

Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender admits defecting to Congress party

Hyderabad: Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender on Wednesday triggered a fresh political storm by admitting that he had defected to the Congress. Ironically, he is the only MLA who is yet to respond to notices issued by Speaker Gaddam Prasad on disqualification petitions filed by the BRS.

Making candid remarks before the media here, Nagender categorically stated that he belonged to the Congress party and continued to be a Congress MLA. He also vowed to work to ensure the party's victory in the upcoming Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) elections. He said he would campaign across all 300 GHMC divisions for the Congress and its ally, the MIM. Hyderabad city guide

"I do not know which party the other defected MLAs belong to. But I

am definitely in the Congress," he declared in response to media queries.

Nagender's admission assumes significance amid ongoing arguments on the disqualification of 10 MLAs who defected from the BRS to the Congress. He was elected to the Telangana Assembly from Khairatabad on a BRS ticket in the 2023 elections. Soon after his victory, he crossed over to the Congress and later contested the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Secunderabad on a Congress ticket, though he was defeated. As he had openly contested on a Congress ticket in the Lok Sabha elections, his disqualification appears inevitable, unlike others, which is suspected to have prompted his admission.

While the BRS has pursued the matter aggressively and filed petitions for disqualification of all 10 turncoat MLAs, Assembly Speaker Gaddam



Prasad Kumar recently dismissed disqualification petitions against five MLAs,

citing lack of conclusive evidence that they had formally joined the Congress.

Illegal weapons seized in pre-dawn raid in Hyderabad's Yakutpura



HYDERABAD: In a major operation against persons having a criminal history, the Hyderabad police conducted a raid early on Wednesday morning at the house of Hamza Bin Omer, alias Zafer Pahelwan, at Yakutpura. The police seized illegal weapons from the house.

The raids were conducted by the police to prevent unlawful activities. Zafer Pahelwan has 40 cases registered against him since 1982 and is allegedly attempting to dominate the old city criminal gangs with the help of his associates Sayeed Pahelwan and Suleman Pahelwan, said the police.

Around 60 police personnel participated in a pre-dawn operation in the Yakutpura locality.

Recently, the police arrested two sons of Zafer Pahelwan in connection with the murder of Junaid, who was murdered on December 3. The police are maintaining rowdy sheets against at least seven members who have a blood relation with Zafer Pahelwan. The ACP Mirchowk division, G Shyam Sunder, said Zafer Pahelwan, Sayeed Pahelwan and Suleman Pahelwan are absconding currently.

The Hyderabad police have opened a rowdy sheet against Zafer Pahelwan, a former constable of City Armed Reserve Hyderabad police, in early 1980s. On multiple occasions, he was evicted from the city by the police for indulging in illegal activities.

The police have appealed to the public to come forward and share any information related to the accused or their activities and assured that the identity of informants will be kept strictly confidential.



Construction done unscientifically, says Sridhar Babu

Peddapalli: IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu inspected the damaged check dam built across the Maneru stream in Adavi Somanpalli village of Manthani mandal on Tuesday. He stated that an inquiry should be conducted into the check dam's construction, from its inception to its collapse. "The check dams are not benefiting the farmers and that they were constructed unscientifically," he alleged, in a statement later.

He added that the check dams were built without maintaining quality standards, and a full-scale vigilance inquiry should be conducted quickly. "Those responsible for the check dam's damage would be held accountable, regardless of their position," the minister warned.

He said an inquiry would be conducted to determine the reasons for the collapse of the check dams constructed during the previous government's tenure. "Some people undertook such check dam constructions for commissions, and it is clear whose benefit they were built for," he said.

Sridhar Babu assured that an impartial inquiry would be conducted to find out why these check dams were constructed in the first place when they offer no benefits to the farmers.

Farmers demand urea bags

Khanapur: Upset over not receiving enough urea bags to protect their crops, farmers took to the streets and staged a rasta roko (road blockade) at the Kadam mandal center in Nirmal district on Tuesday.

They expressed anger that officials were causing difficulties through the so-called "urea app" sys-



tem.

Farmers lamented that despite visiting the Gromor fertilizer shop for the past four days, they had not been able to get the required supply.

The road blockade brought traffic on the Mancherial-Nirmal highway to a standstill. ADA Sujatha reached the protest site and tried to pacify the farmers.



opment works of the Sammakka-Saralamma Temple.

