

CM Revanth Reddy to target BRS strongholds ahead of 2028 polls

HYDERABAD, Sept 21 (GNS): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is set to take the political battle to the strongholds of the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), beginning with a public meeting in Sircilla, the home constituency of BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, on September 30. The Chief Minister is also likely to visit Siddipet next month to address a public meeting in the constituency represented by senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao, party sources said.

The back-to-back public meetings are being seen as an early mobilization exercise by the ruling Congress ahead of the Assembly elections scheduled for November-December 2028. While addressing a public meeting in Nalgonda on September



5, Revanth Reddy vowed to defeat Rama Rao in Sircilla and Harish Rao in Siddipet. Party sources said the Chief Minister had chalked out an action plan to challenge the BRS leadership in its traditional strongholds, nearly two years ahead of the polls. The proposed meetings in Sircilla and Siddipet are expected to set the tone for a direct political contest between the Con-

gress government and the BRS in the opposition party's strongholds. Rama Rao and Harish Rao have maintained an uninterrupted record of electoral victories in their constituencies since entering electoral politics. Rama Rao has won the Sircilla Assembly seat five times — the 2008 bypoll and elections in 2009, 2014, 2018 and 2023. Harish Rao has represented Siddipet

for seven consecutive terms since 2004, including in bypolls in 2004, 2008 and 2010 and general elections in 2009, 2014, 2018 and 2023.

The Congress is planning the Sircilla meeting as a major show of strength and is mobilising party workers and supporters from across the constituency and neighbouring areas. Local Congress leaders have begun preparations for the meeting, including arrangements for the expected large turnout and security.

The proposed meetings also come amid an intensifying political exchange between Congress and BRS over the performance of the three-year old Revanth Reddy government. The BRS has been campaigning against the Congress on the completion of 1,000 days in office.

Padma Shri Row: Hindu Sena seeks action against Hamid Ansari

New Delhi, Sept 21 (GNS): Right-wing nationalist organisation Hindu Sena has called for the revocation of the Padma Shri awarded to former Vice President Mohammad Hamid Ansari over his recent remarks. In a letter addressed to Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday, September 21, Hindu Sena founder and national president Vishnu Gupta said the matter was of "utmost gravity concerning sovereignty, integrity, and national security" of India.

He said the former VP repeatedly engaged in questionable actions and delivered inflammatory statements during and after his tenure. "In light of public discourse, including statements by Pakistani journalist Nusrat Mieza, serious allegations have



emerged regarding the leaking of sensitive national security information and the extending of patronage to individuals associated with Pakistan's intelligence agency during Ansari's tenure," Gupta said.

The Hindu Sena founder said that former RAW officials had concerns regarding Ansari's actions against national interest during his posting as India's Ambassador to Iran. In response to Ansari's recent com-

ments made on Saturday, September 12, Gupta said the former VP "targeted the majority Hindu community" and "right-wing ideology". He attempted to portray Hindu nationalist thought as a threat to the nation and defame India on international platforms, Gupta said.

Stating that such biased and misleading rhetoric can damage the country's harmony, Gupta wrote in the letter that Padma awards are given to citizens who have rendered distinguished service to the nation. According to him, continuing to honour an individual facing "severe allegations of compromising national security" and showing "anti-Hindu bias" undermines the sanctity of the award's honours, hurt-

ing India's self-respect.

He demanded immediate revocation of the award and for the government to initiate a high-level, independent probe into all supposed allegations.

During an event on Saturday, Ansari quoted former prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru's statement that the "real danger to India is not communism, but Hindu right-wing communalism."

The former vice president pointed out that Nehru's remarks, made during a meeting of officers of the Ministry of External Affairs and recorded by former foreign secretary Jagat Singh Gundevia, were documented by constitutional expert AG Noorani in his 2019 book 'The RSS: A Menace to India'.

Congress raises concerns over SIR, seeks clarity on voter deletions

New Delhi, Sept 21 (UNI): Calling the SIR process a "Method of Disenfranchising Indians", the Congress said on Monday that the ECI must address serious concerns about the risk of electors' names being deleted from the voters' list.

Jairam Ramesh, Congress General Secretary in-charge of communications, said on X, "CEO Delhi has issued a press release on notices being sent to VIP electors and prominent individuals during the ongoing SIR. However, the issue is not about influential persons who will find a way to have their names included, but the vast majority who will struggle to do so."

He said in Delhi, 54 per cent of voters have either been deleted or face risk



of deletion. This absurdly high share calls the whole voter roll into question.

He said 5.43 crore Indians across 14 states and UTs have received such notices demanding additional documentation to prove their citizenship. There is abundant evidence that deletions affect the most socially and economically marginalised groups, including slum dwellers, people with low

incomes and women. "During the enumeration phase, names of over 6 Cr voters were removed. The ECI must explain why, after this, now an additional 5.4 cr voters are at risk of deletion?" he said.

Ramesh said other BJP states have still not released the list of voters at risk of deletion. This is an appalling lack of transparency, and every state must release the list immediately. The Congress MP said, "CEO claims 'There is no existential crisis'. Unless voters provide adequate documentation to the satisfaction of the BLO/ERO, they can be struck off the final roll. So they remain at risk of deletion. Very serious concerns have been raised about the SIR process.

SIR: Officials asked to ensure proper documentation for voters

Hyderabad, Sept 21 (Patriotic Views): Assistant electoral registration officers (AEROs) and booth level officials in most booths have failed to provide acknowledgements to voters after hearings and submission of documents to retain their names as part of the special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral roll. This has added to anxiety among voters over whether their efforts are fruitful in the crucial period of registering claims and objections.

On August 28, Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharsan Reddy issued a memo directing poll officials to provide acknowledgements to those appearing before EROs or AEROs. However, voters complained that in most booths the practice is not being followed. "During my visit to the local booth, I found they were upload-



"Volunteers assisting voters in the SIR process said the issue was widespread across constituencies. BLOs and AEROs were more interested in accepting documents and moving on"

ing documents and clicking photos of individuals after the hearing, but no acknowledgement was given. Either this was not communicated properly by higher officials or the officials don't want the responsibility.

Neither the BLO nor the AERO present had any idea about the acknowledgement," said Md Husamuddin Mateen, a resident of

Riyasathnagar in Chandrayangutta constituency.

