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## 'False Narrative By Congress, Left' : Kiren Rijiju On Foreign Funding Row



**New Delhi:** The BJP has accused the Congress and Kerala's ruling Left coalition of 'spreading a false narrative' regarding changes to the FCRA, or Foreign Contributions

Regulatory Act. Union Minister Kiren Rijiju clarified Monday the FCRA Amendment Bill is 'not against any community' and that allegations made by opposition parties -

that certain provisions are against minority communities and religious institutions - amount to 'misinformation' being peddled. Rijiju stressed that no religion or community would be targeted under the revised law and said specifically that it would not be used to single out Christian missionaries and their work. The new bill simply proposes to restrict misuse of foreign funding for illegal activities, he said, underlining the government's position

## Nitish Kumar Resigns From Bihar Assembly Weeks After Rajya Sabha Move

**Patna:** Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who was elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha earlier this month, resigned on Monday as a member of the Legislative Council or MLC, say sources. The 10-time Chief Minister, whose career critics say is a masterclass in coalition manoeuvring, secured a Rajya Sabha seat through an election held on March 16 and the 14-day period during which he has to quit membership of one of the legislatures ends today.



## Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin, TVK's Vijay File Nomination For Polls



**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin and his rival TVK's actor-turned-politician Vijay on Monday filed their nominations for the April 23 Tamil Nadu Assembly polls. MK Stalin filed his nomination for the Kolathur constituency, a seat he won in 2011, 2016 and 2021. Soon after filing his papers, Stalin briefly held a road show and waved to the people and sought support. The DMK chief also released a book on his achievements for the Kolathur constituency. "Our victory will be very bright. Compared to the last three times, this time I'm witnessing a huge support. This is the United Progressive Alliance. Tamil Nadu is fighting against Delhi. This time the vic-

tory is going to be very big," Stalin told news agency. DMK will contest 164 out of the 234 constituencies in the state, while 70 seats have been allocated to its alliance partners. These partners include the Congress Party with 28 seats, the Communist Party of India (CPI) with 5 seats, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI(M)) with 5 seats, VCK with 8 seats, and MDMK with 4 seats.

## Centre Releases 33 FAQs For First Phase Of Census

**New Delhi:** If a live-in couple consider their relationship as a stable union, they should be treated as a married couple for the Census, according to the FAQs given on the self-enumeration portal. The portal has been opened for people opting for self-enumeration during the Census. It will be available for both phases of the Census - Houselisting and Housing Census (HLO) and Population Enumeration.



### Party Failed to Update Itself: AOB Committee Member Narayana Rao



**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, March, 30:** Chelluru Narayana Rao, also known as Somanna, a key leader in the AOB (Andhra-Odisha Border) state committee, surrendered before Andhra Pradesh police on Monday along with his associates. Narayana Rao stated that he decided to leave the path of armed struggle and move towards development, in line with changing social and economic conditions. On this occasion, he made significant remarks about the state of the movement and the failures of the party. Speaking on the occasion, Narayana Rao said: "Although I joined the Maoist movement, many changes have taken place since then. Government development and welfare programs are now reaching rural areas. Earlier, the movement progressed according to a clear plan. However, the party has failed to update itself in line with changing circumstances. Recent decisions taken by the party have not been appropriate. The Naxalite movement across the country has now almost disappeared. The lack of proper information and failure to stay updated are the reasons for the decline of the movement. Many people lost their lives at our hands, and I deeply regret that."

## CM Distributes 2,50,893 Houses to the Poor



**From Our Staff Reporter Tirupati, March, 30:** Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu distributed 2.5 lakh houses to beneficiaries at an event held in Naidupeta, Sullurupeta constituency. A total of 2,50,893 houses were handed over to poor families, and they were made to perform housewarming ceremonies. This is the second time such a large-scale housing distribution has been carried out after the coalition government came to power. In the first phase, on November 12, 2025, 3,00,192 houses were distributed. In the latest phase, along with 1,00,875 TIDCO houses, another 1,50,018 houses were given, totaling 2,50,893 houses. On this occasion, CM Chandrababu addressed a massive public gathering. **Speaking at the event, CM Chandrababu Naidu said:** "Recently, we celebrated Ugadi and yesterday Ramzan. Today, we are celebrating a festival of homes for 2,50,893 people. This is historic. Seeing the happiness among you makes me feel my life is blessed. I wish you all a bright future. There was a time when people lived in huts. The

vision of providing permanent houses to everyone was initiated by NTR. Providing a house for every person is the ideology of TDP, and it is my responsibility to fulfill it. Systems were disrupted, and we are now correcting everything. The credit for building TIDCO houses like those of the wealthy goes to TDP. Good houses were damaged, and the poor were deprived. By the end of this year, our target is to provide 10 lakh houses to people. The previous government began with demolishing Praja Vedika and went on to destroy the entire state. There was corruption and misuse of power everywhere. Even Rs.174 crore paid by beneficiaries was misused. We will return that money to 82,000 families. Funds given by the central government were diverted. Houses were built in uninhabitable areas.