They were accorded a grand welcome with bouquets by Member of Parliament Porika Balaram Naik, District Collector Divakar TS, Superintendent of Police Sudheer Ram Nath Kekan, ITDA Project Officer Chitra Mishra, Bhupalpally Superintendent of Police Sirisetti Sankeerth, and DFO Rahul Kishan Jadhav.

Later, the Ministers offered special prayers to the forest deities Sammakka and Saralamma.

Subsequently, in view of the Maha Jatara, they inspected the ongoing temple and infrastructure de-

velopment works at Chilukalagutta Road, Sthupam, Kannepally, Jampannavagu, and the RTC Bus Station area in Medaram.

Earlier in the day, Ponguleti stated that the works undertaken by the State Government on the occasion of the Medaram Jatara are being executed in such a way that they will remain intact for the next two hundred years, and assured that all works will be completed within the stipulated time.

He said that lakhs of devotees, not only from Telangana but also from other states, are arriving at Medaram to have the darshan of the mothergoddesses and fulfill their vows.

Later, at the Haritha Hotel in Medaram, he conducted a comprehensive review meeting with senior officials of concerned departments and contractors, and issued directions on the progress of Medaram Jatara development works.

Addressing the media, Minister Srinivas Reddy said that restoration works using marble sculptures are progressing briskly in the Gaddela areas in a manner that reflects tribal traditions and culture. He stated that they are moving forward with a firm determination to complete 100 percent of the works within a short time, and expressed confidence that despite minor hurdles, all works would be completed by January 5 of the coming year.

MP Balaram Naik stated that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has given special focus to the Maha Jatara and sanctioned works worth crores of rupees, which he described as truly commendable.

Fact-finding committee alleges Tanugula, Adavi somanpalli check dams blasted

Hyderabad: A 10-member Fact-Finding Committee, headed by V Prakash, former chairman of the Telangana State Water Resources Development Corporation, alleged in its report that both the Tanugula and Adavisomanpalli check dams built on the Manair river were blasted using explosives.

The Committee alleged that the sand mafia belonging to the ruling party was behind this destruc-

dam was washed away due to poor quality construction. The farmers lamented that it is regrettable that the local Member of Parliament and Union Minister, Bandi Sanjay, is also echoing this claim.

The Committee released a note on their findings on Tuesday. The Committee report said that their findings made it clear that it was destroyed by a bomb blast. It is understood that the 90-metre-long check

dam body wall, the concrete apron above and below the check dam, and the cutoff walls have been destroyed. Such extensive destruction is not possible even due to floods. Only the cement layer (wearing coat) on the check dam body wall and apron would be washed away in floods. There might be a possibility of soil erosion and a breach at the ends of the check dam. It is understood that these are fragments that were blown away by an explosion.

The Committee demanded that the Jammikunta police, Koyyuru police and the



tion.

The Committee stated that local and district Congress leaders are falsely claiming that the check

SPs of Peddapalli and Bhupalpally districts complete the investigation based on the complaint filed by the Irrigation Department engineers and take action to ensure that the culprits are punished severely according to the law.



SCCL backbone of the state's development

Bhupalpally: MLA Gandra Satyanarayana Rao on Tuesday said Singareni is the backbone of the state's development and that the company plays a crucial role in fulfilling state and national energy requirements through coal production.

On Tuesday, the MLA attended the celebrations held at the Singareni GM office in Bhupalpalli, organized under the auspices of the Bhupalpalli area, as the chief guest for Singareni Collieries' 137th foundation day.

In the GM office premises, the MLA and the GM Rajeswar reddy offered flowers and paid tribute to the statue of Dr BR Ambedkar, and they hoisted the flag. They then cut a cake arranged on the stage to mark the celebrations.

The MLA said the Singareni company stands as the backbone of the state's economic development, and that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's people's government is implementing many welfare schemes to ensure workers receive due recognition for their toil. He stated that worker safety, health, and welfare are the government's primary goals.

The MLA noted that Singareni is moving forward with modernization and technological development and is setting an example for the nation. He called on everyone to work collectively so that Singareni achieves even greater progress in the future. He added that the government is committed to a sustainable future for Singareni and urged everyone to re-dedicate themselves to keeping the company at the forefront by demonstrating the power of labor. During the event, the MLA honored the best employees by presenting them with shawls.

