



CM Revanth Seeks Centre's Help for Tummidihatti Barrage, Irrigation Project Clearances

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (GNS): Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday urged Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil to persuade Maharashtra to agree to the construction of the Tummidihatti barrage on the Pranahita River with a height of 150-152 metres.

The Chief Minister, along with Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, met Patil in New Delhi. They informed the Union Minister that Maharashtra had previously agreed to a construction height of 148 metres. Revanth Reddy requested Patil to persuade Maharashtra to agree to a barrage height of 150-152 metres, noting that a height of 148 metres would not allow for sufficient water supply via gravity. He explained that increasing the barrage's height would not cause significant submer-



gence in Maharashtra.

The Chief Minister referred to his letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking approvals, as well as subsequent communication from the Prime Minister's Office forwarding the matter to the Ministry of Jal Shakti. He explained that the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) in Pune had con-

ducted a study regarding the construction of a barrage at Tummidihatti with a height ranging from 148 to 152 metres. The study revealed no significant difference in the extent of submergence whether the barrage was built at 148 metres or 152 metres. According to the study, 50 per cent of the submerged area would lie within the riverbed it-

self. Revanth Reddy said constructing the barrage at a height of 150-152 metres would enable gravity-fed water supply, eliminating the burden of electricity consumption. He urged the Union Minister to convince Maharashtra to agree to the project on this basis. He requested Patil to arrange a meeting between Telangana and Maharashtra re-

garding the issue as soon as possible. He explained that completion of the project would provide irrigation facilities to the underdeveloped erstwhile Adilabad district.

Patil stated that a meeting would first be organised under the aegis of the Central Water Commission (CWC) to initiate discussions between officials from Telangana and Maharashtra. He further assured the Chief Minister that a meeting between the irrigation ministers of both states would be arranged subsequently.

Earlier, Revanth Reddy met Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav and urged him to immediately grant environmental clearances for the Palamuru-Rangareddy, Gauravelli, Seethamma Sagar and Dindi projects.

Rahul holds press meet with student protestors

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, brought together a group of student protestors, including those from Jantar Mantar and the viral Mumbai girl (who stopped a police van in the middle of the road) before the press on Wednesday and defended them as the "saviours of the Constitution". Gandhi, addressing the media outside 10 Janpath in the capital, said that their stir was for defending the Constitution and protecting the idea of India, and hence they didn't need to apologise to anyone.

His press meet came against the backdrop of a female protester, whose abusive words against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Jantar Mantar stir created a wide uproar, even leading to the filing of a police case and subsequently leading to the latter issuing a public apology on social media. The girl, reportedly 15 years old, regretted her remarks and sought pardon for her act. This drew protests from the Congress and

Says they defended the 'idea of India'



others who accused the govt of coercion and browbeating her. Rahul Gandhi, flanked by several youth protestors, defended their demonstration and stated they were defending the idea of India and voicing their grievances against the broken education system and therefore, to harass them and force them into tendering an apology is nonsensical.

"I am very proud of them and of what they, along with thousands of young Indians like them, have done. They have defended the Constitution. They have protected the idea of India and India's

future," he said.

He said that raising concerns against a "flawed, collapsing, and useless" system was not a crime, and they only exercised their democratic right.

The Congress leader further said that the students were not violent, not aggressive and not being nasty, yet they were beaten, assaulted, and threatened. He alleged that the students, including the female protesters, are being forced and put under pressure to tender an apology by sending goons to their homes, and this was a "nonsense act".

PM Modi Hails Jammu & Kashmir Progress on Article 370 Anniversary

NEW DELHI, Aug 5 (GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have undergone wide-ranging transformation since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, highlighting improvements in infrastructure, education, healthcare, entrepreneurship and sports. However, he made no reference to the long-pending issue of restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.



In a post on X marking the seventh anniversary of the abrogation of Article 370, Modi described August 5, 2019, as a defining milestone in India's journey towards inclusive development. He said the Centre remained committed to the development of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and to ensuring that every citizen had the opportunity to "dream big, achieve and contribute" towards building a The Prime Minister said the region had witnessed significant expansion of infrastructure and the creation of new opportunities across various sectors over the past seven years. He added that women and members of marginalised communities, who had been denied several constitutional rights for decades, had now been empowered through the full application of the Constitution.

Modi also noted that this year's anniversary coincides with the 125th birth anniversary of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee. He said the Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder's commitment to national unity continued to inspire generations and that the vision he championed found fulfilment with the abrogation of Article 370.

While reiterating the Centre's commitment to the development of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, the Prime Minister did not mention the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, an assurance he had given on earlier occasions. He had previously said the Centre was committed to restoring statehood and that it remained a "solemn promise", adding that efforts were underway to create the conditions for it to be done expeditiously.

EC Releases Jharkhand Draft Voter Roll, 4.36 mn Names Omitted

Ranchi, Aug 5 (GNS): The Election Commission of India has released the draft electoral roll for Jharkhand following the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise, with a total of 4.36 million names from the previous voter list omitted, a statement said on Wednesday. Those excluded include deceased voters, duplicate entries, people who have permanently shifted elsewhere, untraceable voters, and individuals who did not sign the enumeration forms.

The Election Commission clarified that this is only a draft list and not the final electoral roll. Eligible voters whose names are missing can apply for inclusion between August 5 and September 4, it said. According to the statement, the SIR exercise was conducted across the state from June 30 to July 29,

during which 22.10 million of the state's total 26.46 million registered voters, representing 83.51 per cent of the electorate, submitted their enumeration forms. Booth Level Officers (BLOs) collected forms through door-to-door visits, while digitally submitted forms were also accepted.

The Commission stated that a total of 43,61,987 names from the previous electoral roll have not been included in the draft list. Of these, 4,38,596 were identified as duplicate entries, while 7,63,903 voters were found to be deceased.

Another 15,92,194 voters were recorded as having permanently shifted to other locations. In addition, 14,50,810 names were excluded because the individuals could not be traced during the verification process.

Ajmal Accuses BJP of Fuelling Communal Politics in Assam

Guwahati, Aug 5 (GNS): All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) President Badruddin Ajmal on Wednesday mounted a fresh attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Assam government, accusing its leaders of fuelling communal divisions and urging political parties to focus on humanity instead of religious identities.

