

## Centre's Backing Key to Telangana Urban Growth; Maharashtra CM



“Indian Chronicle (Taj Khan), February 7,” Kagaznagar: Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, stated that the development of municipalities in Telangana is possible only with the support of the Central Government led by Narendra Modi. “He was addressing the Vijaya Sankalpa Sabha, a public meeting organized in connection with the municipal election campaign, held at the SPM Cricket Ground in Kagaznagar on Sunday.” Speaking on the occasion, Fadnavis said that it is the Central Government under Prime Minister Modi that allocates funds to municipalities. He alleged that the Telangana State Government has done little for the development of urban local bodies. He emphasized that the Centre is not only focusing on rural development but is also giving special attention to urban infrastructure by allocating funds under schemes such as the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF), the 15th Finance Commission, and AMRUT. “He further stated that substantial funds are being provided for strengthening drainage systems and improving sanitation management in urban areas.” Adilabad Member of Parliament Godam Nagesh said he had secured ₹60 crore for the development of the railway station in the constituency. He added that halts have been provided for several trains and that both railway under-bridges and over-bridges are currently under construction. “Sirpur MLA Dr. Palvai Harish Babu appealed to the people of the town to give the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) an opportunity in the upcoming municipal elections. He assured that efforts would be made to ensure proper utilization of Central Government funds. He alleged that neither the 10-year rule of the

BRS nor the two-year Congress administration has contributed to the town’s development, adding that the town has deteriorated into an unsanitary condition.” The MLA also submitted a memorandum to Chief Minister Fadnavis, seeking cooperation from the Maharashtra Government for the construction of the Pranahita project and requesting the early commencement of national highway works from Bellampalli to Gadchiroli.

### SCR GM reviews redevelopment works at railway station

Secunderabad: South Central Railway (SCR) General Manager Sanjay Kumar Srivastava on Saturday, conducted a detailed inspection of the ongoing redevelopment works at Secunderabad Railway Station.

He reviewed the progress of infrastructure upgrades on both the Platform No.1 and Platform No. 10 sides and inspected works related to foot overbridges, escalators, platforms, waiting halls, booking offices, parking facilities, and circulating areas.

He also stressed the need to minimize inconvenience to passengers during major infrastructural changes by strengthening crowd management, safety, security, and passenger assistance measures.

SCR officials stated that comprehensive steps are being taken to ensure smooth passenger movement during the execution of the project.



# Sand Smuggling from Andhra to Telangana Aswaraopet police seize two sand lorries.

**Illegal sand transportation continues in the dead of night.**

**Officials are in a state of slumber.**

**Kukkunoor officials witness the loading activity happening near their offices**

“S Naga Manoj Kumar, Aswarapet constituency, Indian Chronicle: Aswaraopet, February 7: “In Aswaraopet, Bhadradi Kothagudem district, police seized two tipper lorries transporting sand and shifted them to the police station.



These sand lorries have been illegally transporting sand from Dacharam village in Kukkunoor mandal of Eluru district towards Khammam in the dead of night for some time now. The sand loading point is located very close to the Kukkunoor Police Station and Tahsildar's office, yet the officials are simply watching this activity. There is information that Kukkunoor police recently caught a lorry but released it. Is this true? Doubts are being raised. Is there collusion between the officials and the sand mafia? This question is leading to intense discussion locally. The sand smuggling groups, who started a ramp in the name of a society ramp, have turned it into a hub for illegal sand transportation and have become completely unrestrained. The negligence of the officials in Eluru district's Kukkunoor mandal, where lorries have been moving continuously for the past few days, is drawing severe criticism. The silence of the concerned departments regarding the transportation of sand to Telangana in the middle of the night is raising suspicions. The public is demanding that higher officials immediately focus on this illegal transportation and take strict action. They are expressing outrage and demanding that the government crack down severely on sand smuggling, which is causing huge losses to government revenue.