Children's dance performances at the program were a special attraction.

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Eco-friendly sanitary cups distributed to KGBV girls

Nagarkurnool: District Collector Badavath Santhosh and local MLA Dr Rajesh Reddy distributed eco-friendly sanitary cups to students of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Tadoor on Tuesday.

They duo participated as chief guests in a programme jointly organised by the American Telugu Association and Manavatha Foundation, aimed at improving the health and hygiene of girl students.

Speaking on the occasion, Santhosh said that girls should give equal importance to health along with education. He cautioned students against falling into bad habits during adolescence and encouraged them to focus on building a bright future. He stated that while attractions are natural at this age, overcoming them is essential for success in life. He further said that NASA kits are very helpful in enabling girls to face these changes with proper awareness. "The kits contain sanitary napkins, soaps, and personal hygiene materials, which support girls in maintaining hygiene

during menstruation," he said.

Dr Rajesh advised girls to pay special attention to both education and health and not to get distracted by unhealthy habits or attractions. He appreciated the representatives of the American Telugu Association for coming forward to create awareness among girl students. He also suggested that more such awareness programmes should be conducted in rural schools to educate girls about health and hygiene.

Speaking on the occasion, American Telugu Association President Jayanth Chella stated that the organization would continue to conduct similar programmes to promote health and educational awareness among girls and would extend all possible support for building a better society. Earlier, Manavatha Foundation President Dr Ramya Soujanya created awareness among students on the usage of eco-friendly sanitary cups, their benefits, and addressed doubts regarding their use.

Tribal Deities installed in Medaram with traditional rituals

In a significant event in Medaram, located in the Tadwai mandal of Mulugu district, the installation of deities Pagididdaraju and Govindaraju took place amidst traditional tribal practices. Govindaraju was ceremonially installed at 6 AM, followed by Pagididdaraju at 9:45 AM on Wednesday.

The ceremony saw the participation of notable figures, including Minister Seethakka, District Collector Diwakara, Superintendent of Police Sudhir Ramnath Kekan, and Jathara Executive Officer Veeraswamy.

To ensure safety, security measures were implemented to restrict devotees from entering the platform area during the installation



process.

Koil Alwar Tirumanjanam' performed ahead of 'Vaikuntha Ekadasi

Tirumala: Ahead of the auspicious Vaikuntha Ekadasi on December 30, the traditional temple cleansing ritual, Koil Alwar Tirumanjanam, was performed at the Tirumala temple on Tuesday in strict adherence to Agama traditions.

Speaking to the media, TTD executive officer Anil Kumar Singh said Koil Alwar Tirumanjanam is a long-standing ritual conducted on the preceding Tuesday during four major occasions, Ugadi, Anivara Asthanam, annual Brahmotsavams and Vaikuntha Ekadasi.

As part of the ritual, the entire temple complex, from Ananda Nilayam to Bangaru Vakili, along with all sub-shrines, temple premises, potu, walls, ceilings and puja articles, was purified. Sacred aromatic substances known as Parimalam were sprinkled, followed by thorough cleansing. After completion of special pujas and Naivedyam as per Agamic procedures, devotees were allowed for darshan.

The EO said elaborate arrangements have been made for Vaikuntha Dwara Darshanam scheduled from December 30 to January 8. Over the past two months, officials conducted inspections and prepared detailed plans covering entry and exit

ABVP flays Lokesh for ignoring students' hardships

Vijayawada: The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) demanded the State government to immediately fill 3,600 vacant posts in government universities to ensure quality education for students and provide adequate basic infrastructure in educational institutions. The student body also urged the government to clear the pending Rs 6,400 crore fee reimbursement dues without further delay, warning that failure to do so would invite strong student protests.

Addressing the media here on Tuesday, ABVP Andhra Pradesh State Secretary Yaganti Venkata Gopi expressed concern that while students are being forced to migrate to other States in search of better educational opportunities, the education minister is limiting himself to "Hello Lokesh" platforms and ignoring the real hardships faced by students.

The leader said the 44th State Conference of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad was held successfully in Ongole city on December 19, 20 and 21.



routes, security, annaprasadam distribution, accommodation, queue line management and parking facilities.