In Jubilee Hills constituency, T. Praveen Kumar of Filmnagar said he submitted documents after being informed by a BLO. "I had hoped they would provide acknowledgement, but since they said it was not required, I returned. Now I realise not seeking it was my mistake, as it would be the

only proof," he said.

Volunteers assisting voters in the SIR process said the issue was widespread across constituencies. BLOs and AEROs were more interested in accepting documents and moving on. "It is not that they are not recording details, but they are registering names in a register without providing acknowledgement. BLOs are least bothered. Since

their responsibility was almost completed by handing over notices, they just want to finish by accepting documents. The burden now rests with the voter," explained High Court advocate Mohammed Waseem.

With voters having no access to uploaded details, concerns remain about the status of their franchise. "When asked how to know the status, officials clearly said it could only be known when the final voter list is published on November 9," Husamuddin added.

The CEO, who has been reviewing SIR progress in recent meetings, failed to discuss the issue with officials. On Monday, Sudharsan Reddy instructed officials to address anomalies and no mapping categories while appreciating progress. "BLO supervisors, BLOs and AEROs

Rajasthan Civic Polls: BJP Wins Ajmer, Pali Despite Congress Lead; INC Takes Bikaner

Jaipur, Sept 20 (UNI): The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) secured the mayoral posts in Ajmer and Pali despite the Congress winning more councillor seats in both municipal corporations. The Congress, however, retained Bikaner, where Anil Kalla was elected mayor. In Ajmer, BJP's Anamika Sharma secured 43 votes and was elected mayor, despite the BJP having won 32 of the 80 councillor seats.

The Congress had emerged as the largest party with 37 seats, while 11 Independents also won. The majority mark was 41. In Pali, BJP's Namita Bubakia was elected mayor with 33 votes. The BJP had won 21 councillor seats, while Congress had emerged as the largest group with 29 seats.



Congress candidate Sumitra Jain received three votes. Pali had 15 Independent councillors, making their support significant in the mayoral contest. The BJP also secured the mayoral post in Udaipur, where Paras Singhvi was elected. The BJP had won 53 of the 80 wards, giving it a clear majority.

In Alwar, BJP's Sumanlata Agarwal defeated Congress candidate Kamlesh Sharma,

securing 42 votes against Sharma's 23. In Bikaner, Congress leader Anil Kalla, nephew of former minister B.D. Kalla, was elected mayor. The Congress had won 42 of the 80 wards in the corporation, crossing the majority mark on its own. In Baran district's Atru municipality, Congress' Nisha Nainwal defeated Krishna Murari Dilawar, brother of Education Minister Madan

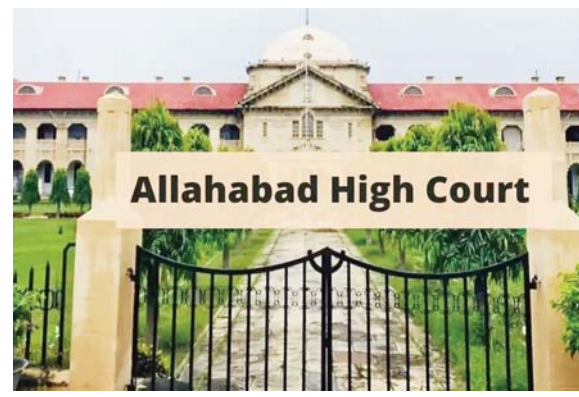
Dilawar, by three votes. Tension was reported in Shri Vijaynagar municipality of Sri Ganganagar district ahead of the chairperson election. A clash broke out between Congress supporters and police, during which a police officer reportedly sustained a head injury.

Congress leader Tika Ram Jolly also had a heated exchange with Additional SP (Rural), Priyanka Raghuvanshi, after Congress councillors entered the barricaded area to cast their votes. Jolly questioned how BJP chairperson candidate Puran Chand Meena had entered the area without police permission and challenged the police over the arrangement. He also made a remark suggesting that officials might as well wear the BJP's collar.

Allahabad HC orders independent probe into alleged caste-based humiliation of students at NLU Prayagraj

Prayagraj, Sept 21 (UNI): The Allahabad High Court has directed the constitution of two committees to independently re-evaluate answer sheets and inquire into allegations of caste-based humiliation and discrimination against students at Dr Rajendra Prasad National Law University, Prayagraj.

A single-judge Bench of Justice Vinod Diwakar passed the directions while hearing a writ petition filed by a PhD research scholar and a fifth-semester B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) student of the university, who alleged that academic and administrative authority had been used by the Head of the Department of Law and Warden of the Boys' Hostel for caste-based humiliation



and retaliation. The High Court directed the Vice-Chancellor to constitute an independent committee to re-evaluate the answer sheets of petitioner no. 2 in subjects taught and evaluated by respondent no. 6 (Dr Deepak Sharma), as well as any other subjects indicated by the student. It further directed that the answer sheets be

placed before the committee after masking the identities of the candidate and original evaluator, without disclosing the marks originally awarded.

"The Committee shall complete the exercise and submit its report to the Vice-Chancellor within one week," the Allahabad High Court ordered, directing that the Vice-Chancellor

place the report before it on the next date of hearing.

For examining the allegations raised by the petitioners, the High Court asked Archana Singh-I, Judge, Small Cause Court, District Court, Prayagraj, and Arun Kumar Yadava, Special Chief Judicial Magistrate, Prayagraj, to conduct an inquiry and submit a report.

The inquiry will examine whether students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were subjected to caste-based humiliation or discrimination by Dr Deepak Sharma or any other person employed by or working for gain in the university, and whether their complaints were dealt with in accordance with applicable regulations.

There’s more to growth than GDP

ARUN MAIRA

INDIA's policymakers are in a dilemma. Too many people, they say, are working in the agriculture sector. Therefore, according to them, the productivity of India's farm sector, measured by the number of people employed in it, is also too low. They would rather have more people being moved out of rural areas and farms — and small, ‘informal’, manufacturing and service enterprises — into cities, and into large, ‘formal’ factories and service enterprises.

The problem is that large formal enterprises are not creating enough secure jobs with decent wages. They are unwilling to absorb more people, pay them higher wages and provide them with social security. Instead, they want more ‘flexible’ labour laws to keep wage costs down. The core problem of the Indian economy is that employers in all sectors (manufacturing, services and agriculture) are using more machinery, and more technology — instead of human beings — to increase their output and productivity.