# Public representatives and officials unveiled the Praja Pratibha calendar.

**MLA Jare Adinarayana: Impartial journalism should be pursued with the public interest in mind.**

**Praja Pratibha: A powerful medium of information in society**

“S Naga Manoj Kumar, Aswarapet constituency, February 7, Indian Chronicle:



Aswaraopet MLA Jare Adinarayana unveiled the Praja Pratibha newspaper's new year calendar. Speaking on the occasion, he said that the newspaper acts as a powerful medium of information in society and plays a crucial role in conveying the problems, aspirations, and needs of the people to the government. Similarly, Aswaraopet Municipal Commissioner B. Nagaraju also unveiled the Praja Pratibha calendar. He

stated that the Praja Pratibha newspaper has gained immense popularity in a short period. He praised the role of newspapers in acting as a bridge in explaining government policies, development programs, and welfare schemes to the public in an understandable manner. The Commissioner said that the newspaper strongly voices the concerns of the people, from village-level issues to state and national-level matters, and plays an effective role in bringing neglected issues to light and attracting the attention of the government. Journalists Manoj, Bommidi Prasad, Ramanjaneya Sai, and others participated in this program. “[6:48 PM, 2/7/2026] +91 91333 99996: End...

# Kondapalli Saritha's Door-to-Door Campaign in Ward 23

**Minister praises Kondapalli Saritha Bhadrachalam MLA campaigns wishing for Kondapalli Saritha's victory“**

“Yellandu, February 7 (Indian Chronicle): “Kondapalli Saritha Ganesh, the Congress party candidate contesting from Ward 23 in the municipal area, is conducting an intensive campaign. She is attracting voters by explaining the numerous welfare schemes introduced by the Congress government in the state, door to door. She is leading the campaign in the ward by explaining various issues to the people, primarily focusing on ration cards, Indiramma houses, free electricity, free bus travel for women, and free electricity up to 200 units. Although she had previously won in a different ward in the municipality and is now contesting from this ward, the people are wholeheartedly welcoming Kondapalli Saritha Ganesh. Similarly, wishing for Kondapalli Saritha's victory, Bhadrachalam MLA Tellam Venkat Rao, along with candidate Kondapalli Saritha, MLA Koram Kanakaiah, and party cadres, campaigned intensively in Illandu on Saturday, going door-to-door and urging people



to vote for the hand symbol and ensure her victory with a huge majority.



## Innovative Protest by Prajavani Voluntary Organisation Demanding Mosquito Control Measures



“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, February 7 (Indian Chronicle):“Leaders of the Prajavani Voluntary Organisation staged an innovative protest on Saturday evening, demanding immediate measures to control the mosquito menace in the GHMC Uppal Circle. The protest was organised under the banner of Prajavani Voluntary Organisation to draw the attention of authorities and public representatives towards the growing problem. “Speaking on the occasion, the leaders alleged that despite the severe mosquito menace in the Uppal Circle limits, officials and ruling representatives have failed to take effective preventive measures, causing severe inconvenience to the public. They stated that residents are finding it extremely difficult to step out of their homes due to the mosquito problem and are being forced to suffer daily. “The leaders expressed their anguish that even after repeatedly informing the concerned authorities and public representatives, no tangible action has been taken. They alleged that although crores of rupees

are being allocated in the GHMC budget for mosquito control, the funds are not being effectively utilised at the ground level, resulting in worsening conditions. As part of the protest, the members took out a rally from Krishna Hotel to the Rajiv Gandhi Statue on Ramanthapur Main Road and staged a demonstration. They demanded that authorities immediately remove garbage dumping points from roads, ensure that sewage water is not released into lakes, and prevent stagnation of water on roads. The leaders warned that if the authorities continue to ignore the issue, Prajavani Voluntary Organisation will intensify the agitation on a large scale in the coming days. Prajavani Voluntary Organisation President Erram Srinivas, Vice President Ravinder Rao, General Secretary G. Vijay Kumar, along with Mukkala Suresh Gupta, Siddha Goni Raju, Jilla Kiran Kumar, Lavanya, Dan Bikshapathi, Kongara Srinivas, Sudhakar, Krishna, Chari Mallesh and others participated in the programme.

