upon citizens to actively and responsibly exercise their right to vote, asserting that democratic institutions remain strong only when voters participate with awareness and integrity.

Addressing the state-level celebrations of the 16th National Voters' Day, the Governor said the theme "My India, My Vote" reflected the foundational principle that citizens are at the heart of Indian democracy.

National Voters' Day is observed every year on January 25 to commemorate the establishment of the Election Commission of India (ECI).

Referring to Article 324 of the Constitution, the Governor said the independence and impartiality of the ECI were central to ensuring free and fair elections in a diverse and populous nation.

Quoting B.R. Ambedkar and Mahatma



Gandhi, he emphasised that political democracy could endure only when supported by social democracy and ethical participation by voters.

Governor Varma appreciated Telangana's election administration for promoting inclusiveness and transparency through initiatives such as assured minimum facil-

ities at polling stations, home voting for eligible voters and the use of modern technology.

He also lauded officials for the peaceful and efficient conduct of the Jubilee Hills Assembly bye-election, noting the coordinated use of drone surveillance and police deployment to maintain law and order on polling day.

Chief Electoral Officer of Telangana, C. Sudharsan Reddy, briefed the gathering on voter enrolment and electoral preparedness in the State. He

said Telangana has 3.39 crore electors across 119 Assembly constituencies in 33 districts, supported by 35,895 polling stations.

The electorate includes 1.68 crore male, 1.70 crore female and 2,890 transgender voters, with a net increase of about 3.93 lakh electors since National Voters' Day

2025.

Reddy said enrolment of young voters and senior citizens had recorded steady growth and reiterated that electoral roll revisions were intended to remove duplicate and ineligible entries, not genuine voters.

He highlighted voter-centric reforms introduced by the ECI, including enhanced remuneration for Booth Level Officers, four qualifying dates each year for enrolment and digital services through ECINET, enabling online voter registration and updation.

State Election Commissioner I. Rani Kumudini, Additional Chief Electoral Officer Vasam Venkateshwar Reddy, GHMC Commissioner and District Election Officer, Hyderabad, R.V. Karnan, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer Harisingh, and other senior election officials attend the event.

Bollam should issue a public apology immediately.....

TDP town president Janpaneni Krishna



Kodada January 25 Metro morning.....

Telugu Desam Party's Kodada Town President Janpaneni Krishna demanded that Bollam Mallaiiah Yadav, who had made inappropriate comments on Minister Uttamkumar Reddy and MLA Padmavathi Reddy, apologize immediately. He spoke along with TDP and Congress party leaders at a press conference organized at his residence in Kodada town on Sunday. He said that Mallaiiah Yadav forgot his stature and criticized him so that the members of the society would think about it. He said that Bollam's comments hurt him a lot. They said that they strongly condemn it. Leaders Vemuri Nageswara Rao, Pulluri Srinivasa Rao, Vemuri Suresh, Misala Bhagat, Erpula Papa Rao, Pasha, Brahmaiah, Amara Gani Krishna, Gudepu Chiranjeevi, Lingaiah, Rajesh, Somaiah, Ashok and others participated in this program.....

Encouragement through Awards

- MLC S. Madhusudhanachari



Chikkadapally, 25 January Metro Udayam : MLC S. Madhusudhanachari stated that recognizing talented individuals and presenting them with awards and honors is a good tradition. He mentioned that felicitations and awards provide recognition in society and also serve as encouragement. With the support of the Telangana Language and Culture Department, and under the auspices of Satya Sangeetha International, a grand awards ceremony was held at Tyagaraya Gana Sabha to honor social activists, doctors, film stars, and artists. On this occasion, the Republic Day celebrations, along with a musical program, classical dance, and mimicry performance captivated the audience. The artists' performances were a special attraction. Madhusudhanachari participated as the chief guest in the program organized by Satya Sangeetha President Omkar Raju, and honored renowned film actress Kavitha and other prominent personalities from various fields with awards. He remarked that any program organized by the organization's president, Omkar Raj, is always unique. He wished him success in organizing many more such programs in the future. Later, former BC Commission Chairman Vakulabharanam Krishnamohan Rao congratulated and praised the artists and award recipients. Shailaja, Pawan Kalyan, Anitha Reddy, and others participated in the program.



Dr. Ambedkar's portrait should be worshipped on Republic Day

362nd week of 'Gyanamala' (Garland to Ambedkar) for Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in Boduppal

The Indian Constitution is the result of Ambedkar's hard work and sacrifice

- Natti Maisaiah, State President, Ambedkar Ideals Achievement Association

Medipally, January 25 (Metro Udayam)

On the occasion of the 77th Republic Day, Nathi Maisaiah stated that every citizen of India should compulsorily place a portrait of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and offer floral tributes during the Republic Day celebrations. Accordingly, in the Boduppal circle of the Greater Hyderabad



Municipal Corporation, the 362nd Sunday 'Gyanamala' program was grandly held at the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar under the leadership of Nathi Maisaiah, State President of the Ambedkar Ideals Achievement Association. In this program, members of the Ambedkar Ideals

Achievement Association paid tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Later, Nathi Maisaiah extended Republic Day greetings to all Indians. He said that it was due to the efforts of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, that Indians received one of the best constitutions in the world.

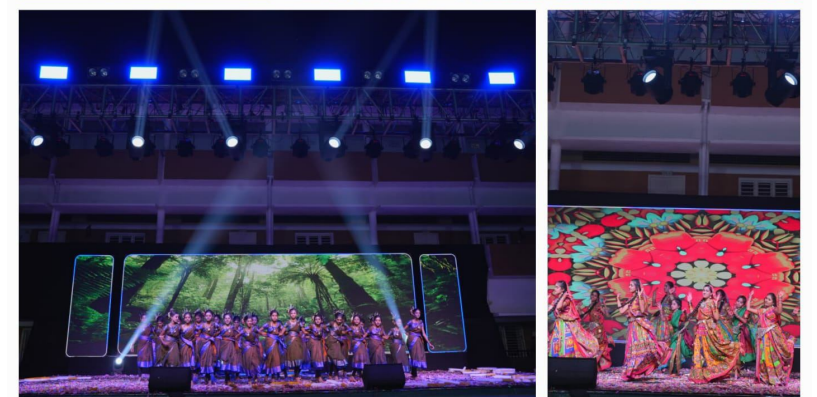
Although 77 years have passed since the constitution was adopted, the underprivileged and weaker sections, the Dalits and Bahujans, have not yet achieved the expected level of development. The reason for this is the failure of governments to implement Ambedkar's principles, aspirations, and ideals. He stated that it is a despicable act for those who have obtained positions and jobs as a result of the constitution to ignore Ambedkar. Royyala Lakshminarayana, Itikala Ravinder, State General Secretary of the SC/ST Teachers' Association, Rapolu Sriramulu, Garugula Yakayya, Chiluka Yadaiya, Chilla Anjaiah, Y. Srinivas, G. Venkateshulu, and others participated in this program.