Speaking during a visit to Barpeta district, Ajmal alleged that repeated references to Hindu-Muslim issues were creating unnecessary divisions in society and diverting attention from people's real concerns. Addressing a

gathering, the former Lok Sabha MP said that individuals should be recognised first as human beings rather than through the prism of religion. "You will neither become Hindu nor Muslim; you are the children of human beings. I do not know when they will become human," Ajmal added, in an apparent criticism of leaders whom he accused of promoting communal politics.

Stepping up his attack, the AIUDF Chief alleged that those making divisive statements should first learn to act with humanity before seeking to influence public opinion.

Sheikh Hasina vows return to Bangladesh despite risks

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): Former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said on Wednesday that she is prepared to return to her country despite the possibility of being detained or killed, asserting that it was her duty to return to her people. "I may be detained, but it is my duty to my people to return," Hasina said.

She said she wanted to return so that Bangladesh could get back on the path of "progress, secularism and peace". While thanking India for its hospitality, the former Bangladesh prime minister said Bangladesh remained her country and she needed to get back on



its hour of need. "I was arrested in 1983, 1985, and 1987, some seven times. They may jail me or kill me, I have to go back to my people," she said. Recalling attacks on her life, Hasina said there had been 19 attempts on her. She also said she wanted to return to Bangladesh in December, which she described as the country's "victory month". "I will tell everybody the

date when I come," Hasina said. She said the situation in Bangladesh had not changed with the BNP coming to power.

Hasina alleged that poverty had increased, more than two crore people had become unemployed, and factories had been shut down. She further alleged that the Bangladesh government was borrowing between Tk 500 crore and Tk 700 crore every day to run the state. Hasina accused the authorities of destroying symbols associated with Bangladesh's Liberation War, including Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's house and museums.

Trump warns Iran over strait of hormuz as Tehran denies talks

Washington, Aug 5 (UNI): US President Donald Trump said Tuesday (US local time) that Iran will be "hit very hard" if the Strait of Hormuz is not reopened "very soon." In an interview with Fox News, Trump said the United States is "having very good discussions" with Iran. But Tehran denied it is having any talks with Washington. Trump earlier warned that he was giving Iran a "last chance before decapitation", he said that they were talking about opening the Strait of Hormuz "literally by tomorrow". "I mean they're going to go quickly, one way or the other. It's not very complex", he said on Monday at the Oval Office.

"We're talking about the



Strait, the opening of the Strait, having it open, literally by tomorrow", he said, but Iran has denied there were any talks with the US. The contradictory claims leave the gateway to the world for 20 per cent of fossil fuels trapped in uncertainty. "We are not holding any negotiations with the United States at present", Iranian Foreign Ministry

Spokesperson Esmaeil Baqaei said at a news briefing in Tehran. Speaking a few hours before Trump, he said that except for Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, who is on a pilgrimage to Iraq, all the negotiators were in Iran. Trump dismissed it, writing on Truth Social, "Iranian Leadership is unbelievably duplicitous" because after they "beg" for a meeting "they say, openly and proudly, that they're not having any discussions". Baqaei did say that Iran was in consultations with Oman, which is across from it on the Strait, for what the Iranian news agency Tasnim described as a "temporary arrangement that would ensure maritime safety in the strategic waterway".

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Tariffs, "dead" economy, vibrant India

Shiban Khaibri

The most disturbing development , if any , after the challenging epidemic of covid , currently faced by the country ,is the war of exorbitant tariff rates thrust on us by US President Donald Trump who has unfortunately emerged as an increasingly maverick politician in his second term. The rates of tariff have not been reviewed somewhat reasonably upwardly in ordinary course of business supported with cogent reasons but looking to sweeping 50% straight against this country , these are seen and felt as arbitrary, highly discriminatory , unjustified, uncalled for and thus totally unacceptable as, such tariffs are striking at the roots of normal bi-lateral trade. Such high tariffs, when analysed, are neither with any economic rationale nor seem to be geo-political in nature .If it is said that such an action of Trump administration is politically vengeful , perilous in content, impractical in shape and structure , contradictory in operation as also smacking of any commercial sense which could be called as nothing short of imposition of sanctions, it will not be any over statement .

Using the gamut of tariff as a tool to intimidate, as a weapon to terrorise, as a means to establish hegemony and one-upmanship as is evident by the exorbitant rates imposed by Donald Trump, it was definitely going to disturb the otherwise delicate equations of



bi-lateral trade affecting not only Indians but American citizens too. We know how much healthcare is costlier in the US as compared to most of the developed countries and with higher taxes on Indian pharmaceutical products , the position there was going to worsen , agreeably a cause of concern for our drug-makers and exporters too. Needless to add, Indian exports of drugs and pharmaceuticals to the US are to the tune of nearly \$ 13 billion annually. Not going into the nitty-gritty of the entire gamut of such inordinate and preposterous levels of tariffs against Indian exports to the US, tariff diplomacy employed by Donald Trump was going to backfire at home too as each American household was going to be placed at a disadvantageous position to the tune of over \$2400 as an average short term income loss. Direct effect of tariff induced inflation on Ameri-

can economy was bound to bring in more problems than any “massive inflow of Dollars” as claimed by the American President on account of massive high tax regime on its imports from other countries. The United States is conscious of facing an imminent crisis on account of its deficits and debt levels and any increase in its earnings by way of massive tariff hikes to offset the position was unlikely as the affected economies like India could find alternate routes either to sell off their goods and products and promote multilateralism or cause the US to review the unrealistic hike in tariffs. Why not, the US being the world's largest importer and second largest exporter has more stakes than more gains from out of the expected proceeds of hiked tariffs.

Immediately preceding the decision to hike the tariffs of Indian goods, a wholly misplaced and far from

any realism narrative of the Indian economy being a “dead” economy was peddled by President Trump throwing to winds all existing and operating parameters and variables in terms of the Indian economy being , on the contrary, a fastest growing economy with a GDP of 6.4% as against that of the US with an abysmally less than 2%. The false and motivated narrative of “dead” economy , let us assume for a moment , warrants a considerate , friendly , helpful and cooperative trade partner rather willing to offer even concessions. How can it be accounted for that a supposedly “dead” economy was going to receive severe blows like super hiked tariffs and brazenly justified the same unless both the narrative of “dead” economy and imposing higher tariffs had lot more to do with politics than anything for commercial , economic and mutual

trading considerations?