Following the directions of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, a special TTD Board meeting was convened, prioritising common devotees during the 10-day Vaikuntha Dwara Darshanams.

Darshan tokens through the e-DIP system were allotted for December 30, 31 and January 1. Registrations were kept open for five days, attracting about 24 lakh applicants, of whom 1.89 lakh devotees were selected.

Token holders were advised to adhere strictly to their allotted date and time slot to ensure

darshan within two hours. Devotees without tokens will be allowed darshan through Sarva Darshan queues from January 2 to 8. During the same period, 15,000 Rs.300 Special Entry Darshan tickets and 1,500 SRIVANI tickets will be released online daily.

In view of the heavy influx, special darshans for senior citizens, parents with infants, differently-

abled persons, NRIs and defence personnel have been cancelled.

The EO assured adequate annaprasadam arrangements and tight security with 3,500 police personnel and 1,150 TTD vigilance staff deployed, while an Integrated Command Control Centre will monitor crowd movement continuously.

DGGI Vizag zonal unit uncovers fake ITC network

Visakhapatnam: Officers of the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI), Visakhapatnam zonal unit, have unearthed a network involved in fraudulent involvement and passing on of Input Tax Credit



(ITC) on the strength of invoices, without any corresponding supply of goods or services, through multiple dummy entities.

The investigation so far quantified the total fraudulent ITC availed at Rs 27.07 crore and ITC passed on at Rs 15.30 crore. Based on the investiga-

Students told to cultivate curiosity in inventions

Rajamahendravaram: East Godavari district joint collector Y Megha Swaroop has called for encouraging creativity among students and nurturing their interest in research from an early stage.

Addressing the gathering at the district-level science fair held at Sri Sathya Sai Gurukulam in Rajamahendravaram, he said teachers played a key role in shaping his life and career, and guided him to reach the present position. He urged students to work towards becoming future scientists and researchers right from the school level. The joint collector stressed the need for students to focus on agricultural sustainability. He said many food crops in the country are getting contaminated due to excessive use of chemicals and called for greater attention on organic farming and converting waste into wealth. District School Education Officer Kandi Vasudeva Rao said a total of 230 projects from schools of different management across the district were displayed at the exhibition. He said 11 projects were selected for the state-level science exhibition. Sri Sathya Sai Gurukulam Correspondent Shyam Sundar, Principal Gurraiah, Kovvur division DyEO B Dileep Kumar, District Science Officer GVNS Nehru, State Joint Secretary of the Headmasters Association Kola Satyanarayana, and others were present.

tion, Mallikarjuna Manoj Kumar has been identified as the controller/operator of the said network.

He admitted that transactions were carried out as per his directions and that the entities functioned solely for passing on ITC without real business operations or actual supply.

Also, financial analysis revealed structured diversion and layering of funds linked to the network, indicating planned routing and circulation of funds through multiple corridors. The network operated multiple dummy/invoice-only GST entities to obtain and issue tax invoices without any underlying supply by falsely showing works contract services, manpower supply and construction materials.

The GST officials informed that the accused Mallikarjuna Manoj Kumar was arrested for committing offences under various sections.

Notably, this is the fourth arrest made by DGGI, Visakhapatnam zonal unit during the current financial year, underscoring its sustained and focused enforcement against GST evasion and fake ITC frauds.



Botcha slams 'privatisation' of medical colleges by govt

Visakhapatnam: Leader of Opposition in Legislative Council and former minister Botcha Satyanarayana on Tuesday accused the state government of attempting to hand over medical colleges to private players, calling it a move against the interests of the poor.

Speaking at a press conference here, Satyanarayana said former chief minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy had met the Governor to highlight the "true intentions" behind the privatisation drive. He stressed that YSRCP's policy is to keep government medical colleges under state control to ensure access to medical education for the poorest sections.

"The coalition is projecting our stand as a 'threat' while continuing its privatisation scam. But this is not a threat-it is our policy," Satyanarayana asserted.

Referring to the Opposition's recent signature campaign, he said public sentiment is clearly against privatisation. "Anyone can go to the villages and conduct a survey to see the reality," he added.

Satyanarayana also criticised the renaming of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act by the NDA government at the Centre, calling it "unfortunate" and a setback to Gram Swarajya (village self-rule). He questioned why the Centre was not challenged on the issue and why Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan remained silent.

