

NTR Vaidya Seva

NETWORK HOSPITALS' STRIKE ENTERS FIFTH DAY

► **Strike, ongoing since Oct 10, halts services in private hospitals due to Rs 2,700 cr in pending dues, with Rs 650 cr approved but unpaid**

► **The strike reduces daily case registrations from 6,000-8,000 to about 2,000, limiting healthcare access to govt hospitals and medical colleges, affecting 80% of beneficiaries**

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

The strike by NTR Vaidya Seva Network Hospitals, under the aegis of Andhra Pradesh Speciality Hospitals Association (ASHA), entered its fifth day as of Tuesday. Started on October 10, the strike has brought

all services under the NTR Vaidya Seva scheme in private network hospitals across the state to a halt.

ASHA cited pending dues of approximately Rs 2,700 crore owed by the NTR Vaidya Seva Trust to network hospitals. Of the submitted bills, about Rs 650 crore have already been approved by the Trust's CEO. The association's key demands include the immediate release of the approved dues and a clear policy on the settlement of remaining payments. Despite repeated appeals, the state government has yet to respond.

The strike has severely affected healthcare access. Normally, 6,000 to 8,000 cases are registered daily under the scheme. Due to the suspension of services



in network hospitals, only about 2,000 cases are currently being registered, meaning roughly 80 per cent of the population is

temporarily deprived of government medical aid. At present, NTR Vaidya Seva services are available only in government hospitals and

medical colleges, explaining the drastic drop in case registrations.

ASHA said that the protest has been peaceful, and critical patients continue to be referred to government facilities free of cost to prevent life-threatening situations. However, the association warned that if the government continues to remain unresponsive, the agitation will be intensified, with private medical colleges soon joining the strike.

Strike data shows a sharp decline in pre-authorisation requests, with counts dropping from 34,676 before the strike to 18,040 after, a 48 per cent overall reduction, highlighting the significant disruption in public healthcare services caused by the ongoing protest.

III Gurukul students return home after getting treated at KGH

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM

CHIEF Minister N Chandrababu Naidu sanctioned Rs.90 crore for infrastructure and repair works in hostels, Ekalavya schools, Gurukul and residential schools in the State, informed Women and Child Welfare Minister Gummidandi Sandhya Rani.

On Tuesday, the minister interacted with Gurukul students undergoing treatment at King George Hospital and enquired about medical services being provided to them from KGH Superintendent I Vani. Speaking to the media, the minister said that of the 65 students who fell ill at Kurupam Girls' Gurukul School, 59 students have been discharged from the KGH and six of them are undergoing treatment, she added.

A total of 146 students fell sick and 65 girls were admitted in KGH for better treatment, the Women and Child Welfare Minister said.

Of them, 59 Students completely recovered and returned home. The minister lauded the efforts of the KGH doctors for providing quality treatment to the victims. The doctors informed three more students would be discharged soon. She congratulated the medical officers for providing drawing books and pens to the students to divert their attention and relax.

Sandhya Rani said that most of the girls undergoing treatment at the Parvathipuram Government Hospital were also discharged.

The health condition of the rest of the students is stable at the moment, she informed.

Three judges transferred to AP High Court

The new judges are from Allahabad, Calcutta and Gujarat High Courts

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

THE Central government on Tuesday notified the transfer of three judges to the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Justice Donadi Ramesh will move from the Allahabad High Court to Andhra Pradesh. Justice Subhendu Samanta has been transferred from the Calcutta High Court, while Justice Cheekati Manavendranath Roy will join from the Gujarat High Court.

Justice Cheekati Manavendranath Roy, a native of Parvathipuram, Vizianagaram district, was born on May 21, 1964. He studied law at MVP Law College,

Visakhapatnam, and practiced as an advocate in Parvathipuram from 1988 to 2002. Selected as District Sessions Judge (Grade-2) in 2002, he served in various judicial roles across the united AP and as Registrar General of the High Court from July 2015 to December 2018. He was promoted to High Court judge on June 12, 2019, becoming the first judge appointed after the AP High Court's establishment in Amaravati, before being transferred to the Gujarat High Court on November 2, 2023.