We buy oil from Russia and how can a country of 140 crores with the hard earned tag of being the largest democracy of the world and an independent, sovereign country emerging as an economic force to reckon with, toe to the dictation of the US not to buy oil from Russia and thus help the US in imposing economic isolation on Russia ? When the US imports fertilizers, uranium, chemicals and numerous products from Russia, why bullying tactics adopted against us? We have to strengthen , protect and guard our own economic interests , interests of our people , monitoring levels of inflation , interests of our agriculture and farmers and so on. India's policies -India will decide, not America. Free trade should not be axed and economics and vengeful or hateful politics should not be mixed together.

Harsha Kakar

Speaking in the debate on Operation Sindoor, Union Home Minister, Amit Shah also raised abrogation of article 370 and 35A and its impact on the region. He mentioned that during the period from 2004 to 2014 there were 7,200 terrorist incidents which claimed 714 civilian and over a thousand security personnel lives. Between 2015 and 2025 the number of incidents dropped to 1525 and casualties included 324 civilians and 542 security personnel. Simultaneously this period witnessed a 162 percent increase in elimination of terrorists. He added that currently there are no local terrorists operating in Kashmir.

It has been six years since Article 370 was removed by an act of Parliament. At that time the government expected strong public reaction and had enhanced security measures within the valley, including placing local politicians under house arrest. Even the annual Amarnath Yatra was cut short that year. However, its fears were unfounded. Things returned to normal very rapidly. The presence of security forces continues being visible across Kashmir more as a counter to terrorist activities and providing confidence to the visiting public than from fear of local violence. Areas which were no-go for tourists earlier, including the famed Lal Chowk, are now frequented without fear. Cinema halls opened in Kashmir after decades. With inclusion of central schemes Kashmiris have benefitted.

A changing Kashmir



J and K was witnessing a tourism boom and economic growth, all of which was impacted by the recent Pahalgam attack. The situation is returning to normal as the valley remains a favoured tourist destination. With development and investment on the rise, unemployment would recede. Hospitals, educational institutes and connectivity, including the newly introduced Katra-Srinagar rail link, as also new road links are changing the Valley as never before. Coaching centres for central exams, including UPSC, NEET and JEE, are springing up across the Valley, indicating that youth are keen to join the mainstream. Construction of canals and dams as also raising heights of current reservoirs to enhance retention of water and increase electricity production for local use, by placing the Indus Water Treaty on hold, will benefit the re-

gion. Kashmir is changing and for the better.

There are few political parties which have objected to the erstwhile state being converted into two UTs while the government claims that this is temporary. In all probability, this is linked to management of the security environment within including dealing with the vast underground network supporting terrorism. Unless this network is broken support to terrorism will continue. This is best done when security is under the centre and political interference is minimum. The conduct of elections, both state and central, sans violence and rigging, enhanced confidence of the local public. The region witnessed a high voter turnout of almost 58 percent for Lok Sabha polls and 64 percent for the assembly. This was a vast change from earlier elections which were

marred by violence, low participation and calls for boycott by the Hurriyat.

The banning of the Hurriyat, demise of Syed Geelani and stopping flow of Hawala funds brought orchestrated violence and hartals to a standstill. Stone pelting and enforcement of bandhs had become a cottage industry in the valley. Security forces no longer need to cater additional troops to keep stone pelters at bay during anti-terrorist operations. These are positives. However, a lot needs to be done.

Abdul Sheikh Rashid, also known as Engineer Rashid, MP from Baramulla summed it up, while speaking on the debate on Operation Sindoor in Parliament. He mentioned, ‘I want to say that to end and fight militancy, you have to first win the hearts of Kashmiris.’ He added that during the entire debate, no speaker has made any mention of Kashmiris.

Omar Abdullah mentioned after Pahalgam, ‘We can control militancy with guns, but we cannot end it. It will end when the people are with us. Today, it seems people are reaching there.’ Omar highlighted the changing environment by mentioning, ‘From Kathua to Kupwara, there is no town or village where people did not protest against this (Pahalgam). They said, ‘Not in my name’. And this is spontaneous.’ This is a positive change. Both, Rashid and Omar have highlighted that the most crucial step to be taken to end terrorism is winning over the youth. For this the Centre and the UT have to work together, alongside the army, and learn to trust Kashmiris. There will always be bad apples but these will be far and few. Most locals are hard working and seek to provide for their families. Stereotyping Kashmiris as anti-national should be avoided.

Simultaneously, the Government needs to act against narco-terrorism and the growing drug menace which is impacting youth of the region. The past few years have witnessed a rapid rise in heroin addiction mainly due to easy availability of drugs. A major noticeable change is that Pakistan's claims on Kashmir have almost no takers. This is because of multiple reasons involving Pakistan itself including its own economic downfall, political instability and largely because people have seen through its game. They have understood that Pakistan is interested in Kashmir for the water it provides and has no love for its population.

PERUMIN 37: Gateway to Minerals and Rare Earths

India and Peru have always had friendly relations. PERUMIN 37 Mining Convention, one of the world's most important platforms for dialogue, innovation, and collaboration in the mining sector, is an opportunity Indian investors cannot afford to miss This September, the Peruvian city of Arequipa will welcome thousands of industry leaders, policymakers, and investors to PERUMIN 37 Mining Convention, one of the world's most important platforms for dialogue, innovation, and collaboration in the mining sector. Scheduled from 22 to 26 September 2025, this global event presents an extraordinary opportunity for India to deepen its engagement with Peru in a sector that is critical for energy security, technological progress, and long-term industrial growth. For decades, mining has been the backbone of Peru's economy, shaping its identity as a reliable and globally competitive supplier of natural resources. Today, as the world shifts towards clean energy, green technologies, and digital transformation, Peru's role has only become more significant. At the same time, India's rapid economic growth and ambitious energy transition require secure access to key minerals and rare earths. It is here — at the intersection of Peru's abundant resources and India's rising demand — that PERUMIN 37 emerges as a natural platform for partnership.