While they built palaces in Visakhapatnam, they did not care to provide houses to the poor. I have never seen such an inefficient government in my life. The poor should not live in slums but in houses like these TIDCO homes. We will provide land to those without house sites and build quality homes, giving the poor a valuable asset. Every house should have a CNG connection, and we will provide subsidies for it. Every house should have a toilet. We will ensure drinking water supply through taps for every family. We are also enabling electricity generation at the household level. Free electricity is being provided to SCs and STs, and Rs.20,000 subsidy is being given to BCs. We have made the 'Super Six' a success. This year, we will turn 5 lakh women into entrepreneurs. Women's representation will increase

in the upcoming elections. The Polavaram project was ruined during the YSRCP rule, but we will complete it before the Godavari Pushkaralu. We will develop Amaravati to be greater than Hyderabad and Chennai. This is an invitation to the youth—join TDP and we will provide opportunities. People restricted YSRCP to 11 seats due to their anger. From April, we will conduct surprise inspections. Officials who do not perform will be questioned publicly. Leaders and officials must work in a way that satisfies the people. We will not tolerate poor performance from MLAs. We are implementing welfare schemes using technology and monitoring pension distribution in real time. We will appreciate well-performing officials and ensure accountability from those who do not perform."

## TIDCO Houses: Beneficiaries Selected Irrespective of Party Lines - Vijayawada MLAs

**From Our Staff Reporter NTR District, March 30:** MLA Bonda Uma stated that even the 10% facilities available in TIDCO houses are not present in houses built on a cent of land. On Monday, MLAs Bonda Uma, Gadde Rammohan, and Collector Lakshmisha participated in the inauguration of TIDCO houses at Jakkampudi near Vijayawada.



Speaking on the occasion, Bonda Uma said that a lot of hardship and struggle had gone into constructing these houses over the past five years. He added that after the coalition government came to power, they fulfilled their promise by distributing the houses. He alleged that during the previous YSRCP government, people were forced to cancel their TIDCO houses, but many stood firm without believing those "false claims." **MLA Gadde Rammohan Criticizes Jagan** Vijayawada East MLA

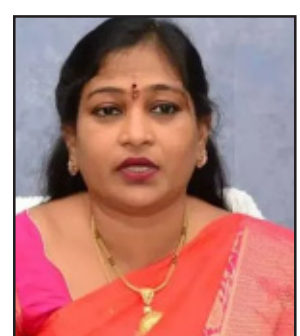
Gadde Rammohan said that beneficiaries for TIDCO houses were selected without considering political affiliations. He criticized that between 2019 and 2024, during Jagan's tenure, there was "destruction" in the state. He commented that due to the "Jagan virus," all systems had collapsed and that it took this long to restore them. **Collector Thanks the Government** Collector Lakshmisha expressed gratitude to the government for making the dream of owning a house come true. He said that all basic amenities such as roads, drainage, and water

supply have been provided. He also mentioned that people are moving into the TIDCO houses in phases.

**Vizag-Gajuwaka Mounika case accused Ravindra attacked by her relatives** **Visakhapatnam:** It is known that the Visakhapatnam Gajuwaka murder case has created a sensation in Andhra Pradesh. The accused Ravindra brutally murdered a woman named Mounika, claiming that her lover was harassing her for money. Later, he cut the body into pieces, put half of it in the fridge and the rest in a bag and kept it in a corner of the house. Later, he went to the police and surrendered. The incident took place on Sunday midnight and created a stir across the country, including the two Telugu states. The police, clues and forensic teams are busy collecting details about the incident.

## "Do You Accept Amaravati as the Capital?" - Home Minister's Direct Question to YSRCP

**From Our Staff Reporter Vizianagaram, March 30:** Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapudi Anita stated that the government is working strongly on maintaining law and order in the state. She said that "Shakti Teams" are actively working to prevent eve-teasing. **Speaking to the media on Monday, the Home Minister said that 70% of the Mulapeta Port project has been completed by the coalition government. She criticized YSRCP leaders for trying to "steal credit" in every matter and asserted, "Ours is a government that works, not one**



that asks for shares." She further criticized that after YSRCP came to power earlier, many projects in the state were halted. She alleged that projects were pushed back because YSRCP leaders demanded shares and partnerships.

Regarding Amaravati, she questioned YSRCP leaders who are now calling for a resolution in the Legislative Council on the capital issue. She asked directly whether they accept Amaravati as the capital or not and demanded a clear answer. She also questioned why they are not attending the Assembly if they truly support it. She emphasized that no farmer should be forced to give land for projects while shedding tears, stating that this is their policy. The Home Minister added that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan are working tirelessly for development and welfare.

**Setback for Alla Ramakrishna Reddy in High Court... Three Petitions Dismissed** **From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, March, 30:** The Andhra Pradesh High Court has dismissed three petitions filed by YSRCP leader and former Mangalagiri MLA Alla Ramakrishna Reddy in connection with the Inner Ring Road case. In his petitions, he had requested that the investigation of the Inner Ring Road case be handed over to the CBI and that the case be transferred from the Vijayawada ACB Court to a special court for MPs and MLAs. He also filed a separate petition seeking the

cancellation of the anticipatory bail granted to Chief Minister Chandrababu. The High Court heard arguments on these petitions. After nearly three weeks of hearings, the bench delivered its judgment on Monday morning, dismissing all the petitions.