Justice Donadi Ramesh, from Kammampalli, Madanapalle, Chittoor district, was born on June 27, 1965, and studied law at VR Law College, Nellore. He enrolled

as an advocate in 1990, served as government medical aid. At present, NTR Vaidya Seva services are available only in government hospitals and

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Two GMC employees suspended

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

GUNTUR Municipal Corporation commissioner Puli Srinivasulu on Tuesday suspended record assistant S Nageswara Rao for forging the commissioner's signature and issuing a fake job appointment letter. Ward Secretariat Sanitation Secretary Y Thyagaraju was also suspended for negligence in addressing public grievances. Puli Srinivasulu issued orders to this effect.

He explained that Nageswara Rao forged the commissioner's signature and collected Rs 4.40 lakh from J Sundara Rao of Vijayawada, issuing him a fake appointment order. After Sundara Rao lodged a complaint directly with the commissioner, an inquiry conducted by the deputy commissioner confirmed that Nageswara Rao had forged the signature and issued the bogus appointment letter in exchange for money. Based on the inquiry report, he has been immediately suspended. Similarly, sanitation secretary Thyagaraju, working under the 45th ward secretariat, has been suspended for dereliction of duties in resolving public complaints related to sanitation issues under the APCMMS portal, and for falsely marking those complaints as resolved without actual action.

► **Conducted searches at multiple properties linked to Peddireddy Midhun Reddy in Hyderabad, Tirupati and Bengaluru as part of its probe into the alleged Rs 3,200 cr liquor scam**

► **Midhun Reddy, arrested in July and released on bail in Sept, claims the case is politically motivated, accusing the ruling coalition of fabricating charges to target YSRCP leaders.**

► **The SIT investigation uncovers widespread irregularities in the 2019-24 liquor policy, alleging a Rs 3,500 cr kickback network involving 48 individuals, with 12 already arrested**

Liquor scam SIT carries out searches at places linked to MP Midhun Reddy

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

THE Andhra Pradesh Special Investigation Team (SIT) which is probing the liquor scam conducted searches on Tuesday at the premises of YSRCP floor leader in Lok Sabha, Peddireddy Midhun Reddy.

SIT officials conducted searches at the houses of the Rajampet MP in Hyderabad, Tirupati and Bengaluru.

In Hyderabad, the SIT searched the houses of YSRCP MP in Prashasan Nagar and Gayatri Hills, Yousufguda. His office in the Kondapur area was also searched by the SIT officials.

Midhun Reddy is one of the accused in the Rs 3,200 crore liquor scam, which allegedly occurred during the YSRCP rule. The Rajampet MP, who was arrested on July 19, was released on bail on September 30.

After his release, Midhun Reddy alleged that he was treated like a terrorist in jail.

He accused the coalition government of resorting to diversionary politics by filing fabricated cases against YSRCP leaders. He stated that the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) always used such tactics whenever it came to power.

He stated that the attempts by the coalition government

to frighten opponents by filing false cases are an act of foolishness.

After the TDP-led NDA came to power last year, a case was registered at the CID Police Station in Mangalagiri under sections 409, 420, 120 (B), r/w 34 and 37 of IPC and section 7, 7A, 8, 12, 13 (1), (b), 13 (2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988.

The Crime Investigation Department (CID) initially conducted an investigation following a complaint by an official of the Excise Department. Later, the government constituted SIT, headed by NTR district commissioner of police S V

Rajashekhar Babu, to probe the case.

The SIT found large-scale irregularities and fund misappropriation in the liquor policy implemented during 2019-24.

Investigators reportedly uncovered a kickback network involving nearly Rs 3,500 crore siphoned off over five years.

There are allegations that the YSRCP leaders encouraged the new liquor policy, floated new brands, received kickbacks from the distillery companies, causing huge losses to the government.

The SIT has named 48 persons in the case, of whom 12 have been arrested.

Rare surgery to save 83-yr-old performed

HANS NEWS SERVICE
ONGOLE

THE management of Medisure Multi-Specialty Hospital here announced that they saved an 83-year-old patient by conducting a surgery using advanced cardiac technology.

At a press meet here on Tuesday, Dr K Sridhar Babu, Cardiologist at Medisure, explained that the old man from Karavadi village approached the hospital with symptoms of a heart ailment.

During the investigations, the doctors found that the patient had severe calcium deposits in his heart that prevented conventional stent placement. With prior approval for the surgery and after explaining the condition of the patient to his family



Medisure Multi-Specialty Hospital's cardiologist Dr K Sridhar Babu explaining about the critical surgery at a press meet in Ongole on Tuesday

members, the doctors' team used state-of-the-art drilling technology and successfully performed the district's first such procedure, cutting through the calcium deposits to insert a stent. The advanced technique was essential as the patient's age made open-heart surgery impos-

sible. Dr Sridhar Babu expressed gratitude for the patient's trust in choosing this high-risk procedure locally. The patient's son thanked the doctor for taking the risk and saving his father's life. Medisure Hospital Manager Dasari Sudhakar also attended the conference.