## Development Works to Begin Soon in Vijayapuri Colony Corporator Rajita Parameshwar Reddy Conducts Extensive Tour



“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, February 7 (Indian Chronicle):“Corporator Mandumula Rajita Parameshwar Reddy has assured that comprehensive development works will be taken up very soon in Vijayapuri Colony under Uppal Division. “Speaking during an extensive tour of the colony on Saturday, the Corporator stated that issues related to CC roads, drainage, drinking water, and other civic amenities will be addressed through planned development works. She emphasized that all long-pending problems in the colony would be resolved in a phased and time-bound manner. “Rajita Parameshwar Reddy, along with Uppal Assembly Constituency Congress Party In-charge

Mandumula Parameshwar Reddy, interacted with residents and inspected the ground realities. During the visit, local residents brought to her notice problems related to drainage, CC roads, and drinking water supply. “Responding to their concerns, the Corporator assured that development works will be initiated at the earliest and that concerned officials will be instructed to complete the works on schedule. “Officials DE Venil Goud and AE Raj Kumar were present during the inspection. “The programme was attended by Vijayapuri Colony President Lingareddy, Devi Reddy, Sunku Shekhar Reddy, General Secretary Shripathi Narendra Reddy, Salla Prabhakar Reddy, Thummala Rajender Reddy, Janga Reddy, Venkatesh, M. Srinivas Reddy, S. Madhav Reddy, K. Mallareddy, Rani, Yamuna, Amrutha, Subbamma, Mastan Reddy, Venkat Reddy, Biksham Reddy, Sudharshan, G. Venkat Reddy, Mahender Reddy, Prabhakar Reddy, Bikshapathi, P. Srinivas Reddy, K. Srinivas, Alla Basha, Nagoor Basha, Jangir, Somireddy, N. Rajender, Bommaji Ratnam, Lekkala Anji Reddy, Benny Bheem Sen, Badugula Upender Yadav, Subba Reddy, Nagu Naik, Mohan Naik, Anwar Pasha, Kancham Meeda Srinivas, Suresh Yadav, Maulana, Chintakinda Srinivas, Mallikarjun, and several others.



## Anand Nagar Colony Unanimously Elects New Committee

“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, February 7 (Indian Chronicle):“The election of the new committee of Anand Nagar Colony was held in Chilukanagar Division of the Uppal constituency. The election process took place in the presence of colony residents and elders Raghupati Goud, Jagan Mohan Reddy, Bala Bhaskar, and Bikshapathi, during which the committee was unanimously elected today. “In the elections, Vangala Venkatesh Goud was



elected as President, Sudugu Bhaskar Reddy as General Secretary, Perreddy Jagan Mohan Reddy as Treasurer, and Ayili Madhu Goud and Kola Sathish Kumar Goud as Vice Presidents. In addition, members were also elected to the posts of Joint Secretary, Organising Committee, Advisory Committee, and Executive Members. “Speaking on the occasion, newly elected President Vangala Venkatesh Goud assured that he would extend full cooperation for the overall development of the colony and promised to take up development activities from time to time after discussions with committee members.



## Sri Sai Vidyalaya Anniversary Celebrated at Sitafalmandi

“Indian Chronicle, Secunderabad, February 7:”The 39th anniversary celebrations of Sri Sai Vidyalayam were held with great enthusiasm at Sitaphal Mandi. Marking the completion of nearly four decades of service in the field of education, the school organized a series of cultural and academic programmes over three days. “Several teachers who have played a key role in enhancing the reputation of the institution were felicitated on the occasion. Students actively participated in various competitions, showcasing their talents in academics, sports, and cultural activities. Prizes were distributed to students who excelled and demonstrated exceptional skills. “Blue Corporator Samala Atla Damo, who attended the programme as the chief guest, advised students to focus on sports and games along with academics, emphasizing the importance of all-round



development. “School Correspondent Venkatesh stated that the institution has always upheld high educational standards and worked tirelessly to mould students into responsible citizens. He highlighted that the school continues to extend support to needy students with a spirit of service. “An exhibition organized by the students as part of the foundation day celebrations drew appreciation from parents and guests. The programme concluded on a grand note, reflecting the institution’s commitment to quality education and holistic development.

