# Harassment allegations rock SV University

- Four girl students accuse Psychology prof, campus erupts in protest
- Student unions storm rector's chamber demanding action
- V-C assures suspension of prof after protest turns tense

Hans News Service TIRUPATI

TENSION prevailed on Sri University Venkateswara (SVU) campus after four girl students from the Department of Psychology lodged a complaint with registrar Prof M Bhupathi Naidu, alleging that Prof S Viswanatha Reddy had been harassing them and encouraging senior students to rag them.

According to reports, attempts were initially made to resolve the matter quietly by involving the wardens of the ladies' hostel to medi-

Continued from P1

global leadership."

Every MoU is a commit-

ment to the dreams of our

youth. Choosing AP means

choosing speed, trust, and

opportunity grounded in

Telugu pride and built for

The Minister said the up-

coming summit will mark

a new phase in the state's

industrial growth, bring-

ing together 300 global

industrial leaders from 45

countries, 72 international

speakers, 48 business ses-

sions, and 22 technical ses-

sions. He noted that Andhra



Students protesting in SVU rector's chamber on Monday. Rector Prof Ch Appa Rao and registrar Prof M Bhupathi Naidu are also seen.

ate a compromise. However, when student organisations learned of the incident, they staged a protest in front of the Registrar's office demanding immediate action.

AP WILL INK MOUS WORTH

₹9.8 LAKH CRORE: LOKESH

Pradesh has attracted Rs 10

lakh crore investments in

the past 16 months, driven

by "the speed of doing busi-

ness, visionary leadership,

and double-engine govern-

ance." Major global corpo-

rations, including Google,

ArcelorMittal, TCS, Cog-

nizant, Premier Energy,

and BPCL, have confirmed

with Google lining up the

largest FDI investment in

India's history and Arce-

lorMittal pledging Rs 1.5

lakh crore. BPCL is set to

invest Rs 1 lakh crore in

investments,

large-scale

Hinduja Group set to

invest ₹20k cr in AP

Amid the unrest, Rector Prof Ch Appa Rao allegedly called the victims to his chamber on Monday and tried to persuade them to reconcile with the profes-

Nellore district, he pointed

out. The Chief Minister and

senior ministers are visit-

ing several counties to meet

top executives and govern-

ment officials to showcase

Andhra Pradesh's develop-

ment initiatives and invite

global participation in the

summit. The government

has initiated comprehensive

coordination across depart-

ments to ensure the success

of the event, which is ex-

pected to reaffirm Andhra

Pradesh's leadership in In-

dia's industrial and invest-

student groups. The protesters reportedly broke open the doors of the Rector's chamber and confronted the officials. Following discussions with student leaders, the registrar and rector suspended the senior students involved and assured further action. The registrar also informed that vice-chancellor, currently in Delhi, had been apprised of the matter and agreed to set up an inquiry committee to investigate the allegations. Police were called to the spot as the protest intensified, resulting in minor injuries to several student leaders during scuffles. The protest was called off after the administration promised to suspend Prof Viswanatha Reddy once the vice-chancellor returns on Wednesday.

Leaders from SFI, AISF, NSUI, NLSA, GNS, and JBSF took part in the

## PM sees RJD-Cong plot to alter demographic

Continued from P1

He alleged that the RJD and the Congress are putting the future of Bihar at risk and endangering "your children,

balance in Bihar

including daughters". Modi alleged that the two parties were evidently fond of "kattar panthis" (extremists) and "kattas" (countrymade pistols).

"But the people must decide whether they can let the infiltrators demand a share in their entitlements," he said.

Continued from P1

To complement EV manufacturing, a statewide EV charging network will be developed to accelerate green pany is also exploring the development of an electric mobility hub in Anantapur, Kurnool, and Amaravati, integrating manufacturing, logistics, and research and development capabilities.

CM Naidu welcomed the Hinduja Group's initiative, calling it a "transformative partnership" that aligns with the government's vision of sustainable industrialization. "This collaboration will generate thousands of jobs and position Andhra Pradesh as India's green energy and EV hub," Naidu said, announcing the creation of a fast-track approval window for Hinduja's pro-

In a statement on social media, Naidu wrote, "Delighted to announce the signing of an MoU between Andhra Pradesh and the Hinduja Group, marking a cumulative investment of Rs 20,000 crore to accelerate our state's industrial and clean energy growth."

The Chief Minister's Lon-

don visit also included a series of high-level meetings with global industry leaders. He met Nikki Grady-Smith, Group chief transformation officer of Rolls-Royce, to explore partnerships in aerospace manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities, and small modular reactorbased energy solutions for data centers and defense in-

units in Andhra Pradesh.