The key reform the Indian economy requires is a reform of the design and governance of a business enterprise. Workers, whether on farms or in factories, must be the owners of the enterprises in which they work so that they earn the profits made from their work and increase their own wealth, rather than passing on the prof-



its to increase the wealth of financial investors. The capital assets required in the production process — machines in the manufacturing enterprise and the land for farms — must belong to the workers in the enterprise. Workers should be their own employers and not be compelled to become employees in factories and farms owned by stock market investors and feudal landlords. They should have the choice of how they will use profits from their work: whether to invest further in their enterprise or invest in their family welfare and their children's education.

Reforms of land ownership that transferred land from landlords to the erstwhile workers on farms caused small farmers' incomes to grow much faster in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and China than in India in the last 50 years, explains Mike Bird in The Land Trap: A New History of the World's Oldest Asset. Bird explains why reforms progressed faster

in other countries than in India. Vested interests came in the way of reforms in all countries. However, the leaders in those nations supported the rights of farmer-workers not the capitalist-owners. With reforms, small farmers' incomes and wealth increased, and they invested more in the education of their children. It is noteworthy that farm output and agricultural productivity also increased without forcing people off farms.

Economists and business people must rethink the value of ‘scale’ in enterprises. Large-scale production of a standardised commodity — whether widgets in a factory or a monocrop on a large farm — increases economic efficiency by enabling the use of large machines and employment of low-skill workers to perform repetitive tasks. Large-scale enterprises can afford to deploy capital in machines and artificial intelligence. Thereby, they need less human labour and intelligence. While

their efficiency and output may go up, and productivity too (measured as output per human being employed), such enterprises employ fewer humans. They contribute to the ‘jobless’ GDP growth of the economy.

Small farms that grow a variety of food organically have a greater ‘scope’ of production on the farm. Waste becomes a useful input on the farm itself, especially on farms that also have animals. Farms with more scope are naturally more sustainable. Materials and energy circulate within and around such small farms which have less scale but more scope.

Environmental scientist Vaclav Smil has computed the total system requirements of hydrocarbon energy and other non-renewable inputs in modern industries, food production and distribution systems, and in global transportation systems. In his book, How the World Really Works, he explains that the modern and tech-

nologically intensive large-scale food production and distribution system is the largest polluter of the soil, water and the atmosphere. He also explains that small-scale farms with more scope are the best scientific solutions for environmental sustainability.

The problem, he points out, is that this solution requires more people to live and work in rural areas, and engage in smaller agriculture, manufacturing and service enterprises. This will require a reversal of migration from urban/formal enterprises to rural/informal ones. Citizens in advanced countries will not accept this. India should not have as much of a problem as other nations, because it already has the largest number of people living and working in rural areas — the very problem our economists are struggling to solve!

Faster GDP growth will not improve the well-being of India's billion-plus citizens. For the past 25 years, the Indian economy has created less employment with each unit of GDP growth than other large countries. We have the largest population of youth in the world, seeking employment with good wages.

With the present pattern of growth, India's GDP must grow at 12 per cent per annum for the next few years to generate enough employment. Each unit of GDP growth is also causing more pollution and environmental degradation than in other countries.

China’s anti-corruption machine tightens its grip

GEN Zhang Youxia, first-ranked Vice-Chairman of China's Central Military Commission and its senior-most general, has been placed under investigation for "serious violations of discipline and law", along with another member, Gen Liu Zhenli. This leaves the commission with just two members — its civilian Chairman Xi Jinping and the second-ranked Vice-Chairman, Gen Zhang Shengmin, who is also in charge of anti-corruption in the People's Liberation Army (PLA). The senior Zhang was seen as a close family friend and ally of Xi and was retained in his position at the 20th Party Congress in 2022 despite having reached the retirement age. As speculation swirls about the reasons for his removal and about the implications for the PLA's operational abilities, it is important to understand the evolving nature of Xi's long-running anti-corruption campaign in order to make sense of the latest developments.

The Communist Party of China's (CPC) anti-corruption watchdog, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), held its fifth plenary meeting from January 12 to 14, 2026. The meeting was attended by the senior leadership of the CPC, including its military leadership, comprising both Gen Zhang Youxia and Gen Liu. The main message from the meeting was that the anti-corruption campaign would be carried out even more intensely. Xi Jinping's speech at the plenum conveyed the message through the new political slogan of "three mores": to more resolutely and forcefully implement decisions of the central committee, to more scientifically and effectively cage power and to more firmly fight against corruption. A decade-old campaign has evolved into a mechanism to tackle the persistent problems arising from the lack of political reforms of the CPC's Leninist organisational structure and, thus, its scope and utility have grown beyond merely targeting Xi's opponents. Few campaigns have persisted for so long in the CPC's 100-plus years of existence. The anti-corruption campaign launched in 2012 was expected to gradually lose steam. Instead, it has been institutionalised with sufficient flexibility to tackle new, emergent forms of corruption and its persistence is reflected in consistently higher numbers of senior cadres and lower-level officials coming under the CCDI's radar. The number of cases, in fact, rises in the run-up to the CPC's Party Congress held every five years.

However, the campaign is no longer dominated by Xi Jinping's efforts to consolidate and centralise power. It is evolving in its mechanisms and tactics to respond to the shifting forms and nature of corruption and becoming a part of the governance mechanism of the CPC. As a governance tool, anti-corruption campaigns help enforce the central leadership's vision and key decisions, polish the CPC's image among the population and the party leadership's relationship with its members and cadre. With the next Party Congress due in late 2027, the next two years are likely to see an intensification of the campaign.

One, the selection of leadership at local levels (county-level upwards) will begin this year, starting the process for selecting the delegates to the Congress. This process, aimed at "promoting truly loyal, reliable, consistent, and responsible good cadres" is likely to be accompanied by an intense anti-corruption campaign, as was the case in the lead-up to the 19th Party Congress in 2017 and the 20th one in 2022. Two, given the consistently high number of corruption cases, it is evident that corruption remains endemic to the CPC. At the same time, even as financial corruption and violations of the party's regulations and conduct remain a focus, one of the major concerns is the implementation of central decisions at the local level. As a vast and diverse country, the central leadership faces the problems of implementing its policies on the ground. As economic troubles persist and Xi approaches the end of his third term, the CCDI has expanded the scope of 'corruption' to encompass disobedience or failing to implement central policies. For a Leninist party such as the CPC, the disciplinary machinery is key, even for regular policy implementation and unifying the thinking across the hierarchy.