## Women’s Musical Chairs Competitions Held as Part of Prime Minister Sansad Khel Mahotsav

“Indian Chronicle, Secunderabad, February 7:”As part of the Prime Minister Sansad Khel Mahotsav–2026, women’s musical chairs competitions were organized with great enthusiasm at the Patigadda GHMC Ground under the aegis of the BJP Begumpet Division Mahila Morcha. “BJP State youth leader Marri Pururava Reddy attended the programme as the chief guest and presented first and second prizes to the winning women participants. He also distributed gifts and participation



certificates to the other women who took part in the competitions. “The programme was attended by BJP State Executive Member E. Dayanand, BJP Mahankali–Secunderabad District OBC General Secretary Vijay Kumar, BJP Division President M. Mahesh Kumar Mudiraj, Mahila Morcha leader Sandhya Lakshmi, and Division General Secretary T. Shravan. “BJP leaders Nagesh, Venu, Ganesh, Sapna Gupta, Anita, Baburao, N. Mahesh, Lohith, and others were also present and contributed to the success of the event. “The programme, organized with the objective of encouraging women’s participation in sports and recreational activities, concluded on an enthusiastic note.

## Peddapalli DCP Inspects Sensitive Polling Stations in Godavarikhani.

“P. S. ASHOKAN “KARIMNAGAR BUREAU. ““In view of the forthcoming Municipal Elections, Peddapalli Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) B. Ram Reddy, along with Godavarikhani ACP M. Ramesh and Godavarikhani One Town Inspector Indrasena Reddy, conducted a detailed inspection of sensitive polling stations under the jurisdiction of Godavarikhani One Town Police Station. ““The inspection covered polling centres located in Ashok Nagar, Ramesh Nagar, Chandra Shekhar Nagar, 7 LEP, and other identified areas. The DCP reviewed the security arrangements being put in place to ensure that the elections are conducted in a peaceful, free, and fair manner. ““During the visit, the DCP held discussions with police officials on various aspects, including deployment of police personnel, security coverage in and around polling stations, maintenance of law and order, and implementation of election-related safety protocols. ““He instructed the officers to strictly enforce election guidelines and take all necessary measures to ensure that the polling process proceeds in a calm and disturbance-free environment. Special emphasis was laid on providing adequate facilities and smooth access for voters visiting the polling stations. ““The DCP reiterated that no compromise would be tolerated in maintaining law and order, and directed the officials to remain vigilant throughout the election process.



## The Prajavani program scheduled for Monday has been cancelled, said District Collector Hanumantha Rao



ous issues.

“(Mandava Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle... February 7):- District Collector Hanumantha Rao announced that the Prajavani program scheduled for Monday has been cancelled. “In a statement, the District Collector said that since the Telangana State Election Commission has released the notification for the 2nd general municipal elections on February 9, 2026, and the code of conduct is in effect, the Prajavani program will not be held on Monday. He requested the people of the district to note this and not to come to the Collectorate to submit applications regarding various issues.