#### SC to deal digital arrests with an iron hand

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday expressed shock over the fact that victims across India have collectively lost nearly Rs 3,000 crore to the digital arrests scam.

case initiated to curb the surge in online scams and impersonation rackets, a Bench comprising Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi described the situation as "shocking" and stressed the need for urgent and stringent judicial intervention.

"It's shocking that almost Rs 3,000 crores have been collected from victims in

frastructure. Naidu also discussed re-

newable energy, data analytics, and smart grid collaboration with Chris Fitzgerald, Group director of international affairs, Octopus Energy. Further meetings were held with Shailesh Hiranandani, Chairman of SRAM & MRAM Group, and Sampath Kumar Mallaya, Chairman of Samco Holding Ltd., who expressed interest in setting up semiconductor fabrication, advanced packaging, and battery energy storage

The Chief Minister emphasized that Andhra Pradesh's visionary leadership, proactive governance, and industrial infrastructure have positioned it as a preferred destination for global

Hearing a suo motu

agencies.

our country alone. If we ignore it right now and are not able to pass harsh and stringent orders, the problem will magnify. We are determined to deal with it with iron hands," Justice Kant observed after pursuing the sealed cover notes submitted by investigating

The court was apprised that these scams often involve cybercriminals posing as law enforcement officers, coercing victims, particularly senior citizens, into transferring large sums of money under false pretexts of criminal charges or investigations.

## **VOTER LIST CLEANUP IN** 12 STATES BEGINS TODAY

Continued from P1

ment landscape.

Among these, Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, and West Bengal will go to the polls in 2026. In Assam, another state where polls are due in 2026 the revision of electoral rolls will be announced separately as a Supreme Court-supervised exercise to verify citizenship is underway in the

Also, a separate provision of the Citizenship Act applied to Assam. "Under the Citizenship Act, there are separate provisions for citizenship in Assam. Under the supervision of the Supreme Court, the exercise of checking citizenship is about to be completed.

The June 24 SIR order

was for the entire country. Under such circumstances, this would not have applied to Assam," Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said on October 27 while announcing the latest phase of SIR. "So, there will be separate revision orders issued for Assam, and a separate SIR date will be announced," he said. SIR will begin on November 4 with the enumeration stage and continue till December 4.

The EC will release the draft electoral rolls on December 9, and the final electoral rolls will be published on February 7.

The ongoing SIR is the ninth such exercise since independence, with the last one conducted in 2002-04.

## Brookfield's AP projects get ₹7,500-cr REC boost

Continued from P1 The total project cost is estimated at Rs 9,910 crore, marking the single largest REC sanction ever extended to a private-sector project.

"REC has sanctioned a record Rs 7,500 crore funding for Brookfield's 1,040 MW hybrid renewable energy project at Kurnool, compris-

TDP statement said.



ing 640 MW of wind and 400 MW of solar capacity," a

The project is being developed by Evren, a clean-energy platform jointly launched by Brookfield and Axis Energy. Evren has already lined up over 3 GW of renewable power projects across Kurnool and Anantapur, as part

of Brookfield's broader 8,000 MW pipeline in Andhra Pradesh involving a total investment of Rs 50,000 crore. Reacting to the development, IT Minister Nara Lokesh said the state is fast emerging as a renewable energy hub. "Andhra Pradesh is rapidly emerging as India's renewable energy hub. We are delighted to partner with global leaders like Brookfield in building the next generation of sustainable infrastructure that creates jobs, drives industrial growth, and strengthens our energy security," Lokesh said.

# Let Jagan also take oath before Goddess: Lokesh HANS NEWS SERVICE takes oath in the presence of turnout of devotors. What is a service to the service with the service to t

REFERRING to the oath taken by former minister and YSRCP leader Jogi Ramesh at the abode of Goddess Kanakadurga, minister Nara Lokesh said that he was also ready to take oath provided former chief minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy also

takes oath in the presence of Goddess.

Addressing the media at his camp office here on Monday, Lokesh said, "The opposition leaders are seeking action against Kasibugga temple trustee, who is 94-year-old gentleman. He profusely apologised for the mishap and said that he never anticipated such large

turnout of devotees. What is the point in punishing him by putting him in jail?'

'The government acted immediately and a number of ministers including me went and presented ex gratia cheques to the bereaved families," he recalled.

The previous government caused enormous loss to the exchequer and to the

consumers by revoking the power purchase agreements, he recalled. "No sane person would cancel the PPAs," he opined stating that the government was still struggling to overcome that crisis. He said that it was a point of pride that the government reduced the tariff by 13 paise which was done by no other state government.