Three, while the CPC has innovated in terms of its tools and tactics, officials have been no less innovative in changing their methods and channels for corruption. While the "eight regulations" aimed at rooting out extravagance and correcting official conduct implemented since 2012 remain at the core of the campaign and these have been backed up by regulations targeting different avenues facilitating corrupt behaviour, newer forms of corruption keep emerging. One such mechanism under increasing scrutiny is "family-style corruption" or, simply, using family members as cover to seek illicit gains — a form quite familiar in India. Difficult to detect, this form of corruption takes a heavy toll on the CPC's image and functioning, especially at local levels.

Twelve years on and with thousands of cadres having fallen, the anti-corruption campaign has become Xi Jinping's version of the Maoist idea of "continuous revolution". For Mao Zedong, the idea was to root out problems arising from what he perceived was the bureaucratisation of the CPC as a governing party. Xi, by contrast, sees bureaucratisation as a key remedy with anti-corruption as a tool to cure the problems arising out of the CPC's Leninist top-down organisational structure. In its second decade, the campaign is thus aimed at curing organisational issues rather than simply targeting deviations by individual officials. In the absence of political reforms, the objective of "putting power in the cage of rules" demands a continuously innovating anti-corruption campaign to handle ever-changing forms of corruption and innovation by cadres to evade the powerful CCDI. Xi's own version of "continuous revolution" will continue even amidst rising economic troubles at home and external pressures. Gen Zhang Youxia's fall suggests that no sector of the party-state apparatus — whether civilian or military — and no official, however high or close to Xi, will be spared.

The latest developments also highlight the growing importance of discipline within the PLA. The military remains a central component of Xi Jinping's efforts to strengthen party control over the armed forces, and anti-corruption investigations within the senior ranks are closely linked to questions of organisational discipline and loyalty.

The investigation of senior military figures could also lead to further scrutiny of procurement, promotions, financial management and command structures within the PLA. Such investigations have the potential to expose networks of influence that may have developed over several years, particularly in areas involving large defence budgets and strategic programmes. At the same time, the political significance of the investigations should be distinguished from their operational impact. The removal or investigation of senior commanders does not automatically indicate a disruption in the PLA's day-to-day functioning, as the military has established institutional structures and multiple levels of command. The longer-term implications will depend on the findings of the investigations and subsequent leadership appointments. The developments also underline the continuing effort to strengthen central oversight of the military. Under Xi, the CPC has repeatedly stressed that the PLA must remain firmly under party leadership and that discipline is essential to military effectiveness. Anti-corruption measures have therefore become closely connected with broader efforts to improve command accountability and prevent the emergence of independent power centres.

How water and waste are becoming inseparable

SIDDHARTH PANDEY

IN a rather wonderful though ironic twist of seasonal behaviour, 'Winter Proper' arrived in north India this year on Basant Panchami, which marks the first day of spring. One wonders what Percy Bysshe Shelley would have said of this anomaly, given his famous line "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"

This time, though, winter caught up with spring in a display of festive solidarity — the yellow of mustard swayed brightly under the pristine white of mountain snow. The much-needed moisture finally freshened the air and rejuvenated the land, ending one of the longest dry spells that the Himalayas have witnessed in recent decades.

But for all its celebratory ethos, the idea of 'washing away' simultaneously embodies a somewhat unsettling impulse, especially when viewed through the lens of our crisis-prone era. The fact that year after year we need rainwater to 'wash away' the gigantic smog-blankets throttling our capital and nearby cities says something about our exceptionally selfish dependence on nature to solve human-made problems. It brings to mind many other images from our years of growing up: from using more water than necessary for cleaning private cars to dumping everyday



waste in canals and rivers as if it is the most natural thing to do.

Here, then, is another irony. That what was always regarded as the 'elixir of life' is now invariably also interpreted as a crucible of our collective egotism. If at one point in history, holy rivers were supposed to wash away our sins, today they accumulate them, serving as silent witnesses to an existence gone awry.

Who can forget those haunting images of dead bodies floating in the Ganges during the Covid pandemic or the persisting visuals of the toxic Yamuna in Delhi, with its lethal froth and foam resembling snow? There is no denying that water and waste have assumed a shocking synonymity with each other in the present age.

It's only the first month

of the year, but the unholy coupling of water and waste has already defined the news several times. It hopped into the headlines when Indore, India's 'cleanest city', suddenly spewed forth hundreds of hospitalisations and over 15 deaths due to sewage-contaminated drinking water. Soon after, reports on sewage-related water contamination began emerging from Greater Noida, Hyderabad, Jhajar and Rohtak while Gandhinagar revealed a typhoid outbreak. A few days ago, a new overhead water tank, constructed at a whopping cost of Rs 21 crore, at Tadkeshwar village in Surat, Gujarat, collapsed during its very first water-filling test.

But one mustn't look at these examples in isolation. They form a part of an ongoing continuum of technological inept-

ness and slapdash development that has beleaguered the country for a very long time now.

Last year, during the Chhath Puja festivities, authorities in Delhi created fake ghats on the Yamuna banks by propping up borders between filtered-water pools and the real river. And in 2024, three UPSC aspirants lost their lives to heavy flooding in the illegal basement library of a coaching centre in Delhi's Old Rajinder Nagar.

Waste, in this context, doesn't only refer to the defilement of our most celebrated natural element, but also to the decaying of the imagination responsible for generating infrastructure around it. Undoubtedly, the stunting of both vision and inventiveness lies at the heart of this growing crisis. And like all crises,

this too manifests itself in a multipronged manner, where dealing with one department in the hope of some solution leads us to another division, area or issue. The blame is everyone's and no one's, and passing-the-buck becomes the norm, with apathy and indifference quickly assuming the order of the day.

There is also a societal amnesia at work. It makes us forget the people who have worked hard to elicit change. They include GD Agarwal, later known as Swami Gyan Swaroop Sanand, who lost his life in 2018, fighting for the cleaning and protection of the Ganges. An 86-year-old environmentalist and a former professor at IIT Kanpur, Swami Sanand breathed his last after a 111-day fast in Haridwar. Prior to him, Swami Nigamananda Saraswati had passed away in 2011 after fasting for 114 days, protesting against illegal quarrying in the same river.

