

KTR parroting BJP's remarks against Gandhi family: TPCC chief

Accuses BRS working president of acting under the influence of BJP leaders to evade inquiries related to Kaleshwaram project

HYDERABAD

TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud has criticised BRS working president KT Rama Rao for making derogatory remarks about Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and his family.

"KTR is speaking out of turn. What is your status, KTR? Do you have the standing to comment on the Gandhi family, who have dedicated everything for the nation," he said.

During a media briefing at Gandhi Bhavan on Saturday, Mahesh Kumar Goud accused the BRS working president of acting under the influence of BJP leaders to evade inquiries related to the Kaleshwaram project. "BJP leaders are behind KTR's statements. His criticism of



Rahul is an attempt to win praise from Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he asserted.

The TPCC chief claimed that the BRS's position was revealed by its failure to support Sudershan Reddy in the Vice Presidential election, indicating its indirect backing of the NDA government.

"The BJP and BRS are not distinct entities. Kavitha's comments clearly show that the BRS has aligned itself mentally with the BJP," Mahesh Kumar Goud stated.

The TPCC chief called for a thorough investigation into the Kaleshwaram corruption and criticised Union Ministers G Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay for their silence on the matter.

Mahesh Kumar Goud noted, "Kishan Reddy had promised to make details about the Kaleshwaram corruption public within 48 hours if the case was transferred to the CBI, yet he has not responded. Why is he not speaking up? We suspect that the investigation into Kaleshwaram was halted as part of the proposed merger between the BRS and BJP."

Cong files police complaint against KTR, demands apology

Says his irresponsible statement has the potential to tarnish the government's reputation

Warns of suing for Rs 100 crore damages to the State government

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HYDERABAD

THE Congress party on Saturday lodged a complaint against BRS working president K T Rama Rao at OU police station, following his allegations that Group-1 posts were sold for Rs 3 crore each.

PCC general secretary Chanagani Dayakar demanded that the former MA&UD Minister apologise lest he gets sued for Rs 100 crore as damages to the State



government. Demanding that KTR prove his allegations, the Congress leader held that his irresponsible statement has the potential to tarnish the government's

reputation. "KTR should apologise to the government within 24 hours. Otherwise we will file a defamation suit of 100 crores against the BRS leader," he warned, while

briefing to the media following the complaint.

Dayakar recalled how the BRS party failed the youth and unemployed through its failed policies. "The pink

party which was in power for ten years, was unable to conduct Group 1 exams. I strongly condemn KTR's comments that incite hatred against the government among the unemployed. The Telangana government is committed to the welfare of the unemployed. While we respect the court's verdict, the BRS is engaged in petty politics over the system ordained by the constitution. KTR is distorting the court verdict. KTR's allegation that CM and Ministers took 3 crores from the candidates is a proof of ignorance. It is time for Telangana's unemployed youth to give befitting response to the poisonous campaign unleashed by KTR," he said.

Top woman Maoist leader surrenders before police

She was associated with the outlawed organisation for 43 years

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HYDERABAD

A top leader of CPI (Maoist), Pothula Padmayathi, also known as Kalpana, Mynakka, Mainabai and Sujatha, surrendered before the Director General of Police Dr Jitendar in Hyderabad on Saturday.

Sujatha, a Central Committee member (CCM), secretariat member, South Sub-Zonal bureau secretary and in-charge of Janathana Sarkar, the Maoists' parallel governance system under the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee, aged 62 years, was associated with the movement for the last 43 years.

Hailing from Jogulamba Gadwal, she was married to senior Maoist leader Mallojula Koteswar Rao, also known as Kishanji, who served as Central Committee member and secretary of the West Bengal State Committee. Kishanji was killed in an exchange of fire with security forces in West Midnapore, West Bengal, in November 2011. The



couple has one daughter. Jitender, said Sujatha entered the movement in December 1982 while studying Intermediate at Government Junior College, Gadwal. She was influenced by her cousins, Patel Sudhakar Reddy, Pothula Sudershan Reddy and Suguna. She worked with the group in multiple States until May 2025 and then, citing health, requested to leave the organisation. She

expressed her wish to live peacefully with her family and avail rehabilitation benefits.