A grand success of anniversary day celebrations at St. Mary's

Jangaon, January 25, Metro Udayam:

The thirty-sixth school anniversary was celebrated at St. Mary's School on Hyderabad Road in Jangaon district headquarters. Dr. Palla Rajeshwar Reddy, MLA of Jangaon, was the chief guest for this programme. On this occasion, they said that if the children study with pleasure and not with difficulty, their goals will be fulfilled, students should set a goal and practice from now onwards, there are many employment opportunities for educated people these days, all children should dream of taking Abdul Kalam as an ideal, but to realize them, all children should develop a sense of friendship and love. On this occasion they remembered their childhood. The cultural programs performed by the children on

this occasion were entertaining throughout. In this, Chava, a visual metaphor about the history of Shambhaji Maharaj, Operation Sindhur undertaken by the Indian Army as a revenge for the terrorist attack in Kashmir, Father with love, a sentimental visual about the greatness of father Garbha dance and Robo dance were special attractions. The School Correspondent Thumma Srilatha Reddy, Principal Jaymon Thomas, Poet, commentator, Teacher, School P. R. O. Rangaraju Prasad Sarita, Rameshwar, Michael, Shalim and Shailaja acted as commentators for the programme. It was followed by Jaipal Reddy, Rajireddy, Narmada, Pramila, Gunawardhan, Sampath, Kranthi, Ramesh, Prithvi Sagar,



Raju, Narasimha, Sridhar, Naresh David, Joseph, Nadeem, Lingaswamy, Ramesh Babu and Johnson participated in the program.

Inauguration of the Paderu Ambedkar Indoor Stadium, renovated with state-of-the-art facilities – Dr. Tanuja Vinay

The Ambedkar Indoor Stadium located at Paderu, the headquarters of Alluri district, has been renovated in accordance with modern standards at a cost of ₹25 lakhs from MP LADs funds. The renovated stadium was inaugurated grandly by Araku Member of Parliament Dr. Tanuja Vinay in the presence of: Alluri Sitarama Raju District Collector Sri N. Dinesh Kumar Joint Collector & ITDA Project Officer Smt. Tirumani Sri Pooja Former Araku MLA and YSRCP Central Executive Committee Member Chetti Phalguna Former Paderu MLA Giddi Eshwari Paderu local Sarpanch and MPTC Mathi Vanthala Seethamma Smt. Giddi Varalakshmi AP Tribal Welfare Corporation Director Sri Borra Nagaraju



Along with them, many other leaders and public representatives participated in the program. With the special initiative of the Araku MP, the Local Area Development Scheme (MP LADs) funds of ₹25 lakhs were utilized

to provide better facilities in the stadium for tribal sportspersons to train and improve their performance. The stadium has been renovated with flood lights, a synthetic court, and other modern amenities. For decades, the stadium

had suffered from neglect — lack of funds, incomplete construction since 1990, and a constant fear that the structure might collapse. Despite many changes in governments, the stadium never received proper renovation. But today, due to the personal interest and efforts of Araku MP Dr. Tanuja Vinay, the Talarsi Singi Ambedkar Indoor Stadium, Paderu has been fully renovated in a way that promotes badminton and other indoor sports and helps in producing state and national-level players. Expressing their happiness, the senior sportspersons and tribal athletes of the region felicitated Dr. Tanuja Vinay, MP, for her efforts. Many leaders, public representatives, senior and junior sportspersons participated in this program.

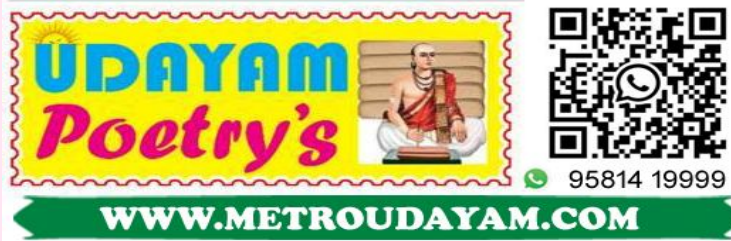
Today we are celebrating the 77th Republic Day. Since becoming a Republic in 1950, India has come a long way. She has weathered seventy seven summers with the length of seventy seven long winters.

As the only country in the world with a history of 5000 years, she has a glorious past to brag about. Valdimir Putin eulogized India saying that "The centuries-old culture and history of India, majestic architectural monuments, and museums of Delhi, Agra, and Mumbai have a unique attractive force." She was a knowledgeable society long before the most of today's developed countries were on the horizon. She was foremost in the fields of medicine, philosophy, mathematics, economics, political science, to name a few. In his master piece "A Wonder that was India", in one line A L Basham summoned up our greatness and the theme of his Magnum Opus by the same title. In the land of Vedic knowledge and birthplace of Zero, and one of the oldest religions, India has spurred many other countries to sit and take note of her. Remember the words of Martin Luther King who said that "To other countries, I go as a tourist, but to India, I come as a pilgrim."

Again India is endowed with rich natural resources like fertile lands, perennial rivers, minerals, oil reserves, manpower, and a great variety of fauna and flora. Because of this diversified richness, India is called 'the world's lab'.

But, alas, what ails this holy, rich, multi-cultural, multi-language, world's largest democracy? Why is there pestering poverty? (About 30% of Indians are BPL). In his book, ECOLOGY and EQUALITY, Madhav Gadgil, the people's sci-

REPUBLIC DAY SPECIAL



MAKE INDIA CORRUPTION FREE.

entist who passed away this month, makes a statement fraught with sincere concern and shock when he says that we have created an India where islands of prosperity peep out of a sea of poverty!

In the land of Vedic knowledge and spiritual abundance, why there are blind beliefs, superstitions, and ignorance? In the land of world's first university, why about 27% of 125 crores of people are still illiterates? "India happens to be a rich country inhabited by very poor people", said Manmohan Singh. Penury and illiteracy are at the root of all ills and maladies in our society, many of us feel. But the real and major dark force that has eclipsed our entire system for long years is cancerous corruption.

83rd is our position as per the International Corruption Index 2025, with 38 marks out of 100! Demark is the least corrupt country with 81 marks! It is an opening secret that corruption has eaten into all vital parts of our society and arms of governing system, vertically and horizontally! In its varied forms, corruption is called bribery in one area of our activity, it rises its ugly head as nepotism in another area, and as red tapism in yet another area. Mediocrity, adulteration, levity, laziness, are some of its other names, colouring our work culture in the fields of

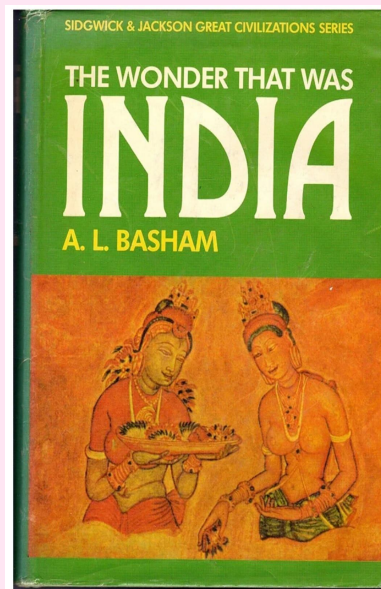
education, commerce, defence, internal security, media and creativity. "We have islands of excellence floating in a sea of mediocrity," said author and parliamentarian Sashi Tharoor.

It has an all pervading, tempting, and powerful presence in the fields of our politics and governance. In fact it is watered here, nurtured like a banyan tree. This tree has cast its long, creeping, and dark shadow on our every activity, depriving us of the fruits of our love and labour.

It has touched and changed every conceivable method and manner of governing and attempts to better ourselves as a society, as a people and as a nation. Where is the redemption for us? who can give us? and when?

The answer to this is with us and within us. We have to change as an individual and as a society. Change as an individual will bring in change in our thinking as a collective society. This is what Gandhiji wanted. If everyone of us is willingly and sincerely ready to strive to find and remove corruption from our life, India becomes a happy place to live in, at least by 2047.