Peru is consistently ranked among the top global producers of several strategic minerals. The country is the second-largest producer of copper worldwide, accounting for around 12 per cent of global output. It is also a leading producer of silver, zinc, tin, and gold. These resources are not only vital for traditional industries but also for emerging sectors such as renewable energy, electric mobility, and digital infrastructure. For India, copper represents a crucial input for electrification, from power grids to electric vehicles. With demand projected to rise sharply in the coming decades, securing reliable and long-term supply chains is a pressing priority. Peru, with its stable production base and commitment to sustainable mining, offers precisely that. Moreover, Peru is home to emerging reserves of rare earth elements (REEs) — the minerals essential for semiconductors, defence technologies, wind turbines, and advanced electronics. As global powers seek to diversify REE supply chains away from a handful of dominant sources, Peru's deposits present India with a strategic alternative. For Indian companies, engaging with Peru today could mean gaining an early-mover advantage in a sector that will define the industries of tomorrow.

PERUMIN 37: Innovation Meets Opportunity

What makes PERUMIN unique is that it is not only a commercial showcase but also an intellectual forum that brings together every stakeholder in the mining ecosystem. This year's edition will feature the Mining Summit and TIS Forum, where global experts and policymakers will discuss the latest industry trends, from decarbonisation and digital mining to sustainable practices. The Exhibition will host more than 1,170 stands displaying cutting-edge mining equipment, services, and environmental innovations, while the International Pavilions will create space for direct dialogue between foreign delegations, investors, and Peruvian leaders.

In addition, specialised forums on water management, logistics, energy transition, and inclusion will highlight how mining can align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. With more than 65,000 participants expected and delegations from at least nine countries, PERUMIN 37 will serve as a global hub for governments, mining companies, financiers, suppliers, and academic institutions alike.

India is projected to become one of the largest mineral importers globally over the next two decades. Its industrial future will depend on reliable access to copper, zinc, lithium, and rare earths. PERUMIN 37 offers Indian investors the chance to position themselves strategically in this evolving landscape. By participating in the convention, Indian companies will have the opportunity to explore joint ventures with Peruvian and international mining firms, secure supply contracts for critical minerals vital to India's clean energy and defence sectors, and introduce homegrown technologies in areas such as digital mining, environmental solutions, and renewable integration-fields where Peru is actively seeking innovation. Beyond commercial gains, such engagement will also help strengthen bilateral trade ties, building on the growing cooperation between India and Peru in minerals, fertilisers, and other emerging industries. Importantly, Peru welcomes Indian companies not merely as investors but as long-term partners in sustainable growth.

With a government committed to modernising mining governance, promoting transparency, and ensuring that local communities benefit from resource wealth, Peru positions itself not just as a supplier of minerals but as a reliable and responsible partner for investment. The relationship between India and Peru has always been one of friendship and mutual respect. In recent years, it has expanded into new domains — from trade in fertilisers and textiles to cooperation in science and technology. Mining and critical minerals now offer the most dynamic frontier for this partnership. As Peru invests in greener and more technologically advanced mining practices, we see India as a natural ally in this transformation. Indian expertise in digital innovation, renewable energy, and sustainable infrastructure can complement Peru's resource base, creating a partnership that benefits not only our two countries but also contributes to global goals of sustainable development. PERUMIN 37 is more than an industry convention; it is a bridge connecting Peru's abundant resources with India's industrial ambitions. I warmly invite Indian investors, policymakers, and entrepreneurs to join us in Arequipa this September.

By engaging in PERUMIN 37, India and Peru can transform shared opportunities into lasting partnerships, ensuring that both nations advance together towards a future of clean energy, innovation, and inclusive growth.

I should count it a deep personal satisfaction, and my government's confidence amply vindicated, were my labours to bear enduring fruit; for more than eight years I have dedicated myself in India to the strengthening of bilateral relations, the enlargement of trade and commerce, and, in more recent years, the cultivation of tourism. It is the vision of the Peruvian government that the two most ancient civilisations, India and Peru be drawn ever closer in amity and purpose, so that together they may contribute to the noble endeavour of shaping a just and enlightened new world order. The time is right for India to deepen its presence in Peru's mining sector. The gateway is open: PERUMIN 37 awaits.

Govt boosts exports through logistics reforms, PLI schemes, DEH: Minister

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): India is intensifying efforts to enhance exports by promoting MSME participation, expanding Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, the Parliament was informed on Tuesday. As many as 14 PLI schemes have been implemented, along with National Logistics Policy (NLP), the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) and PM Gati Shakti, Minister of State in the Commerce Ministry Jitin Prasada said in a response to a Lok Sabha question on measures taken to boost India's exports. Encouraging MSME participation in global trade though export incentives, trade promotion events, and digital platforms to streamline processes underline government's endeavours in this direction, the minister said. In July, a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agree-

ment (CETA) with the UK, was signed and India-EU FTA negotiations aim for completion by year-end, the minister informed. PLI schemes across 14 sectors, including electronics, IT hardware, automobiles and pharmaceuticals, have driven domestic manufacturing, job creation, and exports, the reply said. The PLI Scheme for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing has significantly impacted Mobile manufacturing sector in India as the mobile phone exports soared from Rs 1,500 crore in 2014-15 to over Rs 2 lakh crore in 2024-25, the minister added. The PLI Scheme for bulk drugs has paved way for India to become a net exporter of bulk drugs with a trade surplus of Rs 2,280 crore in the financial year 2024-25. India was a net importer to the tune of Rs 1930 crore in this sector in FY 2021-22. Government initiatives

such as Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) and E-Commerce Export Hubs (ECEHs) are enabling SMEs including start-ups to compete globally by reducing the cost and time associated with logistics, streamlining regulatory processes, and simplifying re-imports for e-commerce returns or rejects. ECEHs shall provide integrated services at a single location, encompassing customs clearance, quality certification, packaging, and off-port warehousing. The minister said the government is also strengthening export infrastructure by improving port connectivity, reducing logistics costs and simplifying trade procedures to make Indian products more competitive in global markets. He added that the National Logistics Policy and PM Gati Shakti are helping integrate transport networks, improve supply chains and ensure faster movement of goods across

the country. Prasada said the government is working closely with industry stakeholders and export promotion councils to identify new markets and diversify India's export basket. He noted that various trade facilitation measures, including digital platforms and simplified customs processes, are helping exporters, especially MSMEs, access international markets more efficiently. The minister emphasised that ongoing negotiations for new trade agreements and the effective implementation of existing FTAs are expected to create greater opportunities for Indian businesses and boost merchandise and services exports. He reiterated that the government's multi-pronged strategy aims to strengthen India's position in global value chains, increase manufacturing competitiveness and achieve sustained export-led economic growth.