Hyderabad police arrest three for drug peddling, seize MDMA and LSD

Hyderabad: A software employee, a bike taxi driver, and an event manager were arrested by the Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing of the city police for allegedly selling drugs. The police seized 22 grams of hydroponic ganja, 5 grams of MDMA, ecstasy pills – 5.57 grams, LSD blots – 6 and cash Rs 50,000.

The arrested are Ummidi Immanuel (25), event manager, Sushmitha Devi (21), software employee, and Gorla Sai Kumar, a bike taxi driver. According to the police, Immanuel was procuring the drugs through the dark web and supplying them to customers through his live-in partner, Sushmitha Devi. Sai Kumar was also procuring drugs from Immanuel and selling them to customers. "The payments for drugs were made through cryptocurrency and the suppliers sent the parcels containing drugs through courier services to Immanuel and Sushmita Devi," said Gaikwad Vaibhav Raghunath.

On the alleged plight of the students under the coalition government's rule, he alleged that the Chandrababu Naidu-led government had failed to clear fee reimbursement dues and Aarogyasri bills. He further charged that prime lands were being sold at throwaway prices, while corruption and lack of accountability were worsening the state's condition. YSRCP Visakhapatnam district president K K Raju and Anakapalli district president Gudivada Amarnath were also present at the media briefing.

TTD chief quashes rumours on entry to Tirumala during Vaikuntha Darshan

Tirumala: TTD trust board chairman B R Naidu appealed to the devotees not to believe the false propaganda that 'no one with tokens will be allowed to enter Tirumala' which is in circulation on social media regarding the Vaikuntha Dwara Darshan to be held at Tirumala from December 30.

Addressing the media at his camp office in Tirumala on Tuesday evening, the chairman strongly condemned the misleading social media messages claiming that devotees without tokens are not allowed to come to Tirumala. He clarified that no one has the authority to ask devotees not to visit Tirumala.

He stated that TTD officials have been making extensive efforts over the past two months to ensure smooth arrangements for the Vaikuntha Dwara Darshan. Keeping past experiences in view, the State Government has also constituted a sub-committee comprising three ministers to oversee the arrangements.

Considering the heavy influx of devotees, tokens were allotted through the e-Dip system for December 30, 31, and January 1. On these three days, only devotees holding valid tokens will be allowed for darshan.

However, the devotees without tokens can come to Tirumala, but will not be permitted for darshan on the first three days.

The chairman further informed that special arrangements have been made for devotees who could not obtain tokens to have Vaikuntha Dwara Darshan through Sarva Darshan queue lines from January 2 to January 8.

All such devotees can avail this opportunity and

Farmers stage bandh demanding procurement of soy and maize

Adilabad: Farmers urged the State government to take steps to buy both soy and maize grains and avoid inconvenience to them. They observed a day-long bandh of commercial establishments and educational institutions demanding the government to



procure both soy and maize produce, in Bazarhathnoor mandal centre on Wednesday.

The agitating farmers wanted the government to immediately purchase the grains and prevent inconvenience to them. They asked how they could sell the grains if the procurement centres, arranged by the marketing department, were closed. They regretted that they would be forced to depend on private traders and incur huge losses in cultivating the crops.



have darshan of Lord Venkateswara.

To create awareness on this issue, TTD will disseminate information through banners on APSRTC buses, flex banners at important locations in Tirupati, broadcasting services, TTD social media platforms, SVBC, and other media channels.

The chairman urged all devotees to follow TTD guidelines and have darshan of the Sri Venkateshwara Swamy with discipline and patience.

SBI Marks Multi-Dimensional Push in Telangana across Housing Finance, Branch Expansion and Community Initiatives

- **SBI organized a 3-day Mega Property Expo at Hyderabad**
- **SBI Chairman urged developers to maintain transparency and find innovative ways to reduce construction costs underscoring that affordability remains critical as younger Indians increasingly aspire to own homes**
- **SBI Chairman virtually inaugurated 16 branches in Telangana**
- **SBI plans to open 48 branches during FY 2025-26 in Hyderabad Circle**
- **SBI Chairman inaugurated 'SBI ARISA Lab' – an AI, Robotics and IOT powered lab for training, research and development of smart agriculture**