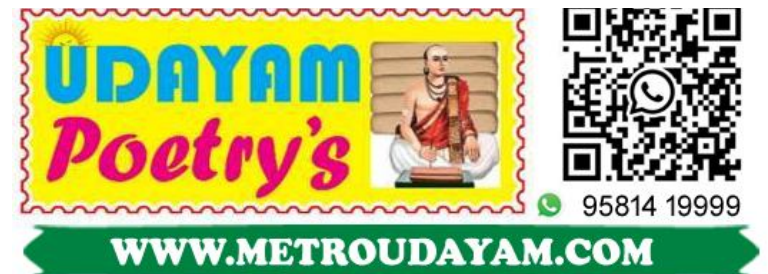
Where the change must begin first? Who has to change the individual? Change must first begin at home. Parents have a



decisive role in changing a person and again through instruction change can be effected in individuals. Here the teacher comes as a friend, guide, and philosopher. This is not a utopian idea. In his "Ignited Minds", APJ Abdul Kalam said that "Behind the parents stands the school and behind the teacher, the home."

There are many evils and maladies like unemployment, poverty, inequality, in security, plaguing our society and economy. But corruption is at the root of it all. A great muslim politician once said that "For a real New India to arise, all petty and small things must be given up...." Make some sacrifices to find the new and vibrant India of our dreams. This is a common man's angst for his country. So LET US CHANGE OURSELVES TO CHANGE INDIA. Let it be our Indian dream.

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



NEED TO BREAK SILENCE!

No doubt to be silent is welcome! Unnecessary differences arise! Everything move as soft as possible! None point out any fault wrong!

Is it universally accepted fact? Elders suggest three occasions to adhere to silence! When hearing others, when other's not hear you and last one no scope to change other's attitude! It is some what better to follow!



It is not all at times need to break Silence! When capable to restrict evil deeds! When strong enough to save the poor from injustice! Need not escape on the pretext maintaining silence!

One best example. Bhishma and Drona! Two Great warriors in mahaabharat! Unable to stop Duryodhana for humiliating Droupadi in kuru sabha! They could not break their silence!

That's why they got punished in war Kurukshetra! Finally no unnecessary interference in Unwanted affairs may be supported! But the good cause it is not bad to break silence in need of time!

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

"I LOVE MY INDIA".

I love my India, a land so fair,
With diverse cultures, beyond compare.
From Himalayas tall to southern seas,
My heart beats for thee, India, always.



The Ganges flows with sacred might,
Rivers dance, in morning light.
Temples, mosques, and churches stand,
Unity in diversity, hand in hand.

Festivals brighten every night,
Colors blend, in joyous light.
Languages mix, in harmonious sound,
India's beauty, all around.



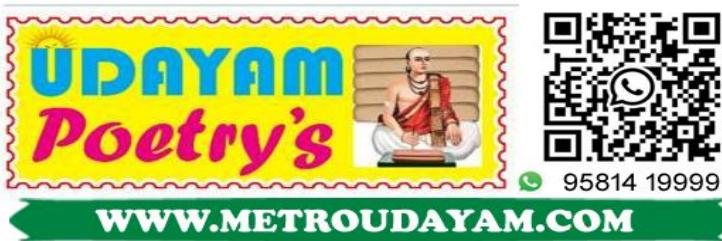
Heroes brave, with hearts so true,
Leaders wise, with dreams anew.
People kind, with spirits high,
Make me proud, to be Indian, I sigh.

Nature's gifts, in abundance lie,
Heritage rich, in history's eye.
Unity strong, in every breath,
India's spirit, a wondrous death.

I love my India, with all my heart,
A land of dreams, where we play our part.
Jai Hind, the words, we love to say,
Proud to be Indian, every day.

With love and pride, I sing my song,
India's beauty, forever strong.
In every beat, my heart does say,
I love my India, every day.

Dr. LATHA CHOWHAN.
(TEACHER)
KB. ASIFABAD DISTRICT



हक यानी सत्य एवं धर्म और बातिल याने असत्य एवं अधर्म कभी एक जगह इकट्ठा नहीं हो सकते। इस उपरा, क बात को जो याद रखेगा वह कभी धोखा नहीं खा सकता।... (शकील उताव - 939)

हर आदमी को सही मायने में आदमी बनकर जीना चाहिये, पशु बनकर नहीं। और सभी जानते हैं कि आदमी और पशु में फर्क (अंतर) केवल बुद्धि का होता है। जब आदमी अपनी बुद्धि और ज्ञान का उपयोग करते हुये मानवीय मूल्यों के आधार पर अपना जीवन बिताता है तो, ऐसे ही व्यक्ति को अल्लाह (ईश्वर) भी समझ में आता है। इस अल्लाह या ईश्वर को चाहे जिस नाम से भी पुकारा जाये कोई बात नहीं। अल्लाह यह अरे, बिक शब्द इलाह से बना है, जिसका अर्थ होता है पूजनीय, उपासनीय। हम सभी का एक ही

सृष्टिकर्ता पालनहार परमात्मा है जिसे कोई ईश्वर, कोई परमात्मा, कोई गॉड, कोई अल्लाह, कोई खुदा तो और कोई वाहेगुरु कहता है। बुद्धिमान व्यक्ति कभी नामों को लेकर नहीं झगड़ता। और अगर ज्ञानवान और बुद्धिमान व्यक्ति में ईसानियत ज़िदा हो तो फिर उसे पवित्र वेद, पवित्र कुरआन, पवित्र तौरत, पवित्र त्रिपिटक, पवित्र धम्मपद, पवित्र बाइबल, पवित्र आगम, पवित्र गुरुग्रंथ साहिब और पवित्र गीता समझेंगे और इन सब का पाठ भी समझ में आयेगा।

इतना ही नहीं बल्कि इन सभी का दर्स (पाठ) देने वाले जागे हुए महात्मा, ऋषी, मुनी, पैगंबर, इमाम और जो भी धर्म के प्रतिनिधि हैं वह भी समझ में आएंगे। जिसे ईश्वर और ईश्वर के प्रतिनिधि समझ में आते हैं तो फिर उसे धर्म के सच्चे उत्तराधिकारी लोग भी समझ में आएंगे। वरना ईश्वर द्वारा धिक्कारित, श्रापित लानती लोगों की गुलामी (दासता) मुकद्दर (भाग्य) बनकर रह जायेगी। और याद रहे जिसे हक (सत्य) समझ में नहीं आया हो, जो अपने स्वार्थ और वासना के दलदल से ना निकला हो वह फिर कभी नजात (मोक्ष) भी पा नहीं सकता।

जो भी व्यक्ति अपने स्वार्थ में, वासनाओं में, शरीर में मात्र

कैद हुआ है वह कभी नजात याने मुक्ति या मोक्ष पा ही नहीं सकता। सत्य और असत्य, धर्म और अधर्म एक साथ कभी नहीं रह सकते। पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के पहिले उत्तराधिकारी इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब अलैहिस का फरमान है कि, "हक (सत्य एवं धर्म) और बातिल (असत्य एवं अधर्म) कभी (एक जगह) इकट्ठा नहीं हो सकते।" (हैदरी कुतुबखाना मुंबई द्वारा प्रकाशित उर्दू पुस्तक, तजल्लियाते हिकमत, बाब 66, कीना, हदीस क्रमांक 59, पुष्ट क्रमांक 148)।