India's textile exports to US and Europe crossed \$20 billion in 2024-25: Minister

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): India's exports of textile products to the USA, the EU, and the UK touched the \$20.7 billion mark for the financial year ended on March 31, 2025, the Parliament was informed. The USA and the EU are important markets for Indian textile products. During the year 2024-25, India's total textile and apparel exports, including handicrafts, to the US were valued at \$10.94 billion, whereas the export of these products to the EU and the UK were valued at \$7.6 billion and \$2.16 billion, respectively, Minister of State for Textiles Pabitra Margherita said in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, adding that India has signed an FTA with the UK and is actively engaged in FTA negotiations with the EU. India's exports of technical textiles stood at Rs 24,732.68 crore in FY 2024-

25, which represented a 15.53 per cent growth over the previous financial year, the minister said. He also highlighted that India has signed 15 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), including the recently signed CETA between India and the UK. These FTAs aim to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers, simplify procedures, and address structural issues to make Indian exporters more competitive in partner markets. The minister further stated that the government is implementing the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles with an approved outlay of Rs 10,683 crore over a five-year period, to promote the production of MMF apparel, MMF fabrics, and products of technical textiles in the country to enable the textile sector to achieve size and scale and to become competitive. With a view to boosting technical

textiles in the country, the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) was created for a period from 2020-21 to 2025-26 with a fund outlay of Rs 1,480 crore, the minister said. The government is continuously monitoring export performance and taking various measures to boost exports in consultation with the Textiles Export Promotion Councils and Industry Associations. The government, through the DGFT, runs the Advance Authorisation Scheme to allow duty-free import of input, which is physically incorporated in the export products. In order to boost the export of textile products, the govt is implementing the Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) scheme for apparel/garments and made-ups in order to enhance competitiveness by adopting the principle of zero-rated ex-

ports. Further, textile products not covered under the ROSCTL scheme are covered under Remissions of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) along with other products. In addition, the government provides financial support to various Export Promotion Councils and Trade Bodies for organising and participating in trade fairs, exhibitions, and buyer-seller meets at the national and international levels to boost exports. The Textiles Ministry has also supported Export Promotion Councils in organising a Global Mega Textile Event, i.e. Bharat TEX 2025, to showcase the strength of the Indian textiles value chain, highlighting the latest progress in the textile and fashion industry and positioning India as the most preferred destination for sourcing and investment in the textile sector, the minister added.

Indian Oil inks pact with Air India for supply of sustainable aviation fuel

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Air India on Tuesday for the supply of sustainable aviation fuel, in a significant step towards a greener future for aviation in the country. By integrating certified green fuels into commercial operations, Indian Oil and Air India are together reinforcing India's position as a front-runner in sustainable aviation and energy transition. Through this MoU, Indian Oil and Air India aim to collaborate on the supply of SAF to meet the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) targets for international flights, ensuring a reliable, transparent, and sustainable fuel supply to support the environmental goals of both companies, the statement said. As part of its broader strategy to achieve the IATA Net Zero by 2050 target and comply with CORSIA obligations, Air India is

actively pursuing initiatives in operational efficiency, low-carbon emissions, and now, sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), the Tata Group airline said. Indian Oil chairman AS Sahney said that "The signing of this MoU with Air India represents a strategic step in India's transition to sustainable aviation. With our ISCC-CORSIA-certified SAF from the Panipat refinery, Indian Oil is ready to provide a sustainable fuel solution that will help decarbonise air travel. Partnering with India's flagship carrier, we are aligning national growth with global climate goals and setting a benchmark for the industry." "Through this MoU with Indian Oil, Air India is committed to support the government of India's initiatives to promote sustainable development in the aviation sector and to further its own sustainability goals to achieve the IATA Net Zero by 2050 target," added Air India CEO, Campbell Wilson. The effort aligns with India's broader push for

green aviation, which includes India's target of 5 per cent SAF blending by 2030 and the development of SAF supply chains across the country. This collaboration builds upon Indian Oil's recent milestone of becoming the first Indian company to receive ISCC CORSIA certification for SAF production at its Panipat Refinery. The certification, granted under ICAO's Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), establishes Indian Oil's capability to produce SAF that meets the most stringent international sustainability and lifecycle carbon emission standards, the statement said. Air India's fleet renewal plan, with 570 new aircraft on order, will enable the airline to operate one of the lowest carbon emitting fleets in the world and its plans to establish more non-stop city-pairs will result in flights with less emissions and itineraries. Air India has

NABL launches new medical application portal to boost healthcare quality ecosystem

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) on Tuesday launched its new Medical Application Portal designed for 'ISO 15189:2022' applicant laboratories, marking a major step in NABL's mission to enhance ease, efficiency and transparency in the accreditation process. The portal has been reimagined to mirror the real-world operations of medical laboratories, offering a streamlined application process with improved user experience, reduced timelines, and greater accuracy, according to Commerce Ministry. QCI Chairperson Jaxay Shah said with the new NABL Medical Application Portal, tasks that once took weeks or even months can now be completed within just two to three hours. He added that this marks one of the most significant disruptions in the quality ecosystem and that

the same approach will now be extended to other sectors, embedding technology-driven efficiency, innovation, and responsiveness at the heart of India's quality journey. The portal introduces several enhancements including a restructured application flow, standardized templates, a comprehensive pre-registration checklist, an intuitive interface, and a multi-user access feature that enables laboratories to assign multiple users with distinct access rights. This is expected to accelerate data entry, enhance oversight, and ensure accountability throughout the accreditation lifecycle. NABL Chairperson Dr Sandip Shah that the portal is a transformational step towards making the accreditation process more transparent and efficient. He added that with multi-user access and simplified features, NABL is enhancing ease of doing business for

laboratories and reinforcing its commitment to India's quality ecosystem. The initiative is expected to benefit hundreds of medical laboratories across India, providing them with an intuitive, transparent, and efficient digital platform for accreditation under ISO 15189:2022. The launch event included a live demonstration of the portal, a walkthrough of its features, and an interactive Q&A session with participants from medical laboratories nationwide, said the ministry. The new portal has been developed to simplify the accreditation journey for medical laboratories by reducing paperwork and enabling a faster, more user-friendly online application process. Officials said the platform is aligned with the latest ISO 15189:2022 standards and is expected to improve consistency, transparency and efficiency in the assessment of laboratory quality and competence.