## Urea Booking Mobile App: Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Agriculture Officer

“(Mandava Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle... February 7):- This fertilizer urea app will be implemented in our district from tomorrow. Farmers can easily log in to the urea booking app using their mobile number. Anyone can check the current stock of urea bags available with retailers across the district. Only pattadar land owners, ROFR pattadars, non-pattadar farmers, and tenant farmers are eligible to complete the urea booking. To verify your identity and secure the booking, a one-time password will be sent to the mobile number linked to your pattadar passbook. Farmers can book urea bags based on the real-time stock availability reported by retailers. After your booking is successfully completed, a unique booking ID will be generated for your reference. The number of urea bags available for booking will be automatically determined based on the cultivated area registered under your land. To manage distribution efficiently, bookings will be divided into multiple installments at specific intervals according to your cultivated area. You have the flexibility to purchase the booked urea from any retailer or PACS in the district. You can obtain your total booked quantity from different retailers. Please note that once the land area is entered in the cultivation tab, it cannot be changed. The booking will remain active for only 24 hours; after that, if not used, the booking will automatically expire to release the stock back into the system. Farmers should note that from tomorrow onwards, urea can only be purchased through the app. Physical distribution of urea will not take place, as stated by the Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district agriculture officer.



# Inspection of the counting center set up at Divya Bala School in the context of the municipal elections:



- District Election Officer, Collector Hanumantha Rao (Mandava Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle... February 7):- In the context of the municipal elections, District Election Officer and Collector Hanumantha Rao, along with SP Akshansh Yadav and Additional Collector for Local Bodies Bhaskar Rao, inspected the counting center set up at Divya Bala School in Bhuvanagiri mandal on Saturday. "On this occasion, they inspected the arrangements for the counting halls, table arrangements, arrangements for counting staff,

## Horticulture Department Distributes Agricultural Implements to Small and Marginal Farmers; Farmers Should Utilize Them

(Mandava Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle... February 7):- Under the MIDH scheme being implemented by the Horticulture Department for the financial year 2025-26, the following agricultural implements are available for supply to farmers at a 40%/50% subsidy under the Horticulture Mechanization section: Power Tillers, Power Weeders, Brush Cutters, Sprayers, and Mini Tractors. "Power Tillers: ST - 01 No., Other large farmers (more than 5 acres) - 03 Nos. ? Power Weeders: General - 01 No. (Small and marginal farmers), SC - 02 Nos., Other large farmers (more than 5 acres) - 03 Nos. ? Brush Cutters: General - 04 Nos. (Small and marginal farmers), SC - 05 Nos., ST - 04 Nos., Other large farmers (more than 5 acres) - 05 Nos. ? Powered Knapsack Sprayer / Power Operated Sprayer: General - 02 Nos. (Small and marginal farmers), SC - 04 Nos., Other large farmers (more than 5 acres) - 12 Nos. ? Mini Tractors: General - 01 No. (Small and marginal farmers), SC - 01 No., ST - 01 No., "Other large farmers (above 5 acres) - 01 No. Since the target allocated to the district is low, priority will be given to the farmers who contact first. Interested farmers can contact the concerned Horticulture Officer for complete details and submit their application before February 10th. "Farmers from Choutuppal, Bommalararamaram, Valigonda, Ramannapet, Narayanapur, Pochampally, Addagudur, and Mothkur mandals can contact this number - 8977714175, K. Kavitha, Horticulture Officer. Farmers from Atmakur, Gundala, Motakondur, Aleru, Rajapet, Turkapally, and B.B. Nagar mandals can contact this number - 8977714176, K. Sravanthi, Horticulture Officer. Farmers from Bhongir and Yadagirigutta mandals can contact this number - 8977714191, G. Snehitha, Horticulture Officer, as informed by the District Horticulture and Sericulture Officer, Yadadri Bhongir.

## Postal Ballot Facility Should Be Utilized:

- District Election Officer, Collector Hanumantha Rao (Mandava Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle... February 7):- District Election Officer and Collector Hanumantha Rao stated that postal ballot facilitation centers have been set up for officials on election duty. In a statement on Saturday, District Election Officer and Collector Hanumantha Rao said that special postal ballot facilitation centers have been established to enable officials participating in election duties during the municipality elections to exercise their right to vote through postal ballot. He said that the postal ballot facility has been arranged in the municipalities of Bhuvanagiri, Yadagirigutta, Aleru, Pochampally, Choutuppal, and Mothkur within the district on February 8th and 9th. Therefore, he advised officials who are registered voters and are on election duty to attend the established postal ballot facilitation centers and cast their vote. "Officials on election duty should go to the respective facilitation center with their election duty order, voter ID card, and Form-12 (for postal ballot). Postal ballots will be issued there. The District Election Officer and Collector stated that officials should cast their vote immediately at the facilitation center and submit the signed postal ballot at the same center on the same day.