यह बात बहुत ही साफ सुथरी (स्वच्छ) है कि बुराई के साथ अच्छाई नहीं रह सकती। अगर कहीं जुल्म (अत्याचार) है तो वहां फिर इसाफ (न्याय) नहीं रह सकता। अधर्म के साथ साथ कभी धर्म इकट्ठा नहीं रह सकता। इस उपरोक्त बात को जो याद रखेगा वह कभी धोखा नहीं खा सकता। जो उपरोक्त नियम को जानता है वह बखूबी धर्म और अधर्म में अंतर कर सकता है। और ऐसा ही आदमी अधर्मी, अज्ञानी और जालिम (अत्याचारी) लोगों के आचरण को धर्म से जोड़ने की भूल नहीं कर सकता। जो धर्म और अधर्म, सत्य और असत्य में अंतर नहीं कर पाता वही धर्म विरोधी होगा।

आज तक जो लोग धर्म और अधर्म में अंतर न करने वाले बुद्धिहीन लोग हैं वही लोग अधर्मियों की दासता में जीवन बिताया है। ऐसा देखा जाये तो जाहिल (अज्ञानी) हमेशा खुद को आलिम (ज्ञानी, धर्मवेत्ता) कहते हुए भी जाहिल (अज्ञानी) और जालिम



(अत्याचारी) व्यक्ति को ही अपना रहनुमा (मार्गदर्शक) तस्लीम (स्वीकार) करता है। इतिहास में जो बेदीन (अधर्मी) थे, और लोगों को धर्म के नाम पर लूटते रहे, लोगों का हक खा गये, ऐसे ही लोग जाहिलों (अज्ञानीयों) के आदर्श रहे हैं। लेकिन जो खुद भूखे रहकर लोगों के लिए लंगर लगाने (अन्नसत्र चलाने) वाले अहलेबैत (पैगंबर साहब के पवित्र घर वाले) अलैहिस्सलाम इन्हें कभी दिखे ही नहीं। कुछ अज्ञानी लोगों को लूटकर खानेवाले चोर तो समझ में आये लेकिन लुटाने वाले सखी (दानी) समझ में ही नहीं आये। इन पथभ्रष्ट लोगों की मूढ़ता की हद यह थी कि जालिम (अत्याचारी) समझ में आये लेकिन मजलूस (निरपराधी) कभी इनके समझ में नहीं आसके। कितनी अफसोस की बात है।।

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

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Presentation of Silk Garments to Goddess Chittaramma

- May all the people of the Telugu states prosper with happiness and joy:

- J. Dasarath, National Publicity Secretary of the Telugu Desam Party



Kadthal, 25 January (Metro Udayam) : Telugu Desam Party National Publicity Secretary J. Dasarath stated that everyone should have devotion to God, and that mental peace can only be attained through spiritual contemplation. Following the invitation of the temple committee and the instructions of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, J. Dasarath presented silk garments to the Goddess at the Chittaramma Jathara festival being held in Gajula Ramaram village on the outskirts of the city. Dressed in traditional attire, he carried the silk garments on his head from near the Chittaramma temple, walking with party workers and family members, and offered them at the temple. Temple elders welcomed him with musical instruments and a Purnakumbham (auspicious pot). After presenting the silk garments, he participated in Kumkumarchana and Ashtottara Puja rituals for the Goddess and received blessings from the priests. He stated that he prayed to the Goddess for the prosperity and happiness of all the people of the Telugu states. He expressed hope that the Telugu Desam Party would regain its former glory in the upcoming elections in Telangana. Temple committee members, party leaders, workers, and their family members participated in large numbers in this program.

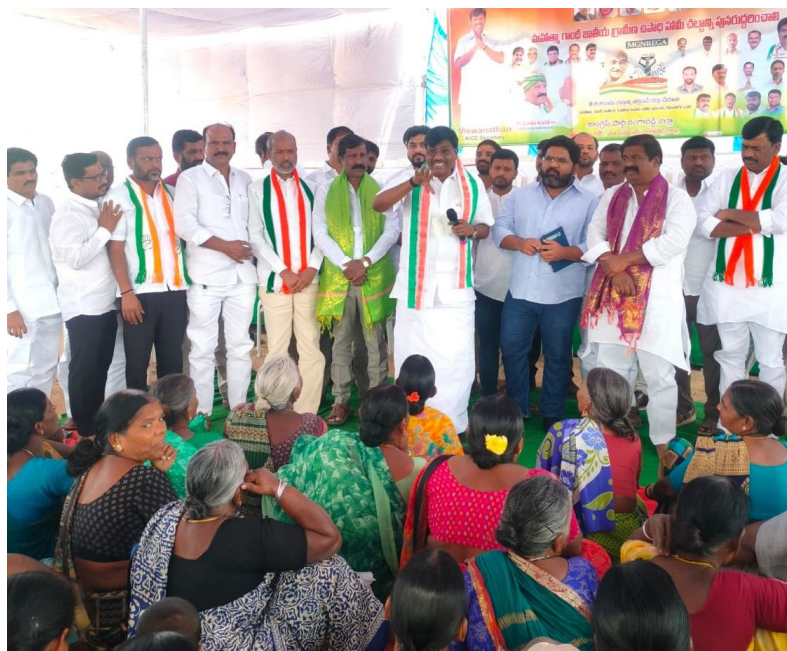


Hyderabad January:25 (Metro udayam)

Following the eye examinations conducted last month under the auspices of the JKB Foundation, free eyeglasses were distributed today to approximately 200 needy individuals at Melukote Park in the division, with the support of GKB and the Yashoda Narayanadas Devi Charitable Trust. The eyeglasses were distributed by Himayat Nagar Division Corporator Mahalakshmi Raman Goud and Lakshmi Srinivas, a member of the Yashoda Narayanadas Devi Charitable Trust. Senior Congress leaders G. Raman Goud, Ramesh, Poornachander, Mahesh, Jaiswal, Sai, Jagadish, Shekhar, Sandeep, and others participated in the program.



Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme must be revived



Protest led by Chevella constituency Congress Party in-charge Bheem Bharat

AICC Secretary Viswanatham was present

The VBG Ramji Act must be repealed immediately

There is no other scheme like this in the world that feeds the poor

Pamen Bheem Bharat, Chevella Constituency Congress Party In-charge

Chevella, January 25 (Metro Udayam)

Bheem Bharat stated that there is no other scheme like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee

Scheme in the world that feeds the poor, and the Congress Party strongly opposes changing the name of such a scheme. In protest against the VBG Ram Ji Employment Guarantee Scheme introduced by the BJP government, which renamed the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, and demanding the restoration of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and the immediate repeal of the VBG Ram Ji Act, a large-scale protest program was held on Sunday at Tholkata in Moinabad mandal, under the leadership of Rangareddy District Congress Party President/State TUFDC Corporation Chairman Challa Narasimha Reddy



and Chevella constituency Congress Party in-charge Pamen Bheem Bharat. This protest was organized following the instructions of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the call of AICC General Secretary Meenakshi Natarajan, and the directives of TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud. AICC Secretary Vishwanatham, Mudiraj Corporation Chairman Borra Gnaneshwar, Moinabad Mandal President Manayya, Tholkata Shankar Goud, Vice President Ravinder Reddy, District Vice President Jaipal Reddy, former Bakaram Sarpanch Venkat Reddy, former Tholkata Sarpanch Satyanarayana, Market Committee Director Balakrishna Reddy, Sripal Reddy, Mahipal Reddy, Narender Goud, Chevella

Mandal Congress Party President Veerender Reddy, Working President Srikanth Reddy, Chevella Manikyam, Chevella Market Director Hanif Bhai, Tholkata Satyanarayana, Reddipalle Dayanand Goud, Chandrasekhar, Seva Dal presidents, Municipal party presidents, and block presidents participated in this program. The Congress Party President, the presidents of the ST, SC, BC, and Minority cells, the Youth Congress Party president, the presidents of the Mahila Congress and NSUI divisions, the newly elected Sarpanches, Deputy Sarpanches, and ward members, along with Congress Party workers, participated in the protest program.