Recent viral reels on social media centred on sacred water bodies have drawn attention to the liberal amounts of milk being poured into them in the name of religious practice. While on the surface, one encounters a preponderance of platitudes on living hygienically and caringly, in reality, the majority — including the government — hardly appears genuinely interested in addressing the issue sustainably.

ED Probes Rose Valley PMLA Cases, 6,666 Cr Investor Refund Paved

New Delhi, Sept 21 (GNS): Union Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary handed over a Demand Draft of Rs. 515.31 crore today to Justice D.K. Seth (Retd.), Chairman of the Asset Disposal Committee formed for the purpose of restitution of properties to legitimate investors in Rose Valley Ponzi scam. Rahul Navin, Director, ED and other senior officials of the government were also present on the occasion.

It is estimated that this amount will be used to re-stitute money to approxi-mately 7.5 lakh victims out of the total claims of 31 lakh lodged so far with Asset Disposal Committee. Earlier, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) had handed over an amount of Rs. 22 crore to the ADC which was used to re-stitute money to 32,319 lawful investors.

The amount of Rs. 515.31 crore was attached by ED in the years 2015-17 by in-vestigating money trail and tracing 2,987 different bank

accounts where the money collected from innocent vic-tims had traversed. The said bank accounts were then seized/ attached following due process of law and con-verted into more than 700 Fixed Deposits (FDs) after confirmation of attachment by the Adjudicating Author-ity. It may be mentioned that ED has also attached other movable and immovable as-sets of Rs. 1,172 crore (pres-ent market value of the assets is estimated to be more than Rs. 2,000 crore), which is also in process of liquidation and refund to the victims.

ED is investigating five (5) Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) cases against the Rose Valley Group in the states of West Bengal, Odisha, Assam and Tripura. ED has filed prosecution complaints in all these cases before the Special Courts under PMLA. Investigation under PMLA revealed that Rose Valley Group companies, had collected funds of Rs. 17,520 crore by luring people

mostly from the lowest strata of society with promises of providing land parcels or time sharing in hotels and in the event of inability to de-liver the land/time sharing, refund with high rate of in-terest was promised on ma-turity of investments. Invest-igation has revealed that out of the above, an amount of Rs. 6,666 crore, which consti-tutes the proceeds of crime, remained unpaid to the in-vestors. This is one of the single largest investigation of this type undertaken by the ED, and an order passed by the Special court (PMLA) at Khurda, Bhubaneswar, on 29.03.2025 has paved the way for the return of investors' money all over the country through the Asset Disposal Committee (ADC).

It is pertinent to men-tion that on the direction of the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta, an Asset Disposal Committee (ADC) was con-stituted under the Chair-manship of Justice Dillip Kr. Seth (Retd.), High Court of

Calcutta with ED and others as members for restitution of properties to the lawful in-vestors of Rose Valley Group Ponzi Scam.

ED has played a crucial role in attachment, posses-sion and disbursement of as-sets of the Rose Valley Group thereby smoothening and expediting the restitution of properties to the lakhs of victims of the States of West Bengal, Odisha, Assam, Tri-pura etc. Till now, around 31 Lakh investors of Rose Val-ley Group have registered their claim on the website www.rosevalleyadc.com. ED is also providing assistance to the ADC in conducting survey and valuation of con-firmed attached properties and facilitating expeditious monetisation of the assets for timely disbursal of the same to the investors/vic-tims of Rose Valley Group of Companies.

Further, the restitution process is expected to con-tinue in full swing over the coming months as more

claims are being scrutinised and validated by the ADC. The instant restitution is in line with the commitment of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, to return the money looted from poor people. The Prime Min-ister of India has consistently emphasised the urgent need to recover and return funds misappropriated from the poor and innocent citizens of the country, and has re-peatedly stressed that money siphoned off through fraudu-lent means must be rightfully restored to those who have been cheated.

The Union Minister for Fi-nance and Corporate Affairs has also reiterated that the Government's commitment for restitution of assets at-tached by ED to the victims/ rightful owners and made a statement in Parliament to this effect. The ED is active-ly pursuing investigations in cases of financial fraud, with a firm commitment to ensure that the proceeds of crime are not only traced

and confiscated but also put immediately to productive use for the economy by be-ing restored to the victims who have suffered financial loss. The ED continues to act decisively in such matters, reinforcing public trust and contributing to the larger goal of a corruption-free and transparent financial system.

The Asset Disposal Com-mittee will examine and ver-ify the claims submitted by investors before releasing the eligible amounts. The resti-tution process is expected to cover genuine claimants in a phased manner after completion of the required verification and procedural formalities.

Officials said the ED is continuing to assist the com-mittee by providing details of attached assets, conducting surveys and valuations, and facilitating the monetisation of properties. These steps are aimed at ensuring that proceeds recovered from the Rose Valley Group are re-turned to eligible investors.

Jitendra Singh Lauds Global Nod for Indigenous Underwater Test Facility

CHENNAI, Sept 21 (GNS): Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Min-ister of State for PMO, De-partment of Atomic Ener-gy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Griev-ances and Pensions, Dr. Ji-tendra Singh today hailed the global recognition and international certification of the Underwater Acous-tic Test Facility (ATF) at the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, describ-ing it as a proud milestone in India's journey towards scientific self-reliance in underwater acoustics and ocean technology.

UK, alongside laboratories from seven other coun-tries, including the US, UK, and Russia. The ATF's cali-bration results matched international benchmarks, establishing its parity with top global labs.

In a significant mile-stone, the facility was re-cently recognized as India's "Designated Laboratory" in the field of underwater acoustics under the Inter-national Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM), Paris, through CSIR-NPL, effective January 30, 2024. This means NIOT now holds the national stan-dards for measurements in underwater acoustics—a crucial responsibility for ensuring measurement accuracy across strate-gic sectors. Experts say this recognition not only boosts India's scientific credibility but also opens up opportunities for global collaborations in under-water research and mari-time technology.

As India scales up its am-bitions in ocean explora-tion and maritime security, the Acoustic Test Facility is expected to play a defin-ing role in shaping future technologies, offering both precision and indigenous strength to the nation's deep-sea endeavours.

The facility's capabilities are particularly important for the development and calibration of underwater sensors used in oceano-graphic research, maritime surveillance and marine environmental monitor-ing. Accurate acoustic measurements are essen-tial for improving the reli-ability of such systems.