security measures, CCTV surveillance, drinking water and toilet facilities, power supply, and other basic amenities. He instructed the officials to keep all arrangements ready to conduct the counting process transparently, legally, and without any interruption. Bhuvanagiri Revenue Divisional Officer Krishnareddy, Municipal Commissioner Ramalingam, and other concerned officials participated in this program.



## Online applications invited for the issuance of accreditation cards

Applications to be submitted online from February 9th:

- District Accreditation Committee

Chairman, Collector Hanumantha Rao

(Mandava Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle... February 7):- The District Accreditation Committee Chairman and Collector Hanumantha Rao announced in a statement on Saturday that online applications are being invited for the issuance of journalists' accreditation cards for the years 2026-28 under the auspices of the Information and Public Relations Department. He stated that since the validity of the currently existing accreditation cards will expire on the 28th of this month, new accreditation cards will be issued to eligible journalists. "He instructed media managements to submit the list of their journalists' names to the District Public Relations Officer for district-level accreditation cards. He advised journalists whose names are included in the lists submitted by the managements to apply online through the official website of the Information and Public Relations Department, <http://ipr.telangana.gov.in>. He stated that online applications for district-level accreditation cards should be submitted from February 9th. The Collector advised eligible journalists to utilize this opportunity.





# For municipalities to develop, leaders who work for the wards must be elected: - Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao



“(Mandava Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle... February 7):- Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao said that for municipalities to develop, leaders who work for the wards must be elected.” On Saturday, in the context of the second general municipal elections, awareness programs on the right to vote were conducted in the district as per the instructions of the Election Commission. These programs were conducted under the supervision of DRDO Nagireddy in Yadagirigutta Municipality, Municipal Commissioner Ramalingam in Bhuvanagiri Municipality, RDO Krishnareddy in Aleru Municipality, Additional DRDO Suresh in Mothkur Municipality, Tahsildar Srinivas and Commissioner Anjan Reddy in Pochampally Municipality, and RDO Shekhar Reddy in Choutuppal Municipality. On this occasion, the District Collector first administered an oath to the voters, making them pledge that they would not succumb to money, liquor, or other temptations, and would elect a genuine and good ward member. He said that the right to vote is the foundation of democracy, and every registered voter should cast their vote. He stated that conducting awareness rallies on the importance of exercising the

right to vote will bring about change. He mentioned that while they may be students now, in the coming days, all students will become voters. He warned that if voters cast their votes for those who offer money, alcohol, gifts, biryani, or other inducements, they will lose the right to question the winning candidate about ward development after the elections. He urged everyone to discuss among themselves the importance of choosing good leaders in their homes or workplaces, as this will lead to the development of their wards. He advised them not to succumb to the temptations offered by candidates and to choose a good person who is acceptable to all. “He suggested that everyone should discuss together who to vote for, considering who would be beneficial to them, who would be available when needed, and who would bring about development.” He stated that electing a good leader would lead to progress in ward development. He also suggested that they should put up boards in their wards stating, “We will not sell our vote; we will exercise our right to vote voluntarily.” The concerned officials, students, and the public participated in this program.



# Maruti Suzuki signs Memorandum of Agreement with Transport Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, to automate 4 driving license test tracks, under its CSR initiative

Hyderabad Maruti Suzuki India Limited ("Maruti Suzuki") signed a Memorandum of Agreement ("MoA") with the Transport Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, for set up and maintenance of 4 Automated Driving Test Tracks ("ADTTs") across the state under the Company's CSR initiative.