Development of Perika castes with unity....

Muthineni Veeraiah, Chairman, State Corporation for Disabled Persons...

Kodad Janavary 25 Metro Udayam....

State Disabled Corporation Chairman Muthineni Veeraiah called upon all Perika castes to unite and solve their problems. He participated in a meeting presided over by District President Samudrala Rambabu at Perika Hostel in Kodada on Sunday and announced the complete working group of Suryapet District Perika Sangam. Speaking on this occasion, he said that a huge committee consisting of 360 people was elected from 90 villages in Suryapet, Kodada, Hujurnagar and Tungaturthi constituencies.



The construction of Perika self-respect building in the district center is our main goal and every caste member has been asked to work for this. The members of the new committee are advised to stand by the caste members and show unity. In this program, for-

mer municipal chairman H e m e k o n d a Satyanarayana, former presidents of Khairatabad Perika Hostel Angirekula Nagarjuna, Kita Bhadracharya, Suryapet district general secretary Pattipaka Janardhan, youth president were present.

Secretaries Budigam Kiran Kumar, Pinnini Sandeep, Suryapet Urban Perika Sangam President Pattipaka Venudhar along with Perika representatives, former public representatives and caste leaders from across Suryapet district participated....

CM Chandrababu briefs TDP MPs ahead of Budget session

A meeting of the Telugu Desam Parliamentary Party, chaired by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, was held on Sunday at the Chief Minister's camp office in Undavalli. During the meeting, Mr Naidu briefed TDP Members of Parliament on key issues and outlined the strategy to be adopted during the upcoming Parliament Budget session. Discussions focused on funding for the state capital Amaravati and central assistance for the Polavaram irrigation project. The Chief Minister said the Union government had



already released Rs 15,000 crore for Amaravati and that the state would seek similar support during the sec-

ond phase of development.

Mr Naidu stated that the government was working towards completing the Polavaram project by 2027 and would seek the Centre's cooperation to achieve the target. He also discussed issues related to the Visakhapatnam railway zone, allocation of funds for backward districts, and financing for national highways. The Chief Minister said the TDP MPs would appeal to the Union government to allocate maximum possible funds to Andhra Pradesh in the forthcoming Budget.

Grand Ratha Saptami Puja Celebrated in Moulali venkateswara Temple



Hyderabad, January 25, Metro Udayam

The Ratha Saptami celebrations were held grandly in Hyderabad.

At the Annamacharya Sahita Sridevi Goda devi Sametha Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple on RTC Colony Road, Moula Ali, devotees celebrated the Ratha Saptami program grandly from the morning. Early in the morning, devotees participated in the Ratha Saptami festival rituals, Surya Yatra Pratishtha, and Surya Namaskaram (sun salutations) program.

Later, they performed Abhishekam (ritual bathing) of Lord Venkateswara, had a darshan (viewing) of the deity in his true form, and received the sacred water and prasadam (offerings).

Speaking afterward, they said that Ratha Saptami is also called Surya Jayanti (the birth anniversary of the Sun God). The Puranas state that the sun travels on the Uttarayana path on this day. They said that worshipping the sun today is very auspicious. They wished that everyone would prosper with good health and longevity. The temple's honorary president Rameshwar Rao, president Anjaneyulu, members Hanumantha Rao, Sudhakar, Srinivas Rao, Shivanandam, Anjaiah, Prasad, Gayatri, and a large number of devotees participated in this program.

Irshad Khan as Special Guest at Jamia Aisha Siddiqi Lil Banat's Annual Function



Uppal January:25 (Metro udayam)

The 5th annual grand function of Jamia Aisha Siddiqi Lil Banat was held successfully at the New Bandi Convention Hall near Uppal Bus Depot. Uppal Congress senior leader and social worker Irshad Khan (Uppal Khan) attended the event as a special guest.

During the program, certificates were distributed to the students who completed the memorization of the Holy Quran (Hifz), and the completion of Bukhari Sharif was also observed. Hazrat Aqdas Maulana Syed Ahmed Khizar Shah Saheb Masoodi (Da. Ba.), who presided over the event, spoke about religious education, moral values, and the role of education in societal development.

Speaking as the special guest, Irshad Khan said, "Education is crucial in building the future of society. Institutions like this are essential, especially for the religious education of girls. The services rendered by Jamia Aisha Siddiqi Lil Banat are commendable." Former Mayor Amar Singh, former Deputy Mayor Shiva Kumar, Congress Party In-charge Tungathurthi Ravi, as well as Mazar, Irfan, Noor-ul-Amin, and others participated in the program. Prominent Ulema-e-Kiram, religious leaders, local leaders, and a large number of people also attended, making the event a grand success.

Vijayawadians ordered 7.78L Chicken Biryanis in 2025

Vijayawada: Vijayawada, a city known for its bold flavours and rich culinary heritage, showcased its vibrant food culture in 2025 through an impressive mix of traditional favourites and evolving tastes. From indulgent biryanis to comforting idlis, city's food preferences reflected both authenticity and adaptability, according to the Vijayawada Edition of 'How India Swiggy'd'.

Chicken Biryani emerged as the undisputed favourite, topping the charts with a massive 7.78 lakh orders, reaffirming the city's deep love for this iconic dish. Close behind were Idli with 3.2 lakh orders and Veg Dosa with 2.7 lakh orders, highlighting Vijayawada's strong preference for classic South Indian staples. Dessert lovers leaned towards familiar indulgences, with Chocolate Cake and Apricot Cake being the most ordered sweets of the year. Traditional treats like Gulab Jamun, Kaju Barfi, Boondi Ladoo, and modern favourites such as Chocolate Pie also featured prominently among the top dessert choices. Mornings in Vijayawada remained light and tradi-



tional, led by Idli (1.43 lakh orders) and Veg Dosa (1.12 lakh orders). Snack-time cravings between 3 pm and 7 pm saw Chicken Biryani dominate with nearly 218 orders every evening, followed by Chicken Burger and Chicken Fry. Late-night food culture also gained momentum, with orders between midnight and 2 am growing by 47.7 percent year-on-year, again led by Chicken Biryani. Travel-time cravings saw a significant surge in 2025. Orders placed through Swiggy's Food on train feature at Vijayawada Junction grew by an impressive 233 per cent, recording the highest number of such orders in the country—highlighting

how food delivery has become an integral part of train journeys.

Workplace dining also saw interesting trends. On DeskEats, Chicken Popcorn was the most ordered item, averaging 111 orders per day, followed by French Fries and Idli. One standout corporate order included multiple buckets of fried chicken and burgers, marking the largest DeskEats order in the city—clearly signalling Vijayawada's enthusiasm for office celebrations. Health-conscious choices made their mark too, with high-protein food emerging as a standout category, clocking 1.3 lakh orders in 2025. Quick deliveries through

Swiggy Bolt gained popularity, with Chicken Biryani (1.32 lakh orders) leading the category, followed by Idli, Veg Dosa, and Onion Dosa. Among desserts, Apricot Delight topped Bolt orders, along with favourites like Choco Lava Cake, Badam Milk, McFlurry Oreo, Poornam Boorelu, Cashew Burfi, and Bobbatlu. The largest Bolt order in the city included three customised gift hamper baskets, reflecting the growing demand for instant convenience.