**EDITORIAL**

**This is not an era of wars**

The time has come to end the ongoing wars. We see how the world is reeling from the crisis of these wars becoming permanent. Missile and drone bombings in Iran, Lebanon, and a dozen Arab countries in West Asia are not abating at all. The United States has announced a temporary pause in attacks on Iranian nuclear power plants until April 6. While the people there are fighting to maintain their shattered lives in Gaza, armies are fighting for geopolitical dominance in Ukraine. While the destruction of Gaza is becoming the 'war the world forgot', the war in Ukraine continues as a continuous massacre. The US rejection of Israel's sovereignty over Iran led to the Iran War and paralyzed oil and gas shipments.

The whole world is paying the price for this. Otherwise, military actions like the one in Somalia would have been considered just unfortunate incidents of hostility. Iran is attacking Arab countries with its amazing military capabilities and blocking the transportation of oil and gas through the Strait of Hormuz. Although the US and Israel started this war under the pretext of preventing Iran's nuclear capabilities, it has now become a struggle to keep the oil transportation routes open. The US is trying to get out of this war, but it is not able to convince Israel. In the name of peace efforts, the US has put forward 15 demands to Iran. Everyone thought that an agreement would be reached. But it was portrayed as a document of surrender to Iran. Not only has Iran seriously damaged Arab countries, but it is also implementing a tollbooth system to decide which ships can and cannot pass through this route without completely closing the Strait of Hormuz.

The US and Israel are blocking the ships of their allies. They are only allowing ships from countries like China and India. Due to this, the supply of crude oil and natural gas (LNG) to the Eastern countries, especially Asian countries, is not going on. This situation is reminiscent of the energy crisis of the 1970s. Iran has demanded sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz. If Iran has proposed five retaliatory demands along with this demand, it should be understood that there is no chance of a deal. The US is in a state of uncertainty about where the war is going. While supporting its ally Israel on the one hand, the US is trying to reduce the damage caused by the war on the other. This war initially started with the goals of suppressing Iran's nuclear bomb targets, bringing about regime change in Iran, etc. But now the main goal has become to remove the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, which is crucial for world oil transportation.

This route was always open before the war. Everyone is criticizing how ridiculous this is. But this is not what Trump's family's negotiating team, friends, and cabinet colleagues think. Some American diplomats are accusing Israel of recklessly launching attacks despite Iran's signals 48 hours before the Israeli-American airstrikes on Iran that it was ready to discuss its nuclear activities and give up 440 kilograms of uranium enriched to 60 percent. Meanwhile, this war is being carried out as a trade that provides economic benefits to Iran and Russia. Iran says that it is able to earn 140 million dollars a day with the easing of sanctions on oil sales. Russia is also benefiting from the same.

With Russia free to sell its oil to anyone, Russian President Putin is reaping the benefits. This has given him more financial leverage to continue the war with Ukraine. If the US invades either Iranian territory or the Iranian-controlled Kharg Island, the world will be in even greater crisis. Iran is warning the US and Israel that it will also blockade the Red Sea route, which has become a base for the Houthi factions. In these circumstances, it is better for Trump to try to get out of the quagmire of permanent war through diplomatic channels than to formulate a long-term 'endgame' plan. Similarly, Iran, rather than proving its ability to resist with stable authoritarian politics and war strategies, would rather give a clear assurance to the world that making nuclear bombs is an unwise decision and that it is not going in that direction.

**Ground War On? US Rushes 57,000 Troops As Iran Crisis Escalates**



Boots on the ground. The arrival of nearly 5,000 United States troops, including 2,500 Marines, in West Asia last week taking the number in the region to more than 50,000, an unmistakable signal the United States' war on Iran has now gone the way of other American military interventions. And the Pentagon plans to ship another 10,000 ground troops, US media reports have said.

The US normally has around 40,000 troops scattered across West Asia; this includes sailors on warships in the region and in air bases in Qatar, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, and Jordan. A bad sign, say critics and experts with memories of prolonged fighting and instability in Iraq and Afghanistan, 'forever wars' into which Donald Trump vowed never to drag the United States.

**Ground invasion looms as Trump ponders next move**

US troop deployment has ramped up over the past week as the US President ponders a risky ground invasion. The 'why' is unclear; it is to either secure Kharg Island and its oil stores or secure Iran's reported stockpile of around 400kg of enriched uranium, enough to make nuclear bombs and 'missing', the US believes since the June 2025 bombing of the Fordow facility.

Current and former military analysts believe a third 'why' could be to deploy along Iran's southern coast to break its chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz - through which a fifth of the world's crude oil and gas ships - and restore tanker traffic to something near pre-war levels. And underlying all of these 'why' statements is the spectre of regime change, which Washington and Tel Aviv have spoken about, and something

which will certainly require boots on the ground. Either way, what is clear is the American military build-up initiated in January 2026 - believed to be the largest of its kind since 2003 - indicates the war is likely far from over and stuttering peace talks between Washington and Iran, negotiations the latter has publicly snubbed.

**ARGs, Marines, paratroopers flood into Gulf theatre**

The latest confirmed troop movements were Saturday; US Central Command said on X the USS Tripoli, carrying 3,500+ sailors and Marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit had arrived. The Tripoli is part of elite ARG, i.e., Amphibious Ready Group, that is considered "the most versatile, flexible, and lethal global response force the United States has to offer". On March 24, 2,000 paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division - part of the US 'immediate response force' - were ordered to West Asia, the New York Times reported.