The ADTTs will be set up at four Regional Transport Office (RTO) locations in the state, namely Eluru, Ongole, Vizianagaram, and Anakapalli. Under the MoA, Maruti Suzuki will automate and maintain these driving test tracks for a period of 3 years from the date of commissioning.

The ADTTs will be equipped with high-definition cameras, RFID sensors, real-time analytics, and an integrated IT system to enable a technology-enabled, standardized, and objective driving license testing process. With zero human intervention, the ADTTs are aimed to make license testing more comprehensive, efficient, and transparent. The rigorous and standardized evaluation process is designed to assess candidates according to the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR). Test results are also automatically generated.

Speaking on the initiative, Mr. Hisashi Takeuchi, MD & CEO, Maruti

Suzuki India Limited said, "During my meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandrababu Naidu, I was impressed by his love for technology. Aligned with his vision for technology-led solutions, we are honoured to bring 4 Automated Driving Test Tracks (ADTTs) to the state of Andhra Pradesh. ADTTs use advanced technology that ensure a comprehensive, efficient, and transparent process with zero human intervention. This guarantees that only skilled drivers are awarded a driving license, thereby improving overall road safety."

Speaking at the MoA signing, Shri. Manish Kumar Sinha, IPS, Transport Commissioner of Andhra Pradesh said, "I commend Maruti Suzuki, India's leading passenger vehicle manufacturer, for its significant contribution to road safety through the launch of Automated Driving Test Tracks (ADTTs) across the state. In this project, Maruti Suzuki will extend support by providing technology in the areas of integration with the SARATHI\*\* system, training of personnel and routine maintenance for a period of 3 years. The Transport Department, on its part, will provide the required infrastructure at the existing driving



tracks, undertake civil works, ensure security and electricity supply and con-

duct driving tests and issuance of driving licenses using the automated system."

## Fear of AI Replacing Jobs, Online Scams and Mental Health Concerns Top Vijayawada's Worry List: Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance's ?-Nishchit Index 2.0

Hyderabad India continues to experience elevated uncertainty due to financial pressures, healthcare concerns, work-life imbalance, and broader societal risks. With the national Index at 79, anxieties around financial preparedness, healthcare affordability, mental well-being, and long-term stability remain widespread.

Vijayawada, however, reports an Index of 63—significantly lower than national and regional benchmarks—indicating relatively higher perceived certainty among its residents. Yet several emerging risks and societal shifts continue to shape the city's underlying anxieties. Leading concerns include fear of being replaced by artificial intelligence at work, vulnerability to online scams,

and the growing prevalence of mental health challenges.

Other prominent worries include religious conflicts affecting social cohesion, natural disasters disrupting daily life, inflation eroding savings, climate-related disruptions, and hesitation in seeking therapy due to personal or social barriers. Balancing personal interests with family time also emerges as a notable concern for residents.

A blend of uncontrollable and controllable factors drives Vijayawada's uncertainty. Uncontrollable risks include online fraud, data-security threats, environmental disruptions, and broader social tensions. Meanwhile, controllable stressors such as AI-related job insecurity, mental-health manage-

ment, rising living costs, and work-life balance highlight areas where awareness, planning, and appropriate support mechanisms can meaningfully reduce anxiety.

City-level data shows that financial depth strongly influences perceived certainty. Uncertainty rises from 59 in SEC A to 66 in SEC C. Insurance ownership displays a non-linear pattern—uncertainty is lowest among residents with two policies (49), but spikes among those with three (94). A similar trend occurs across investment instruments, where uncertainty rises with greater diversification.

Across demographics, uncertainty levels remain similar between men and women. Gen X emerges

as the most uncertain age group (69), compared to Baby Boomers (60), Millennials

(61), and Gen Z (63). Profession-wise and across life stages, uncertainty remains broadly uniform, suggesting that concern patterns are shared widely across the population.