Commenting on the trends, Sidharth Bhakoo, Chief Business Officer, Swiggy Food Marketplace, said, "In Vijayawada, we witnessed a fine balance between the love for classics and the comfort of national favourites. Food is an emotion, and we remain committed to delivering exceptional food experiences—one meal, one celebration at a time." Overall, Vijayawada's 2025 food journey was a flavourful blend of tradition, convenience, and evolving tastes—proving once again that the city's appetite is as dynamic as its spirit.

Comprehensive plan for reducing road accidents: SP

Nellore: As part of national road safety monthly celebrations, Superintendent of Police Ajitha Vejendla has inaugurated Walk Marathon at VRC Center in the city on Saturday. Speaking on the occasion, she said that most of the accidents are occurring due to human failures like overspeed, driving in inebriated condition, without wearing helmet etc. In order to reduce road accidents, police department has been designing a comprehensive plan with the cooperation of R&B, NHAI, Municipal and Panchayath Raj departments, she added.

The SP said that as per the latest records most of accidents were registered with two wheelers without wearing helmet. She urged



people to consider following road safety precautions, keeping their families in view, instead of rules. She advised people to check vehicle condition like brakes, tyres,

lights etc before starting journey. Additional SPs CH Soujanya and Deeksha, NMC Commissioner YO Nandan and others were present.

982 police to get awards on Republic Day

On the occasion of Republic Day, the Union government has announced awards for 982 police personnel across the country in recognition of gallantry and distinguished service.

The honours include gallantry and service medals for police, fire service personnel and home guards. Six officers from the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) have been selected for the President's Awards.

Among the recipients are ASP RMK Tirumalachari from Andhra Pradesh, and Additional SP GS



Prakash Rao and Sub-Inspector Damodar Reddy from Telangana, who will receive President's Medals for distinguished service.

Head Constable Marri Venkat Reddy of Telangana has been chosen for a gallantry award.

Economic focus dominates Delhi CM's maiden R-Day speech

In her maiden Republic Day speech at Chhatrasal Stadium, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday recounted her government's achievements in fields like health, transport, education, development, pollution control and ease of doing business, stressing the need to rebuild the Capital as an economic nerve centre.

"Those who looted Delhi time and again have themselves been erased from history. But... Delhi has risen again each time, standing even taller and prouder. And once again, Delhi has risen to reclaim its lost dignity, to shape its new future," she said at the Delhi government's official Republic Day function that included unfurling of the National Flag, taking a salute of marching



contingents and cultural performances.

"I extend warm greetings and best wishes for Republic Day to

all residents of Delhi and the surrounding areas. On this day, let us take a pledge to fulfil our responsibilities for our city and our country, so that a Viksit

Bharat and Viksit Delhi can progress," she said.

She wrote on X, "The ideals of the Constitution, respect for democratic values, and the resolve of Nation First form the foundation of our Republic. In line with Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji's Vision 2047, we are continuously striving for building a Viksit Delhi."

She highlighted plans to make Delhi the EV Capital and urged people to switch to green fuels and avail the benefits of the soon-to-be released EV policy of the government.

Claiming that with the launch of the new 300 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs and Ayushman Bharat health schemes, the health facil-

ities in the city and Atal Canteens have helped the poor, she said that the government is also committed to making the city safer with the installation of 10,000 CCTV cameras.

For development, the government has allocated Rs 1,700 crore for various projects, and it aims to promote the MSME sector to ensure optimal benefit from the proposed India-EU trade deal, she said.

Reiterating her commitment to address the pollution issue, she said the government is working on a long-term solution for cleaning the Yamuna, garbage disposal and improvement in air quality.

Complete shutdown in Alur demanding Adoni district

Aur (Kurnool district): Alurin Kurnool district observed a complete shutdown on Saturday under the Joint Action Committee (JAC) banner, demanding the creation of a separate Adoni district.

YSRCP Alur MLA Virupakshi actively participated in the protest, extending full support to the call raised by local residents, traders, youth groups, and civil organisations.

The bandh brought normal life to a standstill in much of the town, with shops and businesses voluntarily closing in solidarity. Vehicular traffic on major routes connecting Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka faced severe disruption, leading to heavy congestion and long delays. Commuters, daily travellers, transport operators, and those on emergency trips endured significant inconvenience as vehicles remained stranded for hours. The protest highlighted widespread public sentiment that carving out Adoni as a separate district would improve governance, acceler-



ate development, and provide better administrative access for western areas of Kurnool district, including constituencies like Alur, Patikonda, and Mantralayam. Premium Content Subscription

Addressing the media, MLA Virupakshi emphasised that declaring Adoni a district would enable faster progress and enhanced facilities in the region. He claimed that all major political parties except the Telugu Desam Party back the demand, describing it as a

united people's movement for welfare.

He urged the government to announce the new district immediately and warned of intensified efforts, including approaching former CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, to push the issue forward—especially if the YSRCP returns to power.

The bandh reflected growing frustration over delayed administrative reorganisation and a strong resolve to secure better regional development.

Data analysis skills open global opportunities



Nellore: In the present digital era, data analysis and visualization skills play a vital role in both research and industrial sectors, said Prof Allam Srinivasa Rao, Vice-Chancellor of Vikrama Simhapuri University.

A national-level workshop, 'Comprehensive One Week Workshop on R Programming and AMOS for Data Analysis and Visualization', organised jointly by Department of Tourism Management and Department of Statistics with financial support from PM-USHA (Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan), concluded successfully at the university campus on Saturday.

Addressing the valedictory session as chief guest, the Vice-Chancellor emphasised that students and researchers should not confine themselves to textbook knowledge alone, but must gain hands-on expertise in modern software tools such as R Programming and AMOS.

Machine Learning Essential for Research Accuracy Resource persons Prof Ruchika Malhotra, Professor of Software Engineering at Delhi Technological University; and Mrutyunjaya Hiremath, AI Architect and Data Scientist at TCS, Bengaluru also spoke on the occasion.

University Principals, PM-USHA Coordinators Prof Ch Vijaya and Prof G Vijaya Anand Kumar Babu, heads of various departments, faculty members, and research scholars participated in the programme.

Pay attention to cleanliness, Collector urges

Tirupati: District Collector Dr S Venkateswar urged everyone to focus on cleanliness, during an awareness event on the theme 'Zero Gap Sanitation Andhra' organised in Tirupati on Saturday.

He participated as the chief guest at Swarna Andhra - Swachh Andhra programme, being held on every third Saturday of the month, as per the directions of Chief Minister Nara Chandra Babu Naidu.

Municipal Commissioner N Mourya, TUDA Chairman C Divakar Reddy, Greenery and Beautification Chairperson Sugunamma, Yadav Corporation Chairman Narasimha Yadav, Deputy Mayors Mudra Narayan and RC Munikrishna also participated.

The Collector, Commissioner Mourya and TUDA Chairman C Divakar Reddy distributed safety



kits (PPE kits) to sanitation workers.

Collector Dr Venkateswar said that since January last year, Swachh Andhra - Swarna Andhra campaign programmes were conducted every third Saturday as per the Chief

Minister's orders. Each month features a new theme with various cleanliness activities. This month, the programme focuses on 'Zero Gap Sanitation Andhra', including cleaning septic tanks and repairing public toilets.

Swachh Ratham is used for cir-

cular economy by recycling dry and solid waste. These programmes are held on a large scale across all constituencies, panchayats, and secretariats in the district.