Nearly \$12.67 billion received as FDI in renewable

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): Nearly \$12,674 million (\$12.67 billion) has been received as foreign direct investment (FDI) in the renewable energy sector (as on March 31, 2025), the Parliament was informed on Tuesday. Solar energy has emerged as the leading sector attracting the majority of such investment, while the western region of the country has received the highest share of FDI in this period, Minister of State of New and Renewable Energy and Power, Shripad Yesso Naik, said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha. Recognising the need to scale up investments in renewable energy to meet the national target of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030, the government has undertaken various initiatives to attract both domestic and international capital which include permitting 100 per cent FDI under the automatic route and introduction of Climate Finance Taxonomy in the Union Budget 2024-25 for enhancing the availability

of capital for climate adaptation and mitigation. Earlier this month, India achieved a landmark milestone of 100 GW solar PV module manufacturing capacity, reflecting the country's rapid progress in building a robust and self-reliant solar manufacturing ecosystem, aligned with the national vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat and the global imperative for clean energy transition. The government's commitment is to make India self-reliant in solar PV manufacturing and establish the country as a major player in the global value chain. India has also surpassed Japan to become the third-largest producer of solar energy globally, which is a significant development in the nation's clean energy development. India produced 1,08,494 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of solar power, more than Japan, which produced 96,459 GWh, as per data from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

ITR filers grow by 32 pc in 5 years: Govt

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): The number of people filing income tax returns (ITR) in India has grown by over 32 per cent in the past five financial years, the Parliament was informed. While 6.48 crore people filed ITRs in FY 2019-20, the figure rose to 8.56 crore in FY 2024-25, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, said in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha. This is an increase of more than 2 crore taxpayers -- reflecting a steady rise in tax compliance and expansion of the tax base, as per the data shared by the Finance Ministry. The Minister highlighted that the government has taken several policy measures over the last two decades to bring more people into the tax net. These include expansion of the scope of TDS and TCS to cover transactions like foreign remittances, luxury car purchases, e-commerce

sales, and immovable property deals. The introduction of the new Form 26AS and the Annual Information Statement (AIS) has also made taxpayers more aware of their financial transactions and nudged them towards accurate reporting. The government has further simplified the filing process by introducing pre-filled ITR forms and allowing taxpayers to file updated returns within four years of the relevant assessment year. The e-Verification Scheme, launched in 2021, flags mismatches between third-party data and ITR filings, encouraging voluntary compliance before scrutiny. Policy changes have also included structural reforms like reduced corporate tax rates, simplified personal income tax slabs, and the enactment of strong laws such as the Black Money Act (2015) and the amended Benami Transactions Prohibition Act (2016).

India aims to capture 10 pc of global green hydrogen demand: Minister

New Delhi, Aug 19 (IANS) India aims to capture nearly 10 per cent of global green hydrogen demand, which is expected to exceed 100 million metric tonnes by 2030, Shripad Naik, Minister of State for Power and Renewable Energy, said on Tuesday. Speaking at the FICCI Green Hydrogen Summit here, the Minister said that India has made substantial progress towards its ambitious green hydrogen production targets, with 862,000 tonnes per annum of production capacity already awarded to 19 companies under the National Green Hydrogen Mission. The government has awarded 3,000 megawatts of electrolyser manufacturing capacity to 15 companies, marking significant industrial development in the sector. Naik outlined India's plan to establish itself as a dependable exporter in the quickly growing global market, saying, "We want to make India not only a major

producer but also a global hub for green hydrogen export." The minister highlighted India's renewable energy achievements as the foundation for green hydrogen ambitions. As of June 2025, cumulative installed renewable energy capacity reached approximately 237 gigawatts, including 119 gigawatts of solar, 52 gigawatts of wind, and 49 gigawatts from large hydro. Combined with 8.78 gigawatts of Nuclear power, non-fossil fuel sources now represent more than 50 per cent of total installed power generation capacity. "We are extremely proud that we have accomplished this important NDC goal five years ahead of schedule," Naik remarked, praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. By 2030, India wants to have 500 gigawatts of non-fossil fuel-based capacity, which will require about 50 gigawatts of capacity ad-

ditions per year. Vipul Tuli, Chair of FICCI's Renewable Energy CEOs Committee and Chairman, Sembcorp India said on Tuesday, "In one of the global tenders, green has come out cheaper than blue. Please understand the implications of that it's a very significant development." However, he cautioned that the "industry must focus on building sustainable, long-term commitments rather than simply chasing low prices." The National Green Hydrogen Mission is aimed at reducing dependence on fossil fuel imports, lowering carbon emissions and positioning India as a global leader in clean energy technologies. Officials said the mission is expected to attract significant investments, generate employment opportunities and promote innovation across renewable energy, manufacturing and infrastructure sectors.

Milk situation stable due to adequate stocks: MoS Baghel

New Delhi, Aug 5 (GNS): The milk situation in the country has remained stable owing to adequate commodity stocks with stakeholders, the government informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, responding to a question whether there is a need to import milk due to an acute shortage in domestic production. Minister of State of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying S.P. Singh Baghel said in reply to a question from T.R. Baalu that the estimated milk production during 2023-24 stood at 239.30 million tonnes with per capita availability of 471 gram per day. He said the government, in consultation with State/Union Territory milk federations and other stakeholders, regularly monitors the milk situation in the country. Baghel said India is a member country of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and follows all the regulations of the WTO for international

trade, including the agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures. The milk products complying with India's SPS measures and applicable import tariffs are imported in the country in a limited quantity, the MoS said. Sharing steps taken to increase domestic production of milk and protect the dairying industry in the country, the MoS said the government has launched a Rashtriya Gokul Mission which aims at the conservation and development of indigenous bovine breeds through scientific breeding and genetic improvement to enhance productivity and increase milk production. He said the National Programme for Dairy Development aims to enhance the quality of milk and milk products and increase share of organised milk procurement. Supporting Dairy Cooperatives & Farmer Producer Organisations engaged in dairy activities (SD-

CFPO) aims to strengthen dairy cooperatives and farmer producer organisations by providing them with working capital loans and facilitating market access, ensuring timely and remunerative payments to dairy farmers, he said. Baghel said the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund incentivises private investments in dairy processing, meat processing, animal feed plants, breed improvement, vaccine production, and animal waste management. Earlier, Baalu had asked the government if due to acute shortage in domestic production of milk and milk products there is need to import milk and its products in the near future. Baalu had also asked whether it is true that according to a recent study by the SBI, imports of dairy products including milk will adversely affect the livelihood of domestic milk producers.