Within 24 hours a few thousand - Reuters said between 1,000 and 4,000 troops - more were told to march in. Their location is classified, Pentagon officials told The New York Times, but said the force will be stationed 'within striking distance of Iran's Kharg Island', a critical bit of information. Four days earlier 2,500 Marines and sailors on the USS Boxer, an ARG part of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit were dispatched from California and are en route. The Boxer doubles up as a carrier for F-35B stealth fighters, crucial given the USS Gerald R Ford, the US' flagship USS\$13 billion carrier, the most advanced ever built, is out of commission. The carrier docked in Croatia Friday last for repairs after what the US Navy



said was a "laundry fire" only for Trump to turn around and claim the ship had been successfully targeted - hit 17 times - by Iranian forces. That means the 4,500 sailors on the Ford are out of this war, for now. But more are coming. To likely offset the Ford's departure, Washington is sending a third carrier - the George HW Bush strike group that departed the US Navy HQ in Norfolk.

**Fixed bases anchor 40,000-troop West Asia backbone**

The US maintains major air bases in Qatar (Al-Udeid) and the UAE (Al-Dhafra). The former has around 11,000 personnel, is the CENTCOM HQ,

and operates stealth aircraft like the B-52 bomber and F-35B fighter, as well as air defence systems against missile threats. The naval support installation in Bahrain houses around 7,000 sailors and is a 5th Fleet HQ, while Camp Arifjan in Kuwait has around 14,000 soldiers, including the 82nd Airborne.

**Echoes of 100,000-troop Afghanistan nightmare**

The current troop build-up also has uneasy echoes of the war in Afghanistan. The US started that with a limited deployment - about 3,000 - after 9/11 but ramped that up quickly.

At its maximum there were over 100,000 under President Barack Obama. Some Trump allies including former Ukraine

envoy Keith Kellogg and Republican Senator Lindsey Graham have touted troop deployments as necessary to force Tehran to capitulate. Yet the regime has warned of even greater retaliation if the US goes ahead with that plan, and opposition has grown among Republicans, as well as Democrats, about the dangers involved. Among the concerns: troops will be poorly equipped to defend themselves in a drone-saturated battlespace fundamentally different from past conflicts. And Iran has vowed to mine the Persian Gulf, which will impair any prospective American naval operation to re-open the Hormuz. Casualties could far surpass the 13 American servicemembers killed so far.

**Shadow Wars: The 'Inside Networks' Helping Israel Target Iran And Its Leaders**

The assassination of the all-powerful Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' (IRGC) Navy chief, Alireza Tangsiri, is the latest addition to Iran's leadership falling prey to Israeli and American military campaigns. Tangsiri was reportedly killed in an Israeli airstrike on the port city of Bandar Abbas, on the coast of the contested Strait of Hormuz, and nearly 1,300 km from the besieged capital city of Tehran.

Targeting Tangsiri was to highlight that the centrality of the Hormuz Strait, now largely blocked and controlled by the IRGC, is core to the campaign's aims, while the larger clarity of the intended strategic focus of the war remains murky. Meanwhile, President Donald Trump, who continues to shift goal posts on the end game for the military campaign and is now dabbling with the idea of an on-ground incursion targeting critical islands peppered across the Persian Gulf, is looking for a final gut punch against Tehran, which can be used to exit the war.

Over the past four weeks, with Tangsiri being the latest example, Israel has showcased that its war with Iran was being waged over the years in the shadows of espionage, intelligence, and covert operations. Conducting a precision strike

in Bandar Abbas also highlights the spread of Israeli intelligence, a kind of reach that has been cultivated inside Iran and its institutions, both politi-



Alireza Tangsiri, a man in a military uniform, and another man in a suit.

cal and military. For years, both Tehran and Tel Aviv have chased down each other's personnel and interests. The 2010 assassination of Mahmoud al-Mabhouh in Dubai, a co-founder of the military wing of Hamas, by Israel's external spy agency, the Mossad, garnered global attention given the agent's use of forged foreign passports predominantly from European countries. Attacks against Israeli diplomatic missions and officials blamed on Iran across global capitals, including New Delhi, have also been a regular fixture, albeit not as aggressively as the former's operations in comparison. What we witness today with the war in the Middle East and the 12-day

war that preceded it in 2025 is only the public disclosure of a conflict fought in the shadows for a prolonged period.

However, while the decapi-

challenges. Since September 2025, Tehran has delivered execution orders against dozens of people accused of spying for Israel. The idea comes more from a sense of panic than betrayal, to instill fear amongst a very vulnerable population, both economically and politically, not heed advances by foreign agencies and work against the regime.

Iran's own networks of clandestine operations, dwarfed by both audacity and breadth of that of Israel, are expected to be operationalised further on the other side of this conflict, as a collapse of the regime remains unlikely. In the past week, two Israelis, including a teenager and a military reservist, were arrested on allegations of spying for the IRGC.

The IRGC, despite its current depleted condition, cannot be easily counted out. In a recent interview with a British newspaper, Sir Alex Younger, former chief of the United Kingdom's external intelligence agency, the Secret Intelligence Service or MI6, said that Iran holds the upper hand in the conflict for the moment. Younger added that the strategy of "horizontal escalation", meaning firing projectiles at all accessible targets irrespective of their prior rela-

tions or affiliations with the Iranian state, seems to have worked.