The ATF also provides a testing platform for indig-enous technologies devel-oped by research institu-tions, defence laboratories and industry. Its services can help reduce dependence on overseas facilities and sup-port the development of home-grown underwater acoustic equipment. The Minister said strengthen-ing such specialised infra-structure would help India expand its capabilities in deep-sea exploration and better understand the coun-try's marine resources.

India, Neighbour Nation Pledge Joint Action Against Smuggling and Cross-Border Crime

New Delhi, Sept 21 (GNS): The 21st Director-General Level Talks on Customs Cooperation was held between India and Nepal in Kathmandu, Nepal on 10th-11th April, 2025. Both the sides discussed a host of bilateral issues for enhancing Customs Cooperation between the two countries. The Indian delegation was led by Mr. Abhai Kumar Srivastav, Di-rector-General, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, Depart-ment of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Nepali delega-tion was led by Mr. Mahesh Bhattarai, Director-Gen-eral, Department of Cus-toms, Ministry of Finance, Government of Nepal.

The agenda items of the meeting covered mea-sures to check smuggling; review progress on MoU on Pre-arrival Exchange of Customs Data and Electronic Origin Data Ex-change System (EODES); finalization of Customs Mutual Assistance Agree-ment (CMAA); facilitation of movement of transit cargo under Electronic Cargo Tracking System (ECTS); automation and digitisation of transit processes; upgradation of border infrastructure; knowledge sharing pro-gram and support for capacity development, among others.

Issues related to trans-border criminal activities and smuggling of gold; narcotics; Fake Currency Notes (FCN), prohibited/ restricted category of goods, such as e-Ciga-rettes, e-lighters, certain varieties of garlic and other cases of commercial frauds, including sensitive goods were also deliber-ated. It was acknowledged that smuggling of goods has been a common chal-lenge and both sides-looked forward towards cooperation in prevent-ing smuggling across the borders with active en-gagement and exchange

Industry Stakeholders Should Embrace Sustainability and Set Global Benchmarks: Goyal

CHENNAI, Sept 21 (GNS): Union Minister of Com-merce & Industry, Shri Piy-ush Goyal addressed the CAPEXIL's Vibrant Buildcon 2025 here today. He asked industry stakeholders to adopt best practices in sus-tainability, reduce import dependency, focus on clean and green construction, and work towards earthquake-resistant and modular infra-structure.

Goyal highlighted India's growing strength in the con-struction ecosystem—from Global Capability Centres (GCCs) to domestic manu-facturing under Make in India. He underlined the importance of key sectors such as housing, infrastruc-ture, commercial real estate, railways, airports, highways, and energy. "Every element, from cement and electricals to security systems and au-tomation, plays a part in this ecosystem," he said.

Goyal said the rapid infra-structure development has happened under the leader-ship of the Prime Minister.

"PM Modi conceptualised world-class convention cen-tres like Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi, both of which were built during the pandemic. These state-of-the-art venues have hosted global events such as the G20 Summit, BharatTex, Bharat Mobility and Startup Mahakumbh," he pointed out. The Minister listed sev-eral major government ini-tiatives, including 20 new smart industrial cities, im-proved tourism infrastruc-ture across 50 destinations, and 100 new industrial plug-and-play hubs. "If we are to move from a \$4 trillion economy today to a \$30-35 trillion economy by 2047, every citizen must contrib-ute to Viksit Bharat 2047," he said. Commerce and In-dustry Minister noted that today India is breaking silos, fostering collaboration, and reimagining the future with a convergence of minds. "Vi-brant Buildcon is only the beginning of the transfor-mation of our construction ecosystem under one um-

brella," Shri Goyal said.

Greeting the gathering on the occasion of Baisakhi, the Union Minister talked about the role of farmers during the COVID-19 pan-demic. He stated that de-spite global disruptions, In-dia ensured uninterrupted food distribution, month after month, under the leadership of Prime Min-ister Narendra Modi. "Even during the peak of the pan-demic, India continued its mission of feeding the poor and bringing millions out of deprivation," he noted.

Drawing a connection be-tween India's food security and infrastructure growth, Shri Goyal said that Vibrant Buildcon exemplifies the country's ability to support rapid urbanisation, housing for all, and logistics trans-formation.

"This platform showcases our manufacturing and in-frastructure strength, which is crucial to attract global investments and reduce lo-gistics cost," he added. In conclusion, Shri Goyale-

phasised India's potential to emerge as a global su-perpower. "We must aim for audacious goals, ensure our labour force receives fair wages, and innovate con-tinuously. Let there be no doubt—India will lead the world in growth, innova-tion, and inclusive develop-ment," he said.

He called upon construc-tion and manufacturing companies to strengthen domestic supply chains and develop globally com-petitive products. Reducing dependence on imported materials, he said, would improve resilience and cre-ate greater opportunities for Indian manufacturers.

Goyal also stressed the need to adopt modern construction methods, in-cluding modular and pre-fabricated technologies, to improve efficiency, safety and affordability. Greater use of sustainable materials and clean technologies, he said, would help reduce the environmental impact of rapid urbanisation.

RBI starts bi-monthly monetary policy review

New Delhi, Sept 21 (GNS): The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday started its bi-monthly monetary policy review amid expecta-tions of a 25 bps cut in key interest rates in the back-drop of moderating infla-tion and the need to stimu-late growth as Trump tariffs pose severe challenges to the global economy.

The decision of the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) headed by Governor Sanjay Mal-hotra will be announced on Wednesday. In Febru-ary, the MPC slashed the repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.25 per cent. It was the first reduction since May 2020 and the first revision after two-and-a-half years. Experts are of the opinion that RBI's rate-setting panel will announce another rate cut of 25 bps this week. A research report of

SBI said the global growth is likely to face significant headwinds due to non-lin-ear yet intersecting trilem-ma of trade-related tariff barriers, rapid currency swings and fractured capi-tal flows, with no country being immune to the dis-ruptions. It further said the trajectory of rate action by central banks, while be-ing accommodative, may remain fuzzy. "We expect a 25-basis point rate cut in April 2025 policy. Cu-mulative rate cut over the cycle could be at least 100 basis points, with two successive rate cuts over February and April 2025. With an intervening gap in June 2025, the second round of rate cuts could start from August 2025," said the research report from the State Bank of In-dia's Economic Research Department 'Prelude to

MPC Meeting: April 7-9, 2025'. Debopam Chaudhuri, Chief Economist, Pi-ramal Group, said it is one of the rare occasions when a confluence of declining US interest rates, stronger rupee and domestic infla-tion dipping below the tar-get level is emerging.