She carried a reward of Rs 25 lakh, which has now been given to her through a demand draft.

The DGP appealed to remaining underground cadres to return to their native places and join the mainstream, assuring them of immediate relief and support measures under

the rehabilitation scheme to live with dignity and independence.

So far in 2025, 404 underground cadres have surrendered, including four State Committee Members, one Divisional Committee Secretary, eight Divisional Committee Members and 34 Area Committee Members. Of the 15 Central Committee Members of CPI (Maoist), ten are natives of Telangana.

GOVT WILL GIVE ARMS TO EXCISE OFFICIALS: JUPALLY

Asks them to act with 'iron fist' on smuggling and illegal trade of ganja, drugs, country liquor and NDPL (non-duty paid liquor)

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HYDERABAD

PROHIBITION & Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao has instructed officials to act with 'iron fist' on smuggling and illegal trade of ganja, drugs, country liquor and NDPL (non-duty paid liquor).

Reviewing enforcement activities with State Task Force (STF), District Task Force (DTF) and excise enforcement teams at the department headquarters, the Minister said the government was ready to provide arms to special enforcement staff if necessary. "Those who perform well will be given arms and trained," he said.

The review meeting explored the possibility of handing over weapons to Excise Department officials. "What do the regulations say about handing over weapons to Excise department officials? What are the obstacles to this? Have weapons been handed over to Excise Department officials anywhere in other states?" the Minister asked officials, suggesting that the policies followed in other states should be fully studied and the possibilities



should be examined.

The Minister instructed officials to take strict action against ganja, synthetic drugs, illicit arrack and non-duty paid liquor, stressing that protecting people's lives is the government's responsibility.

He told them to study illicit jaggery production and sales, and prepare guidelines to divert seized jaggery to farmers for organic fertiliser production.

He also asked them to explore ways to use non-duty paid liquor without destroying it, including recognising it as a national product for controlled sale.

He emphasised strict focus on ganja and synthetic drugs manufacturing, transport and consumption, and ordered checks on illegal industries in Nacharam and Cherlapally.

The Minister noted that toddy tapping had declined as youth were staying away from climbing palm and date trees.

He said steps should be taken to encourage breweries to use toddy commercially. He asked officials to monitor bars operating multiple outlets under a single licence, farmhouses and brandy shops violating sitting rules. He also directed

surveillance of closed rice mills and other sensitive areas.

Principal secretary Rizvi, Excise Commissioner C Hari Kiran, Enforcement Director Shah Nawaz Qasim and Additional Commissioner Syed Yasin Qureshi attended the meeting.

Excise commissioner Hari Kiran said the department revenues had fallen but sales may rise during the upcoming Dasara festival.

Enforcement director Shah Nawaz Qasim said action plans had been drawn up to curb ganja, synthetic drugs, illicit liquor and non-duty paid liquor.

CM pays tributes to Burgula Ramakrishna Rao

HYDERABAD

CHIEF Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday paid rich tributes to Dr. Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, the first Chief Minister of erstwhile Hyderabad State, on his death anniversary. Remembering him as a 'multilingual scholar, freedom fighter and statesman', the Chief Minister highlighted Burgula Ramakrishna Rao's remarkable contributions to the state. He recalled that as

Revenue Minister, Burgula had accorded statutory status to the Bhoodan movement initiated by Acharya Vinoba Bhave and had also introduced pioneering land reforms.

He said that Burgula Ramakrishna Rao's political acumen, legal expertise, and unwavering commitment to public welfare continue to inspire the present and future generations.

He also fondly remembered his immense contributions to the social and cultural spheres.