The Iranian regime surviving the ongoing air campaign is, in all probability, an accepted outcome. The US, all said and done, is edgy, and looking to make sure it is not pulled into a quagmire of its own making, like the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, adding decades more to a conflict in the Middle East. But pressure now to 'finish the job' and not leave it half-done is intense, including from Gulf states, which do not wish to deal with an emboldened Iran under the flag of a victory. For Tehran, not losing the war is victory enough despite the losses.

Finally, one way or another, the war between Israel and Iran will continue after the US military campaign ends. It is unlikely that either Israel or the Gulf powers will be willing to give Iran space and accommodation to redraw the region's security architecture or be a major stakeholder in it. However, without Iran being afforded such concessions, the region may remain on tenterhooks itself. This will expand an era of 'shadow wars' in the coming time, where clandestine operations will become the norm for years, if not decades, to come.

## Budget Review Meeting Focuses on Accelerating Development Works

**Paderu, March 30:** A district-level review meeting on development and welfare programs, along with budget estimates for the financial year 2026–27, was held at the Paderu Collectorate on Monday. The meeting was chaired by District In-charge Minister for Women & Child Welfare and Tribal Welfare, Gummadi Sandhyarani, in the presence of District Collector A.S. Dinesh Kumar and other officials. The Minister stated that a total budget estimate of ₹3,067.076 crore has been prepared for the district, with ₹1,545.823 crore allocated to Araku constituency and ₹1,460.793 crore to Paderu constituency. Committees will be formed at constituency levels to plan and implement development activities.

She reviewed the performance of various departments including agriculture, education, healthcare, and welfare schemes such as Rythu Bharosa, PM-Kisan, and others. Special focus was given to maternal healthcare, road connectivity in remote areas, and effective implementation of welfare programs.

The Minister directed officials to ensure timely completion of pending works, improve rural infrastructure, and ensure benefits reach all eligible beneficiaries. She also emphasized better facilities for students and health check-ups after summer holidays.



The Collector highlighted coordinated efforts across departments to improve roads, drinking water supply, and basic infrastructure in the district.

## 334 Rural Students Attend 3-Day Emerging Technologies Training at Pragati Engineering College



**Gandepalli, March 30:** A three-day awareness and hands-on training program on “Emerging Technologies” (second phase) was inaugurated at Pragati Engineering College, Surampalem, under the aegis of the Government

of India’s Department of Science and Technology (DST). The program, being held from March 30 to April 1, aims to educate rural school students on modern technologies. College Chairman Dr. Paruchuri Krishnarao said that 334 students from Bikkavolu, Peddapuram, and Rangampeta schools are participating. The training includes sessions on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cybersecurity, Internet of Things (IoT), and mobile applications, with a focus on safe and effective usage. Principal Dr. G. Naresh highlighted the importance of early awareness of digital tools and cyber safety. Program Coordinator Dr. V. Prashanth thanked DST for sponsoring the initiative under the “Children Centric Outreach Programme.” The event also features expert lectures, hands-on sessions, a project expo, and a medical camp.

## Public grievances must be treated with top priority: Collector



**Amalapuram, March 30:** District Collector Dr. R. Mahesh Kumar directed officials to address public complaints—especially land-related issues—swiftly and transparently through the Revenue Clinic and Public Grievance Redressal

System (PGRS). During the PGRS meeting held at the Collectorate on Monday, the Collector received 178 petitions from across the district. He instructed officials to examine each complaint at the field level and ensure satisfactory resolution to the applicants. Officials were also asked to promptly inform petitioners once issues are resolved and clearly explain reasons in case of delays. The Collector emphasized resolving grievances at the division, mandal, and village levels to avoid escalation, and urged daily monitoring of complaint progress to ensure timely disposal. He stressed that even minor issues should be handled promptly to build public trust, highlighting accountability, transparency, and responsiveness as key governance principles. RDO G. Mammy, DWAMA PD S. Madhusudan, and other district officials participated in the program.

## Dream of Own House Fulfilled: 2,256 TIDCO Houses Distributed in Vijayawada

**Vijayawada, March 30:** NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha, along with MLAs Bonda Umamaheswara Rao and Gadde Rammohan, distributed 2,256 TIDCO houses to beneficiaries at NTR Nagar in Jakkampudi on Monday. The Collector said that owning a house is a lifelong dream for poor families, now realized through government efforts.

He noted that the houses, equipped with basic infrastructure and amenities, hold significant market value despite being offered at subsidized rates. Officials also assured that the remaining houses under construction will be completed and handed over within the next few months. The MLAs stated that the government has fulfilled its promise, providing permanent housing and relieving poor families from the burden of rented living.

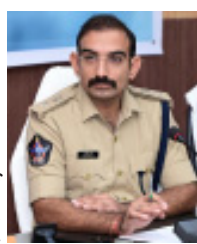


## Digital Arrest Scams: Public Urged to Stay Alert

**Chittoor, March 30:** District SP Tushar Dudi has warned the public to remain vigilant against rising “digital arrest” scams. Fraudsters are posing as officials from police or investigative agencies like CBI and ED, contacting victims through calls or video calls and creating panic with false claims of legal cases or misuse of Aadhaar and bank accounts.

Victims are often kept online for hours under pressure, during which scammers extract personal details and force money transfers. The SP clarified that no law enforcement

agency conducts arrests via video calls and urged people not to share sensitive information like OTPs, passwords, or bank details. Citizens are advised to verify suspicious calls with local police and avoid transferring money under pressure. Victims of cyber fraud should immediately report incidents to the cyber helpline 1930 or the nearest police station.