The Chief Minister also participates in the programme in Nagari constituency. In Tirupati district, large-scale cleanliness drives should be conducted in Puttur and Vadamalapeta mandals too. Everyone should pay attention to cleanliness, the Collector added.

Commissioner N Mourya called on everyone to focus on better sanitation. She said under Zero Gap Sanitation, they are creating awareness among people for quality cleanliness. 'Steps are taken to ensure waste bins are available everywhere in the city and separate bins in every school.

Septic tanks in the city are cleaned regularly. Safety kits (PPE) are provided to sanitation workers. Waste is segregated and collected from every house. Two vehicles are purchased to remove waste from drainage canals. For plastic ban, cloth bag vending machines are set up at Indira Priyadarshini Market. Awareness created to prevent open urination and reduce plastic use in the market,' she added.

After the programme, Swachh Rathams were flagged off. A rally held from old Municipal Office to Indira Priyadarshini Vegetable Market raised awareness against open urination and plastic use.

Additional Commissioner Sarada Devi, Deputy Commissioner Amaraiah, Health Officer Dr Yuva Anvesh Reddy, Revenue Officer Sethu Madhav and others were present.

Voting not a political expression, but reflection of citizens' faith in democracy: President Murmu



President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday said that voting is not just a political expression, but it's a reflection of citizens' faith in the democratic process of elections, as this allows them to express their aspirations.

Addressing the 16th National Voters' Day celebrations in the capital, President Murmu said that public participation gives shape to the spirit of democracy at the grassroots level and also lauded the Election Commission's efforts towards increased voter participation.

She stated that the poll panel has made numerous efforts to achieve the objective of "full voter participation" and praised the steps undertaken to spread voter awareness.

"This year's theme, chosen by the Election Commission, 'My India, My Vote: Indian Citizen at the heart of Indian Democracy,' reflects the spirit of our democracy and underscores the importance of the right to vote in our democratic system," she said.

President Murmu further stated that the strength of our democracy lies not only in the sheer size of voters but also in the depth of the democratic spirit.

Describing the old and divyang voters, from remote areas, as inspiration for others, she said that all those involved in the election machinery are providing many examples of increased awareness and also ensuring greater participation.

The President also urged all adult citizens to exercise their franchise, keeping in mind their constitutional duties and voiced confidence that all voters, free from temptation, ignorance, misinformation, propaganda, and prejudice, will strengthen our electoral system through the power of their conscience.

She also congratulated the young voters across the country and stated that today's voters are the architects of India's future. She expressed confidence that all young voters will exercise their right to vote responsibly and contribute to nation-building.

Notably, the National Voters' Day is being observed annually on January 25 to commemorate the foundation day of the Election Commission of India.

This event seeks to underline the centrality of the voter, raise electoral awareness among citizens and also inspire their participation in the democratic process.

KC canal to receive water supply for 20 days

Nandyal: District Collector G Raja Kumari announced that the State government will release continuous water supply for the first 20 days up to tail-end ayacut through KC Canal, ensuring that farmers cultivating rabi crops do not face any hardship. She said the decision was taken with a clear intent to safeguard farmers' interests and prevent crop loss across the canal command area.

She addressed the media at Nandyal Collectorate on Saturday, along with Panyam MLA Gowru Charitha Reddy, Nandikotkur MLA Jayasurya, and district SP Suneel Sheoran, regarding water distribution through Muchumarri/Malyala Pump House.

The Collector explained that water storage levels in Tungabhadra Reservoir have declined, and repair works are being undertaken on its 33 gates to avoid future difficulties, while also coordinating with other States. Due to reduced flow in KC Canal from 0 km to 150 km, crops cultivated across nearly 50,000 acres in Nandikotkur, Srisailem and Panyam constituencies are at risk of being



affected. Farmers in these areas have largely cultivated dry crops such as jowar, maize, red gram, and black gram, along with paddy in limited extent. She said the government, despite limited availability of canal water, has ensured storage and planned supply by promoting water conservation in other regions and releasing water as per requirement for farmers' welfare. Following the representations by local MLAs to the in-charge Minister, Water Resources Minister, and the Chief Minister, immediate approval was granted

to lift water through Malyala-Muchumarri Lift Irrigation Scheme, the Collector said. She emphasised that farmers must use water judiciously and avoid wastage, so that even tail-end farmers, particularly in Gadivemula mandal, receive equitable supply. The district administration will enforce a systematic water regulation mechanism in coordination with revenue, police, irrigation and agriculture departments, along with public representatives, to ensure smooth distribution without disputes.

Swachchandra rally spurs sanitation awareness at medical college

Vijayawada: The 'Swarnandhra Swachchandra' (SASA) programme was organised at Siddhartha Government Medical College in Vijayawada on Saturday with the aim of promoting awareness about sanitation, hygiene, and public health among students, staff, and the surrounding community.

The event began with a vibrant rally within the college campus, where students, faculty, and staff participated enthusiastically, holding banners and placards urging cleanliness and discouraging open defecation. The programme also focused on awareness about regular cleaning and maintenance of septic tanks, proper disposal of waste, and the collective responsibility of the community in promoting sanitation.

Following the rally, an oath-taking



ceremony was conducted at the seminar hall, during which participants pledged to maintain personal hygiene, uphold sanitation standards, and contribute actively to creating a clean and healthy environment in the college and their communities. SASA Nodal Officer VV Sarvanarayana Babu and other officials were also present, overseeing the activities and interacting with participants to reinforce the importance of sanitation awareness. Speaking on the occasion, College Principal Dr. A

Edukondalu Rao emphasised that cleanliness is not just essential for individual health but also forms the foundation of a healthier, more hygienic Andhra Pradesh. He urged students, faculty, and staff to incorporate regular hygiene practices into their daily routines, maintain both personal and public cleanliness, and ensure the proper use of household and communal toilets to eliminate open defecation. Dr Rao further highlighted that even small, consistent actions by individuals—such as proper waste disposal, maintaining toilets, and keeping surroundings clean—can collectively bring about a significant improvement in public health and environmental sanitation, setting a positive example for the wider community, a significant impact on public health and environmental hygiene.

Kolkata Mounted Police excluded from R-Day parade for 4th consecutive year

The Kolkata Police's Mounted Police will not participate in the Republic Day parade on the Red Road on Sunday. Sources in Kolkata Police said on Sunday that the Mounted Police have been kept out of the parade for the fourth consecutive year since a 2022 incident where a horse turned its back on the then-Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar during the salute. However, spectators can find some consolation in seeing the Indian Army's mechanical 'robotic mules' instead of the real horses.

Although the horses will not be participating in the parade, the mounted police unit will be on duty in the Maidan area from morning on Republic Day. The police cavalry will be keeping a



watchful eye to ensure that spectators attending the parade do not face any problems and

that law and order are maintained. It may be recalled that on

January 26, 2022, the Republic Day parade began with a contingent of the Army's Eastern Command marching down the Red Road. The Kolkata Police's mounted unit paraded with their horses, and 20 of them moved forward in perfect formation, step by step. An officer of the Kolkata Mounted Police saluted while seated on his horse. However, one of the horses suddenly broke away from the group and caused a disturbance. At that time, it was 11 years old. Before this, it had participated in the Republic Day and Independence Day parades about four times. But on that day, it broke away from the group and turned its back towards the then-Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar. Officials at Lalbazar investigated

and found that the parade on Red Road was being shown on a giant screen located beside the road. When the horse moved away, at that moment, the images of the mounted police were being shown on the screen. The authorities attributed the incident to the horse being distracted by its own image on the screen. Although the horse was brought into line within seconds and the mounted police's parade carried on, this unit of the Kolkata Police has not participated in Republic Day and Independence Day parades since then. According to sources at Lalbazar (Kolkata Police headquarters), the mounted police will not participate in this year's parade either.