No eligible person will face injustice over 22A Lands: Minister Ponguleti

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (GNS) Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Wednesday directed officials to ensure that no genuine landholder or poor person faces injustice in matters related to lands listed under Section 22A of the Registration Act, while simultaneously protecting government properties.

The Minister said the State Government's objective is to safeguard the rights of eligible individuals and prevent illegal transactions involving government lands. He clarified that after the Revanth Reddy-led government assumed office, not a single cent of land was newly added to the 22A prohibited list. Ponguleti held a

high-level review meeting at the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat on issues related to 22A prohibited lands within the HYDRAA limits, including public complaints, media reports, High Court directions and government policies.

The meeting was attended by Chief Minister's Special Secretary V. Sheshadri, Revenue Department Principal Secretary D.S. Lokesh Kumar, Inspector General of Stamps and Registration Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanthu, Collectors of Hyderabad, Rangareddy and Sangareddy districts, the Additional Collector of Medchal-Malkajgiri, and other officials.

The Minister said the instructions issued during



the meeting would apply to District Collectors, Revenue officials and Stamps and Registration officials across Telangana. Directing officials to follow the government's policy on 22A lands, Ponguleti said every case should be examined individually based on land records, factual evidence and legal provisions before taking a decision.

He instructed officials to

conduct detailed scrutiny of properties included in the prohibited list, identify lands eligible for removal from restrictions and ensure transparent disposal of applications. The Minister directed officials to resolve all applications and complaints related to 22A lands within the prescribed timeframe.

He asked authorities at the levels of Tahsildars, Revenue Divisional Officers, Sub-Collectors and District Collectors to thoroughly examine cases and provide relief to eligible claimants. Officials were also instructed to give priority to applications received through Praja Vani and complete inquiries at the earliest. Referring to the 45-day deadline set by

the High Court for disposal of 22A-related disputes, the Minister directed authorities to complete procedures within the stipulated period and take decisions in accordance with legal provisions.

Ponguleti reiterated that protection of government lands remains a key responsibility of the administration and directed officials to prevent illegal transactions, unauthorised registrations and encroachments. He said District Collectors have the authority to conduct detailed inquiries and take final decisions on lands under Section 22A, while maintaining a balance between safeguarding public property and protecting the rights of genuine landholders.

CPI criticises BJP, calls for nationwide protests against Centre's policies

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (GNS) Communist Party of India (CPI) Telangana leaders on Wednesday launched a pamphlet highlighting what they termed the failures of the BJP-led Central government and called for statewide participation in nationwide protests against its policies. The pamphlet was released at the Bashirbagh Press Club under the aegis of the CPI Hyderabad Council.

Speaking on the occasion, CPI Telangana State Council Assistant Secretary E T Narasimha alleged that the BJP government's downfall had begun and claimed that attempts to suppress protesting students and youth over the NEET examination paper leak would further weaken the Centre. He referred to the Bihar Bankipur Assembly byelection result as an indication of growing public dissatisfaction with the BJP. Narasimha also alleged irregularities in the management of donations at the Ayodhya Ram Mandir and criticised the Prime Minister for not responding to the issue. He further accused the BJP and AIMIM of practising divisive politics and appealed to the public to reject communal politics.

CPI Telangana State Secretariat member V.S. Bose alleged that workers' rights were being curtailed under the BJP government, claiming labour unions were facing repression and public sector undertakings were being privatised in favour of corporate houses. He urged people to make the nationwide padayatras from August 6 to 14 against the Centre's policies a success and also appealed for large-scale participation in the CPI's public meeting scheduled at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan on September 1.

TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud highlights Nizamabad development, targets BRS & BJP

Nizamabad, Aug 5 (GNS) Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud on Wednesday said the state was witnessing rapid development under the leadership of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, while accusing the BRS and BJP of misleading the public.

Addressing a media conference, Goud extended Bonalu festival greetings to the people and said the state had received abundant rainfall due to the blessings of Goddess Mahankali. He said development activities were progressing across Nizamabad district, with an engineering college and an agricultural college already



functioning, while work on the Limbadrigutta project would begin soon.

He said the government was committed to the district's overall development, adding that recommendations had been made for strict enforcement of paddy procurement norms. About 80 per cent of the proposed integrated colleges had been sanctioned, the palm oil industry was showing encouraging results, and

priority was being given to completing pending projects and repairing damaged roads. Targeting BRS leader T Harish Rao, Goud demanded an explanation for his recent visit to Tamil Nadu and questioned the purpose behind visiting temples allegedly associated with occult rituals.

Referring to legal notices issued to him and other Congress leaders over their remarks, he maintained that Harish Rao should clarify the allegations.

The TPCC chief also criticised the previous BRS government over the Kaleshwaram project, alleging that its flaws had been exposed and questioning the durability of the barrage.

He said the Congress government would not tolerate irregularities in paddy

procurement and asserted that any wrongdoing would be dealt with firmly.

Goud said nominated posts in the state would be filled soon and that the government was giving special attention to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Taking a swipe at the BJP, he described its defeat in the Bankipur Assembly constituency as the beginning of the party's decline and claimed it was a setback even in a seat represented by the BJP's national president. He also dismissed BRS working president K T Rama Rao's proposed padayatra as ineffective and said priority in party appointments would be given to leaders who had worked for the Congress' Assembly election victory.

CS Sanjay Jaju directs extensive preparations for 'Telangana Rising-2026' Global Summit

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (GNS) Telangana Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Wednesday directed all government departments to work in close coordination and make extensive arrangements for the successful conduct of the "Telangana Rising-2026" Global Summit, scheduled to be held in December.