Hyderabad, December xx, 2025: State Bank of India, the nation's largest

man, Shri Challa Sreenivasulu Setty urged developers to maintain transpar-

as a disciplined and stable market with timely project execution, and initiatives

such as the SWAMI Fund have helped complete thousands of homes for distressed buyers. Through such exhibitions, we aim to enhance customer awareness and deepen mutual trust"

Further strengthening its physical presence, the Chairman virtually inaugurated 16 new SBI branches across Telangana, in the presence of Hyderabad Circle's Chief General Manager, Shri S. Radhakrishnan. Addressing staff on the occasion, he stated that SBI plans to open 48 branches in the Hyderabad Circle during FY 2025–26. Emphasising that customers remain at the centre of the Bank's universe, he urged the bank's staff to focus on four foundational principles - Customer-centricity, Business growth, Sustainable growth and Employee-centricity.

As part of SBI's continued focus on community initiatives, the Chairman also launched several CSR programmes during his visit. These included the donation of a school bus to a school for intellectually challenged children and an ambulance to the Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Society. In addition, SBI announced a collaboration with the Unipads Foundation to distribute 60,000 hygiene kits to girl students in rural areas across Telangana.

In a significant step towards supporting innovation-led community development, the Chairman inaugurated the 'SBI ARISA (AI, Robotics and IoT for Smart Agriculture) Lab' at Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University, Hyderabad. Established under SBI Foundation's Gram Seva vertical in partnership with AgHub Foundation, the lab aims to serve as a hub for training, research and development in

smart agriculture, empowering farmers and agri-entrepreneurs through technology.

Through these initiatives, SBI reaffirmed its role as a trusted financial partner, combining business growth, banking access and community development to support Telangana's inclusive and sustainable progress.

About State Bank of India:

State Bank of India is the largest commercial bank in terms of assets, deposits, branches, customers, and employees. It is also one of the largest mortgage lender in the country which has so far fulfilled the home buying dreams of around 30 lakh Indian families. The home loan portfolio of the bank has crossed ₹ 8.8 lakh crore. As of September 2025, the bank has a deposit base of over ₹ 55.91 lakh crore with CASA ratio of 39.63% and advances of more than ₹ 44.19 lakh crore. Ranked as the 4th most trustworthy bank in the world by Newsweek, SBI commands a market share of 28% and 19.4% in home loans and auto loans, respectively. SBI has the largest network of 23,050 branches and 62,500 ATMs/ADWMs in India with more than 79,000 BC outlets. The number of customers using internet banking stand at 14.5 crores. With SBI's digital strategy right on track, the bank witnessed 64% of new savings accounts being opened through the integrated digital and lifestyle platform YONO in Q2 FY26. YONO, which has more than 9.3 crore registered users, witnessed 57.9 lakh YONO registrations (YTD September 2025). In terms of digital lending, the bank disbursed pre-approved personal loans worth ₹ 1,629 crores through YONO during Q2 FY26. As on 30th September 2025, SBI has 22 million followers on Facebook, 3.4 million followers on Instagram, 4.8 million followers on X and 9.53 million subscribers on YouTube. State Bank of India is the most followed bank globally on Facebook, Instagram



bank marked a major multi-dimensional push in Telangana with the launch of a three-day Mega Property Expo in Hyderabad, the virtual inauguration of 16 new branches across the state, the rollout of multiple community initiatives including 'SBI ARISA Lab' during the Hyderabad visit of SBI Chairman, Shri Challa Sreenivasulu Setty.

SBI Hyderabad Circle organised the Mega Property Expo from December 19 to 21, 2025 at Madhapur bringing together leading developers and prospective homebuyers on a common platform. Now in its sixth year, the Expo reinforces SBI's role as a key enabler of India's housing finance ecosystem. During the event, SBI signed MoU for corporate tie-ups with real-estate players and handed over a builder finance sanction letter amounting to ₹100 crore.

Inaugurating the Expo, SBI Chair-

ency and explore innovative ways to reduce construction costs, underscoring that affordability remains critical as younger Indians increasingly aspire to own homes.