All set for 'VD 14' title announcement on Republic Day



The makers of the much-anticipated film VD 14, starring Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna in the lead roles, have announced a major update ahead of Republic Day. The film's official title will be revealed on January 26, adding to the growing excitement surrounding the project.

Directed by Rahul Sankrityan, VD 14 is being mounted on a grand scale by producers Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers, in association with T-Series, which is presenting the film. The project is envisioned as a large-scale period action drama set during the British era.

Set in the 19th century, the film draws inspiration from real historical events that unfolded between 1854 and 1878. With its expansive timeline and period setting, VD 14 is being positioned as a pan-India release, aiming to reach audiences across multiple languages.

The film marks a significant collaboration on multiple fronts. It is the third film produced by Mythri Movie Makers featuring Vijay Deverakonda, following Dear Comrade and Kushi. Actor Vijay Deverakonda and director Rahul Sankrityan are reuniting after the success of Taxiwaala, raising expectations for another compelling cinematic outing. Additionally, VD 14 will be the third film pairing Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna, after their popular collaborations in Geetha Govindam and Dear Comrade.

With the title announcement scheduled for Republic Day, the makers are set to kickstart the next phase of promotions for this ambitious period drama.

Aus Open: Medvedev crashes out; De Minaur prevails into QF

Daniil Medvedev's Australian Open campaign came to a shocking end on Sunday as the world No. 11 was knocked out in the fourth round by 25th seed Learner Tien in straight sets.

The Russian struggled to find his rhythm throughout the contest and went down 4-6, 0-6, 3-6 in a one-sided encounter that lasted just over an hour. It marked one of Medvedev's earliest exits at the season's first Grand Slam in recent years. After posing some challenge to Tien in the first set, the second one proved particularly disastrous for Medvedev, who failed to win a single game as Tien reeled off 11 games in a row at one stage. Despite a brief resistance in the third set, Medvedev could not halt the momentum as the American closed out the match with authority. Medvedev was unable to cope with Tien's aggressive play and consistency on return. While the Russian managed six aces, his overall effectiveness on serve was well below par, winning just 58 per cent of points on his first serve and a poor 33 per cent on his second. With this defeat, Medvedev exits the tournament far earlier than expected, while Tien continues his impressive run in Melbourne, reaching the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam for the first time in his career. He will now face world No.3 Alexander Zverev in semi final.

Meanwhile, home favourite Alex de Minaur played another watertight match to get a top-10 win over Alexander Bublik on his way to the Australian Open quarterfinals for the second successive year. De Minaur made the most of Bublik's struggles on first serve early on before cruising through a surprisingly one-sided match 6-4 6-1 6-1. The world No.6, who could become the first Australian men's singles champion at the Melbourne major since Mark Edmondson in 1976, next faces world No.1 Carlos Alcaraz, who beat Tommy Paul earlier on Sunday.



Fans urge director Harish Shankar to unblock them ahead of 'Ustaad Bhagat Singh' buzz

In an unusual turn of events on social media, fans have been seen requesting a film director to unblock them, a first-of-its-kind moment that has caught the attention of Telugu cinema circles. The incident involves director Harish Shankar, whose popularity and strong fan following continue to remain intact despite occasional online controversies.

In the past, a section of fans of actor Pawan Kalyan had indulged in negative online exchanges directed at Harish Shankar. To avoid unnecessary distractions and maintain focus on his work, the director had blocked several accounts at the time. The move was seen as a step to curb toxicity and maintain a healthier digital space.

However, the situation has taken a positive turn with the growing hype



surrounding Harish Shankar's upcoming film Ustaad Bhagat Singh. Impressed by the film's promotional content and the scale at which the project is shaping up, many of the same fans have now come forward with public requests

asking the director to unblock them and move past earlier differences.

On Sunday, one fan took to social media to issue a heartfelt apology on behalf of the fan community and urged Harish Shankar to forgive and reconnect. Responding graciously, the director reportedly unblocked the accounts, asking everyone to put the past behind them and come together to celebrate Ustaad Bhagat Singh.

The gesture has been widely appreciated online, with many praising Harish Shankar for his magnanimity and willingness to foster positivity. The episode stands as a rare example of reconciliation between creators and fans in the often volatile world of social media, highlighting how shared excitement over cinema can bridge divides and reset relationships.

Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur, Praveen Kumar set to be awarded Padma Shri awards

Former India captain Rohit Sharma, Indian women's team captain Harmanpreet Kaur and Para-athlete Praveen Kumar are set to be honoured with the Padma Shri as the Padma Awards 2026 were announced on Sunday. This recognition marks their significant contributions to Indian sports across different formats and generations. While the Padma Shri awards celebrated both current and former stars, India's tennis icon Vijay Amritraj received the Padma Bhushan. He is the only sportsperson to earn the country's third-highest civilian honor this year. Amritraj's recognition adds to a notable career that has lasted for decades, both on and off the court. He had previously been

awarded the Padma Shri in 1983 and the Arjuna Award in 1974, highlighting his lasting influence on Indian tennis and sports administration. Rohit Sharma, the former captain of Indian men's cricket team, is a key figure in modern Indian cricket. He is known for his leadership and impressive run-scoring at the highest level and led India to second T20 World Cup trophy in 2024. Harmanpreet Kaur, captain of the women's team, led India to maiden women's ICC title after hosts India clinched Women's ODI World Cup 2025 has also played a vital role, leading India to new successes and inspiring a generation of young cricketers with her bold batting and leadership. The list of honored sports



figures included Savita Punia, the goalkeeper of the Indian women's hockey team, whose consistency and leadership have helped India regain its place on the international stage. Baldev Singh, Bhagwandas Raikwar, and K Pajanivel also received the Padma Shri for their achievements in

sports. The Padma Awards are among India's highest civilian honors and celebrate excellence and service in various fields. With honorees from cricket, tennis, and hockey this year, the 2026 awards showcased the growing strength and influence of Indian sports on the global stage.

'Swayambhu' locks worldwide release on April 10

After earning nationwide acclaim with the pan-India blockbuster Karthikeya 2, actor Nikhil Siddhartha is gearing up to entertain audiences with his landmark 20th film, Swayambhu. Mounted on a lavish scale, the film is a historical action epic directed by Bharat Krishnamachari, with Samyuktha and Nabha Natesh playing the female leads.

Produced by Bhuvan and Srikar under the Pixel Studios banner and presented by Tagore Madhu, Swayambhu is being positioned as one of the most ambitious projects of Nikhil's career. With high-end production values and a powerful pan-India vision, the film promises a visually rich cinematic experience.

The makers have officially announced that Swayambhu will



hit theatres worldwide on April 10, making it a perfect summer release. Considered Nikhil's highest-budget film to date, the project has already generated significant buzz across India, especially following the success of Karthikeya 2. A major highlight of Swayambhu is

its extensive visual effects work. Leading VFX companies in India are collaborating on the film, with the team taking ample time to ensure world-class output and a stunning visual spectacle for audiences.

For his role, Nikhil underwent a complete physical transformation and intense training, reflecting his commitment to the character. The promotional content released so far has further heightened expectations.

The film boasts a top-tier technical team, with ace cinematographer KK Senthil Kumar of Baahubali and RRR fame handling the visuals, and Ravi Basrur of KGF and Salaar providing the music. Production design is by M. Prabhakaran and Ravindra.