## 67,801 Families Identified Under P-4 Scheme in District: Minister



**Rajamahendravaram, March 30**  
Minister announced that 67,801 “Bangaru Kutumbalu” have been identified under the P-4 programme in the district. Speaking at the P-4 anniversary event held at the Collectorate, he said the initiative aims to fulfill his vision of eliminating social backwardness. Launched under Swarna Andhra Vision-2047, the programme focuses on poverty eradication with support from citizens, industrialists, and NRIs. So far, 27,333 families have been adopted with the help of 4,422 mentors. The minister also felicitated outstanding mentors and stated that the programme aims to bridge the gap between the top 10% and bottom 20% economically.

## Polavaram PGRS: 150 Petitions Received – Collector Issues Strict Directions



**Rampachodavaram, March 30 (Pen Power):** District Collector K. Dinesh Kumar directed officials to work with full responsibility in resolving public grievances. At the PGRS meeting held at the ITDA office on Monday, a total of 150 petitions were received, while 2 petitions were registered at the Revenue Clinic. He emphasized that every department must work towards achieving “100% public satisfaction” and instructed officials to tackle challenges in the newly formed Polavaram district through effective teamwork. The Collector stressed that issues should be resolved at the field level and warned that negligence in

duties will not be tolerated. Officials must provide timely and direct information without delays. Currently, 171 petitions are pending, mainly in Water Resources, DRDA, and Panchayat Raj departments. He ordered that these cases be resolved within 24 to 48 hours and directed strict adherence to SLA standards, along with audits on public satisfaction. He also announced the appointment of special officers at mandal and village levels to monitor the implementation of government schemes, with the Joint Collector acting as a special officer at the constituency level.

## Responsible and Transparent Disposal of Grievances: Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha

**Vijayawada, March 30:** District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha directed officials to resolve public grievances transparently, responsibly, and to the satisfaction of petitioners under the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS). Along with Joint Collector S. Ilakkiya, he received petitions from the public at the Collectorate on Monday. The Collector emphasized thorough examination of each application and urged officials to treat every grievance as a personal responsibility, ensuring timely and permanent solutions. He noted that Chief Minister is closely monitoring grievance redressal and instructed officials to resolve issues within the stipulated time. A total of 98 petitions were received from various departments, including MAUD, Panchayat Raj, Police, Marketing, DRDA, Revenue, Civil Supplies, Education, Agriculture, Electricity, Employment, RWS, Health, Mines, Endowments, and



others.

## P4 Aims to Eliminate Poverty in the State



**Markapur, March 30:** District Collector M. Vijaya Sunitha urged people to support and adopt “Golden Families” under the P4 initiative, aiming to uplift poor households. Speaking at the first anniversary celebrations of the P4 program held at Soujanya Function Hall on Monday, she emphasized that helping the underprivileged brings true meaning to life. She noted that around 50,000 families in the district are awaiting support. MLA Kandula

Narayana Reddy described the P4 program as the brainchild of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and said that 1,500 families have already been adopted in the Markapur constituency. He reiterated that the government’s goal is to ensure there are no poor people in the state. Officials including CPO Swaroopa Rani, ICDS In-charge PD Padmavathi, RDO Prabhakar, and AMC Chairman Venkat Reddy attended the event.

## Youth Urged to Stay Alert on IPL Betting: SP Warns of Strict Action

**Rajamahendravaram, March 30:** District SP D. gaging in IPL cricket betting, stating that strict warned that betting operators lure people with cent youth. The SP emphasized that betting not tal stress, family disputes, and even suicides. He guard their future.



Special police teams have been deployed across advised to immediately dial 112 if they notice any that informants’ identities will be kept confidential activities could result in criminal cases and damage to one’s career.

Narasimha Kishore cautioned youth against enaction will be taken under the AP Gaming Act. He false promises of easy money and target innoonly leads to financial loss but also causes menurged the public to avoid betting apps and safe-

the district to curb betting activities. Citizens are suspicious betting operations. The SP assured tial and warned that involvement in such illegal

## Ramakrishna Mission’s Services Praised; Sarees Distributed to 200 Beneficiaries

**Rampachodavaram, March 30:** MLA Miriyala Sirisha Devi appreciated the services rendered by Ramakrishna Mission for tribal communities in the agency area. On Monday, a service program was organized at the Ramakrishna Mission hospital in Sirigindalapadu village, marking the upcoming birth anniversary of Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi (April 2). Around 200 elderly, widowed, and differently-abled women from various mandals were distributed sarees worth approximately ₹2 lakh. Mission Secretary Swami Parijnanandaji Maharaj stated that serving the needy with compassion is the core objective of the Mission. Annadanam (free meal service) was also organized for attendees.



## Seized Vehicles Auction Fetches Rs10 Lakh Revenue

**Rajamahendravaram, March 30:** The Transport Department of East Godavari district conducted a public auction of seized vehicles on Monday, generating a revenue of ₹10,06,600. District Transport Officer R. Suresh stated that a total of 36 vehicles, detained due to pending taxes, lack of fitness certificates, and permits, were auctioned in a transparent manner as per government norms. He warned vehicle owners to

clear dues and maintain valid documents on time, failing which strict legal action will be taken. He also added that such inspections and enforcement drives will continue in the future to enhance government revenue.