Addressing the gathering, SBI Chairman said, "The Mega Home Expo in Hyderabad reflects SBI's role as a key enabler of India's housing and real estate ecosystem. With our home loan portfolio crossing ₹9 lakh crore, housing finance has emerged as our largest business segment, underscoring the sector's importance to economic growth and the national vision of housing for all. Even when developers do not require construction finance from SBI, they seek the Bank's project approvals, as it serves as a strong mark of confidence for homebuyers, backed by our rigorous due diligence and commitment to customer protection. Hyderabad stands out

Christmas Celebrations at SSD Grammar High School Emphasise Quality Education, Discipline, and National Responsibility



“P.S. ASHOKAN.” INDIAN Chronicle BUREAU. “Sainagar, Allwyn Colony | 24 December 2025” SSD Grammar High School, Sainagar, Allwyn Colony, celebrated Christmas with great enthusiasm and a strong sense of purpose on 24-12-2025. The programme was presided over by the school Correspondent, Ravindar Rao, and witnessed the active participation of a large number of parents, students, and staff members, reflecting the institution’s vibrant academic and cultural ethos. Addressing the gathering, the Principal, Tejaswini Surabhi delivered an inspiring and forward-looking address. She emphasized that in today’s highly competitive global envi-

ronment, students must acquire quality education enriched with practical skills, critical thinking, and essential competencies to face future challenges with confidence. She urged learners to maintain a healthy balance between academics, sports, and co-curricular activities, stating that such balance is vital for holistic development and lifelong success. Motivating the students, she advised them to set clear goals and pursue them with determination, discipline, and perseverance. She also highlighted the crucial role of parents in shaping young minds and cautioned against the excessive exposure of children to mobile phones and social media, urging

parents to guide their wards wisely to safeguard their future, values, and character development. Further, she inspired students to cultivate patriotism and a spirit of service, encouraging them to consider defence and military services as a noble means of serving the nation. The cultural segment added colour and joy to the celebrations, with students presenting graceful and energetic dance performances that captivated the audience and earned wide appreciation. The programme was efficiently organised under the guidance of Vice-Principal Jayasri, along with Coordinators Aruna, Sunitha, Vikram, and

Veeraswami, whose dedicated efforts ensured the smooth conduct of the event. Speaking on the occasion, parents Mrs Prasad Rao, Mrs Praveen Kumar, Mr Kallyan and Shashant Sagar Dubey lauded the school management and staff for their commitment to quality education, discipline, and value-based learning. The celebrations concluded on a joyful and meaningful note, reinforcing the values of love, unity, sharing, discipline, and social responsibility, and reaffirming SSD Grammar High School’s commitment to nurturing responsible citizens and future-ready leaders.

Victory celebration of the winning Sarpanches...

Minister participates in the felicitation ceremony..
Adluri Lakshman, MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy



“(Mandava Srisailam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau.. Indian Chronicle.. December 24): A felicitation ceremony was organized in Yadagirigutta town of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. A felicitation ceremony was held for the Sarpanches and Deputy Sarpanches who won in the Aleru constituency, and they were presented with mementos, a shawl of Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy, and laddoo prasad. The felicitation ceremony for the Sarpanches and Deputy Sarpanches was organized under the leadership of Telangana State Government Whip and Aleru MLA Beerla Ailaiah. Telangana State Minister for SC, ST, and Minority Welfare and District In-charge Minister Adluri Lakshman and Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy attended the event as chief guests. First, they visited the temple and performed special prayers. After that, the Sarpanches were grandly felicitated by Minister Adluri and MP Chamala. A massive rally with approximately 2000 people was organized from the cowshed in Yadagirigutta town, and they participated in the felicitation ceremony at the Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Function Hall. Sarpanches, Deputy Sarpanches, ward members, activists, and leaders from the Aleru constituency participated in this meeting in large numbers. On this occasion, they extended their heartfelt congratulations to all the Sarpanches who were elected with the trust of the people. Stating that the role of Sarpanches (village heads)



is crucial in the development of villages, he said that state development is possible only if governance at the village level is strengthened. He advised the Sarpanches to work responsibly to ensure that the various welfare schemes implemented by the Central and State governments reach every eligible poor family. He specifically emphasized the

need to prioritize the development of basic infrastructure such as education, healthcare, drinking water, sanitation, and roads. The minister called upon them to utilize the funds allocated by the government for village development effectively and to further strengthen public trust through transparent governance. He clar-

fied that the Congress party's goal is to transform every village into a model village. Similarly, he stated that the Congress party is always committed to the welfare of the people and social justice, and that the party's policy is to understand the needs of the people and provide solutions to them.