SEVEN ARRESTED FOR ROBBERY

HYDERABAD: Seven people were arrested within 24 hours of a daring daylight robbery in Shankarpally near here, police said on Saturday. A gang of robbers on Friday made away with about Rs 31.50 lakh from a businessman's employee here after ramming their vehicle into his car. Rakesh Agarwal, a businessman, had deputised his manager Saibaba to collect Rs 40 lakh from a customer in Vikarabad. Saibaba hired the car of his acquaintance Madhu, who also drove it. Madhu had often accompanied him on trips to transport cash and other materials for the company. During investigation, police found that Madhu, suspecting Saibaba would be carrying large sums of cash on Friday, conspired with two old friends, who roped in others to form a seven-member gang. As planned, when Saibaba and Madhu were returning after collecting the money, the gang rammed their vehicle into the car. Three members then assaulted Saibaba and decamped with the bag containing cash. While fleeing, their vehicle overturned. Other gang members following behind rescued them and escaped. Police first arrested the owner of the car that had overturned. Further investigation and alerts to Sangareddy and Shadnagar police led to the arrest of the remaining accused.

Kukatpally murder case: Accused arrested in Ranchi

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HYDERABAD

THE brutal Kukatpally murder case that shook Hyderabad has reached a breakthrough, with both accused nabbed in Ranchi following a high-stakes police manhunt across State lines.

A detailed investigation exposes major gaps in the recruitment and verification of domestic staff within gated communities, which were once thought to be secure.

Accused arrested in Ranchi in a sensational development, Harsha and Roshan are the house helps hailing from Ranchi—were arrested on Saturday. The two accused, recruited via a Kolkata-based agency, brutally killed 50-year-old Renu Agarwal by tying her hands and legs, battering her with a pressure cooker, and slitting her throat in a chilling attack while her family was away.

The attackers fled with



around 7 tolas of gold ornaments, 16 watches, and old Motorola mobile phones, escaping on a scooter left near Hafeezpet railway station thinking they would go to Secunderabad railway station and to Ranchi.

With the help from a cab driver who informed the police when he noticed suspicious behavior when the duo booked a cab for Rs 15,000 to Ranchi, bypassing police checkpoints, breaking their escape route, the police traced their movement through city CCTV, watched the news go viral,

and made arrests.

Swift coordination between CCS, SOT, and local police led to their capture right after an attempted gold exchange for cash at a Marwari gold shop in Ranchi. Commissioner of Police Avinash Mahanty said both suspects will be brought back to Hyderabad after being presented in the local Ranchi court.

The police also highlighted the growing danger posed by the unchecked recruitment of domestic staff from agencies—many operating without robust

background checks. Both accused carried multiple identities and criminal records; prime suspect Harsha is noted for substance abuse and previous stints at rehab in Kolkata. Roshan was also involved in multiple property crimes in Jharkhand and was awaiting his chance to commit offences locally.

The Commissioner advised all residents to submit thorough personal details of the hired domestic staff to their local police station. This, he explained, is vital for both security and swift identification if any crime occurs, a measure that might have preempted incidents like the Swan Lake attack. Gated communities, often promoted as inherently safe, are now facing difficult questions after this incident.

The police urge residents and agencies to rigorously verify credentials to prevent the infiltration of repeat offenders and abusers into homes.



Rs 20 lakh donated for govt jr college building

HANS NEWS SERVICE
SHADNAGAR

IN support of MLA Veerlapalli Shankar's efforts to promote education for underprivileged students, Khaju, the owner of SKP (RMC) Plant from Jahangir Peer Dargah in Kothur mandal, made a generous financial contribution on Saturday. At the MLA camp office in the town, Khaju handed over a cheque for Rs 20 lakh to MLA Veerlapalli Shankar as his contribution toward the construction of the Shadnagar Government Junior

College building.

MLA Shankar appreciated the donors who are coming forward to support the construction of the college building aimed at the welfare of poor students.

He stated that Khaju's substantial donation of Rs 20 lakh is commendable and expressed hope that more donors would step forward to contribute in the future.

The MLA personally facilitated the donor and remarked that it is a matter of pride that businessmen from JP Dargah are actively participating in such noble causes.