

Parties likely to focus on Ukku stir to gain political edge

- However, Chukka Prasad Reddy, YSRCP aspirant at the 90th ward, says protecting VSP is safeguarding Andhra people's pride and honour which should go beyond political affiliations
- Political parties should brush aside their selfish motives and fight to save VSP from privatisation, says J V Satyanarayana Murthy, CPI State assistant secretary



A view of GVMC office in Visakhapatnam

**VASU POTNURU
VISAKHAPATNAM**

WITH State Election Commissioner (SEC) releasing the Andhra Pradesh municipal elections - 2021 schedule, 'Visakha Ukku Andhrula Hakku' stir is likely to impact the political parties.

Since February 6, the employees of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), political party leaders, trade union representatives, students and volunteers have been taking the agitation forward in various avatars such as protests, rallies, public meetings and hunger strike.

Eventually, 'Visakha Ukku Andhrula Hakku' brought the ruling party as well as the Op-

position together to fight for a common cause which they have not indulged in so far.

Now, with the SEC waving a green flag for the municipal polls on March 10, there is a larger scope for the political parties to make use of the stir for political gains.

Though the political parties are fighting against the privatisation of VSP, each of them might convert this into a convenient platform to draw the attention of the voters from now to gain mileage. "There is a need to save VSP beyond political aspirations. If parties try to gain political mileage through the ongoing VSP stir, it is as good as cheating our own family. Protecting VSP is safeguarding

Andhra people's pride and honour which should go beyond political affiliations," opines Chukka Prasad Reddy, YSRCP aspirant at the 90th ward.

With the announcement of Visakhapatnam as executive capital, the GVMC election is going to play a crucial role for the political parties, more so for the ruling party as well as the Opposition. "Despite the political leaders presenting the Ukku stir as a common fight, there is a higher chance of gaining political edge through the movement," says P Rama Rao, a social activist.

The election code came into force from Monday. Now, even to carry out protests, permission has to be sought. Owing to

this, the Ukku agitation may continue on a low key till the polls conclude. "However, trade unions should take VSP agitation forward. Political parties should brush aside their selfish motives and fight to save VSP from privatisation. Otherwise, they will have to be prepared for the loss," says J V Satyanarayana Murthy, CPI State assistant secretary.

As soon as the SEC released the municipal polls schedule, aspirants commenced their campaign. Though each political party competes in the elections, people opine that they should put up a collective battle to protect steel plant from handing it over to the private management.

ALL SET FOR GP POLLS IN PADERU DIVISION

- Polling will be conducted for 237 panchayats and 1,465 wards
- About 4.36 lakh voters are expected to exercise their franchise in the third phase of panchayat polls tomorrow
- In all, 6,029 polling staff and 198 micro-observers have been deployed for election duty



District Collector V Vinay Chand addressing the media on panchayat polls in Visakhapatnam on Monday

**HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM**

ARRANGEMENTS are in place for the third phase of the gram panchayat (GP) polls scheduled on February 17 in Paderu division, said District Collector V Vinay Chand.

Briefing the media here on Monday, the District Collector said polls will be conducted in 237 panchayats and 1,465 wards. Of the 244 gram panchayats, seven sarpanches have been elected unanimously. Vinay Chand explained that 4.36 lakh voters are going to exercise their

franchise in the third phase of the GP polls. About 6,029 polling staff and 198 micro observers are deployed for election duty.

Further, the Collector informed that 522 vehicles, including 115 RTC buses, 17 mini-buses, 237 jeeps for the election staff and 10 jeeps for the voters will be provided.

On Tuesday, buses will start at 4 am from Andhra University Engineering College. Similarly, buses will run from NTR stadium-Anakapalle and Government Degree College Grounds-Chodavaram. Buses are also

arranged from RTC Complex, Visakhapatnam.

Vinay Chand mentioned that Election Code is in force in Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) from Monday.

Speaking about the Araku Ghat road accident that happened on Friday night, he said that brake failure was the reason for the incident as per the primary reports.

Joint Collector P Arun Babu and Paderu ITDA Project Officer S Venkateswar took part in the conference.

'Massive urbanisation results in climate changes'

**HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM**

CLIMATE change and urbanisation are inextricably linked, observed Fulbright fellow in Environmental Studies at Yale University (USA) Suman Chandra.

Participating in the discussions held during the national webinar on 'Climate Change Adaptation: Traditional Wisdom and Cross-Scale Understanding', she said India ranks fourth in the list of countries that produce highest greenhouse emissions and this could be a result of massive urbanisation.

Jointly organised by GITAM School of Gandhin

Studies and United States India Education Forum (USIEF), the webinar included a panel of speakers, including IIM (Ahmedabad) Professor Rama Mohan Turaga, Samata Executive Director Ravi Rebbapragada, Ashoka Trust postdoctoral research associate Vikram Aditya, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) researcher Bijayashree Satapathy, among others. Suman Chandra, who earlier served as District Collector of Buldhana district in Maharashtra, emphasised that the new age is on the cusp of a rapidly changing world and there is a need to prioritise sustainable living and make it a way of life in order to protect the planet. She suggested that a planned

urbanisation in countries such as India could serve as a great adaptation method.

Former forest service officer A Rama Mohan Reddy, who extended his services in the Himalayan region, focused on the impact of climate change on forests which included frequent fires, unforeseen floods and untimely flowering of various plant species. He also elaborated about measures considered by the forest department to mitigate long-term effects and improve forest cover.

Visakha Society for Protection and Care of Animals (VSPCA) member Priya Tallam spoke about resilience in coastal communities and various activities undertaken by the VSPCA towards the betterment of the ocean and marine life along the coast of Visakhapatnam.