Man held for blackmail

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

THE Guntur police arrested a man for committing cyber crimes under the guise of 'call boy' business and threatening the victims and collecting more than Rs 1 crore from the victims on Tuesday. They seized three phones and SIM cards from his possession.

According to SP Vakul Jindal, the accused Choda Chaitanya Krishna Pavan opened accounts on Facebook in the names of women named Sailaja, Marni, Sunitha, Neelima, and sent friend requests to the victims from the said accounts and then introduced himself by sending a message 'Hi'.

Then he sent a message saying that he would pay them if they work as his call boy. To create confidence, he gives them his mobile

number stating that it belongs to someone who already works as a call boy. "If you don't believe me, talk to him," he used to tell the victims. After that, the accused changes his voice and talks to them, convincing them that there is no wrong in working as a call boy and that the money is being paid properly. Then, he shows them an old ID card saying, "Pay the registration fee,

"I will give you an ID number and an ID card." In this way, he transfers money from them to his accounts. He charged Rs 20,000 to 30,000 as registration fee. In the process, he calls the victims from different numbers, pretending that the police are calling them.

He threatens the victims by saying, "A case has been registered against you for chatting indecently with women and harassing

them." Then he demands the victims to transfer money to get rid of the case.

A resident of SVN Colony here received a message from the accused on Facebook under the name Sailaja about six months ago. He requested the victim to work as a call boy. The victim said he was 68 years old, and that he did not like it.

The accused then called the victim from another mobile number and introduced himself as income tax official.

He threatened the victim by stating that many transactions were taking place in his rice mill.

He is coming to raid the rice mill. He suggested the victim pay money to prevent them from raiding the rice mill.

The victim got scared and transferred about Rs one crore to the accounts mentioned by the accused.

Meet on ancient Indian knowledge begins

HANS NEWS SERVICE
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

INDIA'S ancient scientific and intellectual heritage laid the foundation for today's modern science and technology, said Rajamahendravaram MLA Adireddy Srinivas.

He attended as the chief guest at the two-day international conference on 'Resurgence of ancient Indian knowledge treasure to address global issues', organised by the Department of History at SKVT Government Degree College here on Tuesday.

The MLA said such conferences help students and teachers gain awareness of India's rich cultural and intellectual heritage, which continues to inspire global thought even today. MLA Srinivas also released a souvenir on the occasion.

College Principal Dr BV Tirupanyam, who presided



Dignitaries unveiling a souvenir at the conference in Rajamahendravaram on Tuesday

over the session, said India's ancient knowledge is not merely a symbol of past glory but a powerful tool capable of offering practical solutions to modern-day challenges.

Retired archaeology professor Dr D Bhaskar Murthy from Acharya Nagarjuna University said that India's contributions to the Vedas, Upanishads, Yoga, Vastu, Ag-

riculture, Mathematics, and Astronomy stand as remarkable examples of our ancestors' scientific achievements and intellectual brilliance. "These ancient disciplines



Students from abroad who attended the seminar

continue to demonstrate extraordinary precision even today," he observed.

Dr Chappidi Krishna, Joint Director of Collegiate Education, in his inaugural

address, said that blending Indian traditional wisdom with modern scientific knowledge can pave the way for a brighter and more sustainable future for humanity.

A renowned playwright Vadrevu Sundara Rao said Indian theatre traditions have guided the world for centuries through classical treatises such as Abhinaya

Darpana, and Natya Shastra, which remain global references in the performing arts.

During the conference, several scholars, including Dr Ch Eemalamari Srinivasa Sharma, Prof D Kiran Kanth Chowdhary, Prof Pasumarti Srinivasa Sharma, and Prof C Swaroopa Rani presented their research papers.

Conference convener Dr Y Swarna Sri informed that 225 papers were received for presentation.

Senior Divisional Manager, LIC Satyanarayana Shahoo, faculty members A Shantharajam, Dr DV Ramanamurthy, G Sharath Babu, Lalitha Ramya, Shilpa Rani, Madhulatha, Dr PVB Sanjeeva Rao, and Kotamma coordinated the event.

Students from Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa, and Cambodia also participated in the conference, adding a global dimension to the deliberations.