# P-4 Anniversary Celebrated Grandly in Polavaram District



**Rampachodavaram, March 30:** The P-4 programme anniversary was celebrated grandly on Monday evening at the ITDA Project Officer's office premises in Polavaram district. Officials from various depart-

ments, public representatives, NGOs, and local residents attended the event in large numbers. District Collector K. Dinesh Kumar stated that continuous efforts would be made for the comprehensive devel-

opment of Chintoor and Rampachodavaram regions. He highlighted that the P-4 programme is a key part of the state's Vision 2047, encouraging 10% of people to mentor and support 20% of underprivileged families for inclusive growth. MLA Miriyala Sirisha Devi noted that the programme reflects the Chief Minister's vision and would bring a new direction to the development of agency areas. She emphasized promoting family adoption initiatives and fostering entrepreneurship in every household. ST Commission Chairman Solla Bujji Reddy called for active

participation from officials and public representatives, stressing the need to develop rural infrastructure and model villages. NGO representatives shared that significant investments were made in healthcare equipment, village lighting, borewells, and infrastructure development, with support from corporate donors. Beneficiaries expressed happiness over improved employment opportunities and better access to education and healthcare. The Chief Minister's speech was also broadcast virtually during the event.

# P-4 Programme Aims at Building an Equal Society

**Vizianagaram, March 30:** Home and Disaster Management Minister Vangalapati Anitha stated that the P-4 programme aims to establish an equal society by eradicating poverty. She attended the first anniversary celebrations of the Zero Poverty P-4 initiative held at the Collectorate auditorium on Monday. The minister de-

scribed P-4 as a prestigious programme of the state government and emphasized that poverty eradication is the key goal of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. She urged people to help the needy, highlighting that social service is equivalent to serving God. She noted that public participation is crucial for the success of

such initiatives and called upon individuals and organizations to support and adopt poor families. In the district, 82,426 "golden families" have been identified, out of which 19,410 families have been adopted by 2,897 mentors. She appreciated their efforts and encouraged more people to come forward and contribute.



# 1.46 Crore Development Works Launched in K. Gangavaram



**Amalapuram, March 30:** State Labour Minister Vasanamsetti Subhash inaugurated multiple development works worth ₹1.46 crore in K. Gangavaram mandal of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district on Monday. The projects include construction of village secretariats and cement roads in Kota, Dangeru, and Sivalam villages. The Minister stated that priority is being given to strengthening basic infrastructure while implementing development and welfare programs simultaneously. He emphasized that village secretariats aim to provide transparent and efficient governance to the public.

# Swift Action Needed on Public Grievances in PGRS: JC Vidyadhari

**Visakha South, March 30:** Joint Collector Gobbilla Vidyadhari directed officials to ensure timely and quality resolution of petitions received through the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS). Speaking at the PGRS meeting held at the Collectorate on Monday, she emphasized thorough examination of each complaint and prompt action. A total of 294 petitions were re-

ceived during the program, including 50 related to Revenue, 69 to GVMC, 145 from other departments, and 30 pertaining to Police. Officials were instructed to provide proper endorsements and ensure satisfactory solutions to the complainants. DROM. Visweshwara Naidu and officials from various departments also participated and took steps toward resolving the issues.



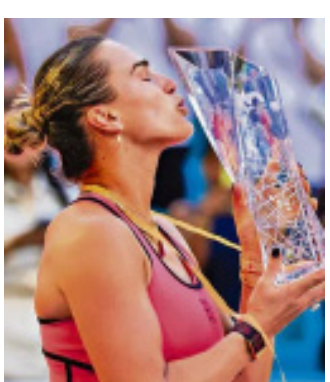
# Housewarming Ceremony Held Grandly in Markapur



**Markapur, Pen Power, March 30:** As part of the state-wide government housing initiative, a grand housewarming ceremony was held in Bhagath Singh Nagar of Ward No. 16 in Markapur town. MLA Kandula Narayana Reddy and District Collector M. Vijaya Sunitha attended the event and conveyed their greetings to the beneficiaries. Speaking on the occa-

sion, the MLA stated that the Telugu Desam government is committed to welfare, and such housing programs reflect that commitment. He assured that every eligible beneficiary in the newly formed Markapur district would be provided a house. Officials from various departments and local TDP leaders and workers participated in the program.

# Aryna Sabalenka completes Sunshine Double with Miami Open win



**Miami Gardens (USA):** Aryna Sabalenka beat Coco Gauff in the Miami Open women's singles final 6-2, 4-6, 6-3. The world No. 1 overpowered fourth-ranked Gauff in the first and third sets with strong groundstroke winners and became the first player to accomplish the "Sunshine Double", winning Indian Wells followed by Miami in the same season since Iga Swiatek in 2022. It

was Sabalenka's second straight title at the Miami Open, Gauff's hometown tournament, and put her ahead of Gauff in their head-to-head record at 7-6. "You've pushed me to be a better player," Sabalenka said during the ceremony, before adding about the crowd, "You always bring a full stadium." The match lasted 2 hours, 11 minutes and ended with

Gauff getting broken for the fourth time with a wide backhand. Gauff fought back to force the third set but could not maintain the momentum she appeared to gain from the loud crowd supporting her. "It sucks not to come out with a better result, but I had a lot of joy this week," Gauff said to the crowd. "You guys brought energy every day this week."