The speakers mainly focused on how indigenous communities strive towards sustainability and conservation, hence contributing towards an ecologically balanced forest environment.

BOM opens new branch in Srikakulam



**HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD**

J D Deshmukh, Deputy Zonal Manager, Bank of Maharashtra, Hyderabad Zone, inaugurated a state-of-the-art branch of the bank in Srikakulam. Hari, LDM, Srikakulam, was also present on the occasion. With the opening of the new branch, the Bank of Maharashtra (BOM) now has total 23 branches in Andhra

Pradesh. The Branch shall cater to all basic banking transactions and also specific needs of customers, offering the entire spectrum of banking products and financial services covering Retail, Agri and MSME sectors.

The bank offers various unique products to its clientele based on their needs such as ATM - cum-debit card, secured internet banking, 24/7 Customer Care Centre and Mobile banking amongst others.

₹10 lakh donated to Ayodhya Ram temple

**HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM**

PULSUS Group has announced a donation of Rs 10 lakh for the construction of Ayodhya's Ram Mandir.

Marking its 12th anniversary, CEO of the group G Srinubabu handed over a cheque for Rs 10 lakh to the donation collection committee representatives for the construction of Ayodhya's Ram temple. Later, he also distributed rice and other essentials to the workers at Visakhapatnam airport.



CEO of Pulsus Group G Srinubabu handing over a cheque for Rs 10 lakh to the Donation Collection Committee representatives in Visakhapatnam for the construction of Ayodhya's Ram temple

Poll staff leave for tribal areas

RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

SUB-COLLECTOR Anupama Anjali said that as many as 5,768 election staff were sent to Rampachodavaram and Etapaka division from here on Monday in 106 buses, for the panchayat election scheduled to be held on February 17. The election staff was sent to the two divisions one day before polling as the elections held in Agency area.

**VISAKHAPATNAM METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
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Sd/-Metropolitan Commissioner, VMRDA

Call for immediate intervention to conserve marine resources

Former Union Energy Secretary EAS Sarma says industrial pollution and overexploitation of coastal resources are causing large-scale damage to turtles and other marine resources

**HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM**

FORMER Union Energy Secretary EAS Sarma raises concern over turtle and marine life conservation.

Appealing to Secretary to Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MEFCC) RP Gupta and Chief Secretary Aditya Nath Das, Sarma said a letter was already dashed to the Union Environment Minister on national turtle conservation action plan, the large

scale damage to turtles and other marine resources taking place along Andhra Pradesh coast.

The damage is a result of industrial pollution and overexploitation of the coastal resources, he mentioned.

Attaching images of carcasses of turtles and dolphins deposited along the coast of Srikakulam near Etcherla and Visakhapatnam near Bheemunipatnam, the former Union Energy Secretary appealed to the ministries concerned to in-



A dead turtle lying along the coast

marine species extending south of Visakhapatnam along the coast," he said. Sarma laid emphasis on urgent interventions sans which there will be an irrevocable loss of the marine resources.

Earlier, in his communication to MEFCC, Sarma stated how the local fishermen were dependent on the marine resources.

He appealed to the authorities that the Andhra Pradesh Marine Fishing (Regulation) Act, 1995 requires them to extend protection to traditional fishing activity in preference to mechanised fishing so as to permit the conservation of the marine resources. "Had the State enforced this law, it would have helped conserve the rare species such as turtles and dolphins," he added.

tervene with immediate effect. "I have received further information from the local fishing communities on the widespread damage of the

THE HANS CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHAIK JAFFER SAB (old name), R/o. D.No.35/24-27, Mahaboob Basha Street, Rayachoty, Y.S.R. Dist., A.P. have changed my name as **SHAIK JAFAR SAB S/o SHAIK SYED SAB** (New Name) for all purpose in future.

(TH_24374)

CHANGE OF NAME

I, GUTHULA REKHA VENKATESWAR RAO (old name) W/o GUTHULA VENKATESWARARAO, R/o. Lakshmi Enclave, Flat No. b2, 70-1b-13, Near Boat Club, Ramanayyapeta, Kakinada (Urban), East Godavari, A.P.- 533005, Henceforth will be known as **GUTHULA REKHA** (New Name). This is for all records.

(TH_8022)

LOST

I, SYED IRFANULLA ZUBAIR S/o SYED HIDAYATULLAH, R/o. D.No. 9/185-1-3-1, Agadi Street, Kadapa Town, YSR Kadapa Dist., A.P., I have lost my M.Sc. (I.T.) Convocation, Bearing No. 1061/07 and Roll No.2606, While I was going to take Xerox copies at Almaspet Circle, Kadapa. If anybody found please contact above address.

(TH_24479)

CHANGE OF NAME

I, GONDURU VENKATESWARLU S/o Konduru Seshiah (old name as per SSC Certificate), resident of D.No. 5-1-46B/2, Jonnayagunta Street, KAVALI Town, SPSR Nellore Dist., is hereby declared that I have changed my name as **KONDURU VENKATESWARLU REDDY S/o KONDURU SETHA REDDY** (New Name) hereinafter call all purpose in future.

(TH_2448)

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VENKATASRI KUMAR REDDY (Existing Name as per Records) Son of Ex Army Service No15306205W Rank Nk Name **DUGGIREDDY SREENIVASA REDDY** (Name of father/resident of Vill - Pulla Reddy Pali, Tehsil Giddalur, Dist-Prakasam (AP) PIN 523373 (Address) have changed my name from **VENKATASRI KUMAR REDDY** (Existing Name of) to **DUGGIREDDY VENKATA SREEKUMAR REDDY** (Proposed New Name) vide Affidavit dated 15-02 - 2021 (Date of Affidavit) before Sk.Yasin Basha (Name and place of the Notary/Court).

(TH_2450)

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