Chairing a review meeting at the Dr B R Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat, under the directions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, the Chief Secretary said the summit should emerge as a major platform to attract large-scale investments and accelerate the state's economic growth. He stressed that



cooperation from national and international organisations would be crucial in achieving the vision of "Telangana Rising-2047" and enhancing the state's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). He instructed all departments to prepare comprehensive action plans and coordinate effectively to ensure the summit's success.

Officials informed the meeting that the "Telan-

gana Rising" initiative aims to position Telangana as a national leader in development, investments, industrial growth, infrastructure, skill development, innovation, employment generation and welfare.

The meeting suggested utilising the Young India Skill University campus, currently under construction at Bharat Future City, as the venue for the global summit. The Chief Secre-

tary also directed the concerned departments to ensure the timely completion of essential infrastructure, including roads, power supply and drinking water facilities. Discussions were also held on strategies to attract investments, accelerate industrial growth, expand skill development opportunities, generate employment and improve digital service delivery, according to an official statement.

Congress BLAs working well during SIR: Azharuddin

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (GNS) : Telangana's Minister for Minority Welfare Mohammed Azharuddin said on Wednesday that Congress party's Booth Level Agents (BLAs) are working well during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the state.

He, however, called for saving as many votes as possible. Azharuddin said BLAs were doing good work but stressed that more people should register, as the SIR process was not easy.

Meanwhile, with just five days left to submit enumeration forms, Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharshan Reddy urged voters who have not submitted their forms not to delay.

He asked voters to submit forms with accurate and complete information, warning that names may not be included in the draft electoral roll to be published on August 17 if forms are not submitted. As per the status report on SIR on Wednesday (August 5), election officials



have digitised 77.77 per cent of the enumeration forms.

According to the CEO, forms have been distributed to all 3,38,26,448 voters, with 2,63,05,904 (77.77 per cent) digitised so far. The Election Commission on July 31 extended the deadline for submitting enumeration forms till August 10. Revising the SIR schedule for the second time, the poll panel extended the last date for submitting filled-in forms from August 3 to August 10. The deadline for rationalisation and rearrangement of polling stations was also extended to August 10.

The draft publication of

rolls has been extended to August 17, with claims and objections to be filed between August 17 and September 16. Disposal of claims and objections will be from August 17 to October 15, and the final publication of rolls is scheduled for October 19. The Election Commission had earlier revised the schedule on July 15. As per the schedule announced in May, the house-to-house enumeration exercise by Booth Level Officers (BLOs) was scheduled from June 25 to July 24. The draft electoral roll was to be published on July 31, with the final rolls on October 1.

TGPolice launches AI-enabled Dial 112 emergency response system with drone integration



Hyderabad, Aug 5 (GNS) Telangana Police on Wednesday launched the Next-Generation Telangana Emergency Response Support System (TG-ERSS) – Dial 112, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled integrated emergency response platform designed to provide faster, smarter and more coordinated assistance to citizens across the state.

Director General of Police (Head of Police Force) C V Anand inaugurated the upgraded platform at the Telangana Integrated Command and Control Centre (TGiCCC) in Hyderabad in the presence of Principal Secretary (Home) Shikha Goel, Hyderabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar, Technical Services DGP V V Srinivasa Rao, Cyberabad Commissioner Dr M Ramesh, Malkajgiri Commissioner B Sumathi, senior police officers and officials.

Later, addressing the media, the DGP described the

launch as a major milestone in Telangana's technology-driven policing and citizen-centric emergency response.

He said Dial 112 serves as the single national emergency number integrating police, fire services, ambulance, disaster response, women and child safety, and other emergency services.

Anand said the project, which has been under development for nearly four years, marks the transformation of the state's earlier Dial 100 system, launched in 2013, into a modern AI-powered emergency response platform. Calls made to the old Dial 100 number will continue to be routed seamlessly to Dial 112.

He said the upgraded system replaces manual call recording with AI-powered voice-to-text transcription, automatically identifies the caller's location on digital maps and instantly routes the information to dispatchers. The nearest patrol ve-

hicle is then alerted and dispatched to the incident location, significantly reducing response time.

The DGP said police patrol vehicles currently reach emergency locations within 7 to 10 minutes in Hyderabad, Cyberabad, Malkajgiri and the Future City areas, while response time in rural districts ranges between 15 and 20 minutes.

Efforts are underway to further reduce the response time, he added.

Highlighting a first-of-its-kind initiative, Anand said Telangana has become the first state in the country to integrate drone technology with the Dial 112 emergency response system. Initially, AI-enabled drones will function as first responders by reaching emergency locations ahead of patrol vehicles, providing live visual feeds to the command centre and assisting police in assessing the situation before personnel arrive.

BJP demands Revanth Reddy's resignation, alleges Congress failed to fulfil poll promises

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (GNS) Telangana BJP on Wednesday demanded the resignation of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, alleging that the Congress government had failed to fulfil its election promises even after 30 months in office.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP state office, party chief spokesperson and media in-charge N V Subash alleged that the Chief Minister had failed to

effectively manage the Education, Municipal Administration and Home Departments, which are under his direct charge. He claimed that the Congress had promised to implement all its election assurances within 100 days of assuming office but had failed to fulfil them.

He also accused the government of spending heavily on advertisements and publicity instead of addressing public issues. Subash al-



leged that the government had neglected students and

unemployed youth, claiming that the non-release of nearly Rs 14,000 crore in fee reimbursement dues had affected around 22 lakh students, with several educational institutions allegedly withholding certificates.

He further alleged that the government had failed to implement its promised job calendar despite assurances made before the Assembly elections. Criticising the government's proposed

"Future City" project, the BJP leader alleged that the Chief Minister was attempting to divert attention from governance issues through new initiatives and other political proposals.

He also questioned the outcome of Revanth Reddy's overseas visits to attract investments and demanded that the government release a white paper detailing the investments brought into the state. Subash alleged

that the Congress government had disappointed people who had voted for change after the BRS regime and said the BJP would take what it described as the government's failures and anti-people policies to the public during the forthcoming Graduate MLC and municipal corporation elections.

He expressed confidence that the BJP would emerge as a strong alternative in Telangana.

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