"The RBI should make most of this opportunity and deliver a 50 bps cut in the upcoming meeting, firstly to make up for the delay in shifting its policy stance and secondly be-cause this confluence may not last long," Chaudhuri said. Shikhar Aggarwal, Chairman, BLS E-Services, said that as the RBI pre-pares to announce its up-coming monetary policy, the assisted banking ser-vice industry is eagerly awaiting measures that will boost financial inclu-sion and drive growth.

Automobile retail sales rise six per cent in FY25: FADA

New Delhi, Sept 21 (GNS): NITI Aayog has released an insightful report titled "Au-tomotive Industry: Power-ing India's Participation in Global Value Chains". The report was launched by Shri Suman Bery, Vice Chair-man, NITI Aayog in pres-ence of Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog, Dr. Arvind Virmani, Member, NITI Aayog and Shri BVR Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog. This report offers an extensive analysis of India's automotive sector, high-lighting both opportunities and challenges, and outlin-ing a pathway for position-ing India as a key player in global automotive markets.

In 2023, global automo-bile production reached approximately 94 million units. The global automo-tive components market was valued at USD 2 trillion, with the export share reach-

ing approximately USD 700 billion. India has emerged as the fourth-largest global producer after China, USA and Japan, with an annual production of nearly 6 mil-lion vehicles. The Indian au-tomotive sector has gained a strong domestic and export market presence, particular-ly in the small car and utility vehicle segments. Support-ed by initiatives like 'Make in India' and its cost-com-petitive workforce, India is positioning itself as a hub for automotive manufactur-ing and exports.

The automotive industry is undergoing a transforma-tive shift towards electric ve-hicles (EVs), driven by rising consumer demand for sus-tainable mobility, regulatory pressures to reduce carbon emissions, and advance-ments in battery technology. EV sales have surged global-ly, reshaping the automotive

manufacturing landscape.

Battery manufacturing hubs are emerging in regions like Europe and the U.S., spurring investments in in-dustries related to lithium and cobalt mining, essential for EV production. These de-velopments are altering tra-ditional supply chains and creating new opportunities for collaboration and com-petition. In parallel, the rise of Industry 4.0 is transforming automotive manufacturing. Technologies such as Arti-ficial Intelligence (AI), Ma-chine Learning (ML), Internet of Things (IoT), and robotics are enhancing production processes, improving pro-ductivity, reducing costs, and enabling greater flexibility. These digital advancements are not only optimizing man-ufacturing but also fostering new business models centered around smart factories and connected vehicles.

Uttam Directs District Collectors to Release 813 Crore to Farmers

Hyderabad, Sept 21 (GNS) Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday, September 21, asked district collectors to disburse Rs 813 crore to farmers affected by land acquisition. The irrigation officials were also asked to ensure that funds already released for land acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) reach affected farmers on a war footing, warning that money should not remain parked in government accounts while irrigation projects are held up.

Reviewing the progress of land acquisition and compensation disbursement with the District Collectors through a video conference, Reddy expressed concern



cern that about Rs 813 crore was still pending for disbursement in the accounts of District Collectors, Revenue Divisional Officers, and Special Deputy Collectors.

Officials informed Reddy that since April 1, tokens worth about Rs 3,101 crore had been submitted and around Rs 2,504 crore had been released towards land acquisition and R&R. Of the amount currently pending at the district level, about

Rs 502 crore was with Land Acquisition Officers and another Rs 311 crore with Collectors. Reddy said the accumulation of funds without them reaching land losers was a matter of concern. He asked the Collectors to personally intervene and speed up negotiations to facilitate awards and payments.

“If the money has been released, it must reach the land-losing farmers. If for

any genuine reason it cannot be disbursed, explain the reason and return the money instead of keeping it idle,” he said.

The irrigation minister recalled that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had committed Rs 6,000 crore during 2026 for land acquisition, R&R and forest-related requirements of irrigation projects with a view to ensuring quick completion of the irrigation projects.

Danam Nagender moves SC against Telangana HC disqualification order

New Delhi, Sept 21 (GNS): Former Telangana MLA, Danam Nagender, on Monday moved the Supreme Court challenging the Telangana High Court's order disqualifying him as a member of the Legislative Assembly under the anti-defection law. The matter was mentioned before Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant, by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who sought an urgent hearing. After hearing the request, CJI Kant agreed to list Nagender's Special Leave Petition (SLP) on Wednesday.

Nagender has challenged the Telangana High Court's decision, which set aside the order passed by Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar dismissing petitions



seeking his disqualification and declared him disqualified as an MLA with effect from April 23, 2024.

In a judgment delivered on September 18, a Division Bench of Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin held that Nagender stood disqualified under paragraph 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule read with Article 191(2) of the Constitution, after he contested the 2024

Lok Sabha elections from the Secunderabad constituency as a candidate set up by the Congress despite being elected as a BRS MLA.

The High Court also declared the Khairatabad Assembly seat vacant and directed that a copy of its order be communicated to the Secretary to the Telangana Legislative Assembly and the Election Commission of India. The judgment came on petitions

filed by BJP Legislature Party leader, Alleti Maheshwar Reddy, and BRS MLA, Padi Kaushik Reddy, challenging the Speaker's March 11, 2026 decision dismissing the disqualification petitions.

The High Court decision recorded that Nagender was elected as a BRS MLA from Khairatabad in December 2023 and subsequently filed his nomination on April 23, 2024 as a Congress candidate for the Secunderabad Lok Sabha constituency, where he campaigned against the BRS candidate. The High Court held that the prolonged pendency of the disqualification proceedings meant that the matter need not be remanded to the Speaker for a fresh decision.

BRS leader Sohail accuses Congress, AIMIM of minority welfare failures

Hyderabad, Sept 20 (GNS): Senior BRS leader Shaik Abdullah Sohail on Saturday accused the Congress government and AIMIM of a “double failure” on minority welfare, saying the just-concluded Legislature session exposed both the government's poor spending record and AIMIM's failure to effectively hold it accountable. Sohail said the government's own figures showed that only Rs 1,972.17 crore was spent against Rs 5,100.97 crore allocated for minority welfare schemes over two financial years - just 38.7% of the allocation.