Overall, Vijayawada's findings reflect a national pattern where technological disruption, financial pressures, social risks, and health-related challenges increasingly shape public sentiment. As lifestyle pressures and external risks intersect across life stages, planning ahead and securing appropriate protection remain critical to strengthening confidence and reducing uncertainty.



# Seagram's Royal Stag BoomBox is Back with the Original Sound of Generation Large. Bigger Than Ever Before



Hyderabad Seagram's Royal Stag BoomBox, the iconic experiential music festival that blends Bollywood's timeless melodies with the pulsating beats of hip-hop, is back with its much-anticipated Season Four. Building on the phenomenal success of previous editions, this year's Royal Stag BoomBox is set to be the most ambitious, with an extraordinary line-up of the most celebrated Indian and International musical talents and a multi-city tour across four vibrant youth hubs – Vizag, Kolkata, Mumbai and Mohali

Royal Stag BoomBox is known for offering audiences with a unique experience that combines subcultural elements that straddle across the passion points of today's youth, The Generation Large- Music, Fashion, Food and Gaming.

Season 4 kicks off on 21st February, 2026 in Kolkata followed by Vizag (March 7), Mumbai (March 14) and Mohali (March 28). Since its inception, the festival has redefined India's live music landscape through electrifying collaborations between iconic Bollywood voices and dynamic hip-hop acts. This year's power-

packed line-up features rap superstar Badshah, chart-toppers Armaan Malik and Divine, along with the melodious Neeti Mohan, Nikhita Gandhi, Rashmeet Kaur and Sreerama Chandra, and the legendary band Fossils. Adding to the excitement are hip-hop heavyweights Raftaar and Dino James, and DJ Sahil Gulati, promising an unforgettable journey of chart-topping hits and pulsating performances. And that's not all—fans can also gear up for an adrenaline-pumping gaming face-off with the gaming sensation, Payal Dhare, making this season a truly immersive cultural extravaganza.

Royal Stag BoomBox is renowned for creating immersive, multi-sensory experiences that blend spectacular sound and lighting with interactive fan zones and vibrant cultural showcases, each capturing the unique essence of its host city.

Ticket sales for all four cities are now available on skillbox, book yours now at the link below

## App-based transport workers to observe All-India 'breakdown' over falling incomes

New Delhi: App-based transport workers across the country associated with Ola, Uber, Rapido, Porter and other app-based ride-hailing platforms will observe "breakdown" on Saturday against falling incomes and "worsening exploitation".

Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Union (TGPWU) and Indian Federation of App Based Transport Workers (IFAT) have called the All-India 'breakdown'. Hyderabad city guide

They said on Friday that the 'breakdown' has been called to protest against falling incomes and 'worsening exploitation' due to the failure of governments to notify minimum base fares under the Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines, 2025.

Shaik Salahuddin, TGPWU founder President and IFAT co-founder and National General Secretary, said that despite the guidelines, aggregator companies continue to unilaterally fix fares, pushing workers into unsustainable working conditions. The key demands of the unions include immediate notification of minimum base fares for app-based transport services in consultation with recognised

worker unions, as mandated under the Aggregator Guidelines, 2025.

They are also demanding strict prohibition of private (non-commercial) vehicles being used for commercial passenger and goods transport, or mandatory conversion to commercial category vehicles as per the Motor Vehicles Act and Aggregator Guidelines, 2025. TGPWU and IFAT have urged the Central and state governments to initiate immediate dialogue with worker representatives and ensure fair, lawful, and sustainable regulation of the app-based transport sector. Salahuddin told IANS that auto-rickshaw and cab drivers of Ola, Uber, Porter and other platforms will participate in the strike by either cancelling ride requests or switch off their ride-hailing apps altogether. According to TGPWU founder President, Telangana alone has about 2.5 lakh autorickshaw drivers, 1.5 lakh cab drivers and about 50,000 Porter drivers. TGPWU had earlier sent a letter to the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari, Telangana Transport Minister Ponnampal Prabhakar and other officials, informing them about the decision to observe All-India 'breakdown'.