# Samson, Jadeja face former teams as new-look CSK meet Parag's RR



**Guwahati:** Sanju Samson is set for an emotional clash against Rajasthan Royals, the side he led and shaped for over a decade, as he turns out for Chennai Super Kings, while Ravindra Jadeja will also face his former franchise, adding a poignant sub-plot to the IPL match between the two teams here on Monday. For more than a decade, Samson was synonymous with RR, their batting mainstay, leader and all-time leading run-scorer, who guided them to the 2022 final. Much like MS Dhoni at CSK, Samson was the Royals' identity. But in a blockbuster swap that sent Jadeja back to RR, the Kerala batter now finds himself in yellow, adding a new dimension to CSK's evolving core. Samson also arrives in prime form, having played a decisive role in India's triumphant T20 World Cup campaign. His hat-trick of 50-plus scores in must-win games against West Indies, England and New Zealand has made him a star of the nation, and the unassuming keeper-batter will come with renewed

self-belief. He, along with skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad, is set to open and will also form the core leadership of the team, which will miss Dhoni for at least two weeks due to a calf strain. Dhoni has not travelled with the side to Guwahati, and his absence will put Samson and Gaikwad in the spotlight. Dhoni's absence will also open the door for emerging names like 20-year-old left-arm spin all-rounder Prashant Veer, who impressed in domestic T20s, and the franchise's big-money (Rs 14.2 crore) uncapped recruit Kartik Sharma, known for his six-hitting exploits in the domestic circuit. With Dewald Brevis showing signs of maturity, Shivam Dube growing into a dependable middle-order force and youngster Ayush Mhatre developing rapidly, CSK appear better equipped for a rebuild. Their bowling attack, featuring Noor Ahmad, Akeal Hosen, Matt Henry and Khaleel Ahmed, will also offer variety and control. For RR, Samson's departure signals the end of an era and the begin-

ning of another under Rryan Parag, who will begin his captaincy stint at his home ground. The return of Jadeja adds experience and balance, but his waning finishing skills could be a concern for the Royals. Their batting will revolve around Yashasvi Jaiswal, who now shoulders greater responsibility as the senior-most top-order presence. Alongside him, teenage prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and the in-form Shimron Hetmyer provide firepower, particularly in the powerplay, where RR were among the most explosive sides last season. However, their bowling remains a concern. Despite an overhaul following a disappointing 2025 campaign, questions remain over the consistency of their pace unit led by Jofra Archer, while the spin department will have to depend on Jadeja and Ravi Bishnoi. Both teams are coming off underwhelming seasons, with CSK finishing at the bottom and RR just above them in ninth, and they will look to reset.

# Hyderabad mountaineer Yashwanth scales highest peak of Goa



**Hyderabad:** Young mountaineer Bhukya Yashwanth has successfully summited the highest peak of Goa, Sonsogor Peak (1,166 m), on March 28, 2026, as part of his prestigious national mission "Har Shikhar Par Tiranga." This is part of his expedition to scale the highest peaks in all states of India. The expedition commenced at 8:00 am on March 28 and concluded late at night around 11:00 pm, marking a long and physically demanding climb. The summit push was completed in approximately seven hours, while the overall expedition remained highly challenging due to the difficult terrain and return journey. "The route to the summit was extremely risky and demanding, with no proper trails or defined paths, making navigation a major challenge throughout the climb," the mountaineer from the city said. "The dense forest region is known for its rich biodiversity, and the expedition involved moving cautiously through areas with wildlife presence, including bears, leopards, king cobras, and other wild animals," Yashwanth said. "The terrain was covered with thick vegetation, wild fruits, and

dense forest growth, adding both natural beauty and significant difficulty to the expedition. The absence of a clear route, combined with continuous wildlife risk, made this climb one of the most adventurous and technically challenging among the state high points," he explained. Yashwanth expressed his gratitude to the Goa

Forest Department for their support in making this expedition successful. He also thanked Mr Alok Kumar, IPS, Director General of Police, Goa, Mr Kamal Dutta Garu, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF), Goa, and Mrs Jiss Verkey, IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), North Goa.

## India boxers begin Asian Championships campaign in Mongolia

**Hyderabad:** India's boxing contingent is set to begin its campaign as the Asian Boxing Championships 2026 get underway in Mongolia on Monday, with the draw confirming key opening bouts and byes across categories. In the women's draw, Preeti Pawar will face Elina Bazarova (KAZ) in the 54 kg category, while Priya takes on Rimma Volossenko (KAZ) in 60 kg. Minalakshi will face Japan's Yuka Sadamatsu (JPN), while Pooja Rani goes up against Kazakhstan's Nadezhda Ryabets (KAZ). Meanwhile, Nikhat Zareen, Jaismine Lamboria, Ankushita Boro, Arundhati Choudhary, Lovlina Borgohain and Alfiya Patahan advance with byes. On the men's



side, Vishvanath Suresh opens against Bekzat Ergeshov (KGZ), while Jadumani Singh faces top seed Rui Yamaguchi (JPN) in a tough 55 kg bout. Sachin will take on Buyandalai Bayarkhuu (MGL), Aditya Pratap Singh faces Mouda Alhawsaw (KSA) and Deepak meets Khavasbek Asadullaev (UZB). Ankush and Narendar progress with byes, while Akash, Lokesh and Harsh Choudhary are also set for key bouts in their respective categories.