“This is not an allegation made by the Opposition. These are figures admitted by the government itself before the Legislature. Nearly two-thirds of the money allocated for minority welfare schemes remained unspent. What greater proof of neglect is required?” Sohail asked. He said the position was worse in the last financial year, when only Rs 1,010.63 crore was spent against an allocation of Rs 2,844.02 crore, amounting to 35.5%.

The figures relate to the Scheme Budget and exclude salaries, establishment expenditure and other non-scheme components of the Minority Welfare Department. Sohail said the government had

also acknowledged that minority welfare allocations were not linked to the community's 14.27% share of Telangana's population. “Congress makes grand announcements and displays impressive figures in Budget documents, but the money does not reach the ground. An allocation that remains on paper cannot educate a student, finance a poor family or create employment,” he said.

He said the scholarship and fee reimbursement crisis had further exposed what he termed the government's indifference towards students.

The government acknowledged during the session that thousands of crores remained outstanding towards fee reimbursement and scholarships across different communities. Contemporary reports also recorded the government's decision to call an all-party meeting after concerns were raised over the pending payments.

Sohail said minority students were among those badly affected by delayed payments, while the issue of pending scholarships had also reached the High Court earlier this year.

“Students do not study on Budget speeches. Colleges do not run on assurances. If scholarships and fee reimbursement are not

released when students need them, the scheme has failed its purpose,” he said.

Turning his attack on AIMIM, Sohail alleged that the party had reduced its role on minority issues to “ceremonial interventions” inside the Assembly while avoiding sustained political pressure outside it.

He acknowledged that AIMIM legislators raised fee reimbursement, scholarships, Waqf properties and other issues in the House, but said occasional speeches and representations could not substitute for a sustained campaign demanding implementation.

“AIMIM wants Muslims to believe that asking a few questions in the Assembly amounts to a struggle. Where was the struggle when minority welfare funds remained unspent? Where were the protests when scholarships were not released? Where was the pressure when students and colleges were waiting for their dues?” he asked. Sohail alleged that AIMIM had failed to use its political strength in Hyderabad to force the government to act on minority welfare.

“If AIMIM claims to be the voice of minorities, it cannot become vocal only

Ponguleti lays foundation for 4 Indiramma towers in Raidurg

Hyderabad, Sept 21 (GNS): As part of the 'Indiramma Towers' initiative—launched to provide dignified and safe housing for poor families in prime areas of Hyderabad—State Minister for Revenue, Information & Public Relations, and Housing, Sri Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, laid the foundation stone for the construction of four towers in Raidurg, within the Serilingampally constituency.

The Minister stated that a total of 480 flats would be constructed across the four towers in Raidurg, with each tower comprising 120 flats.

Dignified Housing for the Poor Within the City The Minister explained



that the government initiated the Indiramma Towers project with the resolve to provide security and reassurance to poor families, keeping their hardships and challenges in mind. He emphasized that the government's objective is to enable the poor to live

with dignity in prime areas of Hyderabad, rather than in locations far removed from the city. *Construction of 480 Homes per Constituency in the First Phase*

He announced that, under a pilot project, Indiramma Towers comprising 480

homes per constituency are being constructed in the first phase across 20 constituencies in the core area of Hyderabad. It was stated that the tender and agreement processes for 16 constituencies have already been completed, and construction work is

set to begin soon.

The Minister clarified that the selection of beneficiaries for 'Indiramma Towers' was conducted through a lottery system with complete transparency, ensuring there was no room for recommendations or political pressure. He mentioned that measures are being taken to send sanction letters to the selected beneficiaries via WhatsApp on their mobile phones.

The Minister explained that beneficiaries of the Indiramma Towers—being constructed in a prime area like Rayadurgam—will receive not only the flat but also a share of the land (undivided share).

Telangana gears up to Host Khelo India Youth Games 2026

Hyderabad, Sept 21 (GNS): The Telangana government is gearing up to host the Khelo India Youth Games 2026—scheduled to take place in the state from December 11 to 23—in a highly prestigious and successful manner. In this context, State Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari held a high-level review meeting at the Secretariat regarding the arrangements for the games.

During the meeting, the Minister reviewed the necessary arrangements department-wise. He held extensive discussions with officials regarding the readiness of



sports venues, infrastructure development, athlete accommodation, transportation, security, medical facilities, food, sanitation, reception arrangements, and promotional activities.

The Minister directed officials to work with the

goal of providing top-notch facilities in Telangana for young athletes arriving from various states across the country. He advised them to take proactive measures to ensure that all necessary facilities are available at every sports venue and emphasized the need for all departments to work in coordination to ensure the smooth conduct of the games. The Minister noted that national-level competitions like the Khelo India Youth Games would provide greater opportunities for young athletes in Telangana to showcase their talent.

TGPSC clarifies no major syllabus revision yet

Hyderabad, Sept 21 (GNS): The Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) on Monday, September 21, announced that it would notify of any major exam syllabus changes a year in advance, leaving the aspirants with a year of preparation time. The Commission also clarified that it has not constituted any committee to revise the syllabus at present. The clarification came after the Commission received several representations and enquiries from aspirants regarding a possible revision of the syllabus for various recruitments. In a notice, the Commission

made it clear that no Syllabus Committee has been constituted to make such revisions.

However, the aspirants will have enough time to understand the revised syllabus and modify their preparation strategy if significant changes are brought in.

According to the Commission, minor changes will be incorporated in the syllabus issued along with the respective recruitment notification. Candidates will therefore be able to refer to the official notification for the applicable syllabus whenever a recruitment is announced.



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Former corporator seeks action on Warangal civic issues

Warangal, Sept 21 (GNS): Former corporator of Division 40, Marupalla Ravi, submitted a memorandum to Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation Commissioner Venkanna on Monday, urging immediate action on several civic issues and the completion of sanctioned development works that have reportedly been delayed by contractors.

Ravi pointed out that the construction of a box drain at Upparoni Kunta had been stalled midway, as town planning officials had reportedly not provided the required marking to the contractor, who had come forward to undertake

the work. As a result, sewage water was entering the Hindu cremation ground at Urus, making it difficult for residents to conduct funeral rites. He stated that the issue had been brought to the officials' attention nearly 10 times, but no concrete action had been taken.

He also highlighted the poor condition of the road connecting the bypass road to Kummariwada. Ravi said that the then Minister Konda Surekha and former Mayor Gundu Sudharani had laid the foundation stone for the construction of a cement concrete road and drainage system around six months ago.



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