## 19 killed in Chevella truck-RTC bus smash

Continued from P1

The tipper, driven by Kamle Akash from Maharashtra, was found to be speeding after overtaking multiple vehicles before veering into the bus's lane, resulting in the ghastly impact. The drivers of both the vehicles, apart from 17 passengers, died on the spot.

The gravity of the collision was such that half the bus was filled with gravel, trapping passengers inside. The authorities deployed heavy earth-moving equipment to extricate passengers and clear the wreckage of the ill-fated bus. Eyewitnesses at the chaotic scene described passengers trapped amid loads of gravel, with screams filling the air as they struggled to get help.

The rescue teams immediately began performing CPR and moving the critically wounded to the Vikarabad Government Hospital and PMR Hospitals, where the medical staff continued the emergency treatment. Chevella Inspector Sridhar sustained minor injuries during the rescue operation after an excavator ran over his leg, a police official said.

A doctor at the government hospital in Chevella said the accident victims suffered fractures, facial, abdominal and leg injuries. The injured passengers are undergoing treatment, including administration of IV fluid and TT injections, while some have been referred to major state-run hospitals in Hyderabad.

Recalling the horrific incident, a survivor said he was dozing in the bus when a loud thud jolted him awake, leaving him halfburied in gravel. "Several people were buried under the gravel. The tipper lorry came from the opposite direction. I was seated on the left side of the bus. We managed to climb out, but those who were sitting behind the driver couldn't make it some of them died. I was seated three rows behind the conductor," he said. He

further said he opened a window and escaped, with six others following. Later, another person broke the windowpanes to free more passengers.

The confirmed names of the deAceased are: Dasyam Nagamani, 55, from Karnataka; Tara Bai, 45, housewife from Vikarabad; Thabussam Jahan, 38 from Tandur; Gurrala Akhila, 22, student from Laxminagarpur Village; Panugula Kalpana, 45, from - Nallagandla- Hyderabad; Hanmanthu, 35 from Doulthabad, Gogula Gunamma, 60, from Hyderabad, Shaik Khalid Hussain, 76, from Tandur; Taliya Begum from Tandur; a 10-month-old baby girl; Nandini, 18, student from Tandur; Sai Priya, MBA student from Tandur; Thanusha, degree final year student from Tandur; Muskan from Tandur; and Kudugunta Bandappa, 42, from Vikarabad, aside from the drivers of the two vehicles. Most of the passengers were from Tandur.

Cyberabad Police Commissioner Avinash Mahanti confirmed that the bus driver Dastagiri (37) and the tipper driver Kamle Akash died in the crash. Noting that a head-on collision occurs when one of the vehicles is on the wrong side, he said the cause of the accident would be known after the inquiry.

The bus conductor, Radha, sustained injuries.

Commissioner Mahanti highlighted that technical issues on the road due to ongoing construction work may have contributed to the accident. The bodies of the deceased have been dispatched to their respective native places after postmortem.

Preliminary tions revealed that the tipper's dangerous overtaking manoeuvers at high speed primarily caused the collision. The accident site remains sealed off as forensic teams are gathering evidence and the authorities are working to identify any lapses in traffic manage-

#### **UNBEARABLE HEARTBREAK**

## Three sisters from Tandur die in mishap

Hans News Service Hyderabad

YELLAIAH Goud, who saw off his three daughters at the Tandur bus station early on Monday, never knew that it would be his final farewell to them, as the bus they boarded for Hyderabad met with a fatal accident near Chevella on the way, killing all of them

on the spot. The three sisters - Tanusha, Saipriya and Nandini - who were staying in Hyderabad, were among the 19 killed after the ill-fated bus collided with a gravelladen tipper. Saipriya was a third year BSc student and Nandini first year BCom, while Tanusha completed her graduation and was doing a part-time job. Goud, who works as a driver, said the three sisters came to attend a wedding in Tandur.

"I told my wife not to call the children for the wedding. However, she called them without my knowledge," he said, crying inconsolably. The family conducted their elder daughter's marriage on October 17. The



marriage and returned to Hyderabad.

Again, they came back to Tandur to attend a wedding of a family friend, he said. Goud's wife, Ambika, was looking devastated at the government hospital at Chevella where the bodies were brought in following the accident.

A large number of people gathered at their house in Gandhinagar in Tandur and consoled the family members after the news of the three sisters' untimely demise broke out.

A neighbour of Goud said that the sisters were very bright students. Veeranari Chakali Ilamma Women's University Principal Loka Pavani told reporters that three students of the institute died in the accident. Besides Saipriya and Nandini, another student Muskan, a BSc student, was killed in the ghastly accident.

### India backing high-risk R&D projects: PM

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched a Rs 1 lakh crore fund to spur private sector investment in research and development and announced that his government was now supporting high-risk and high-impact projects, as India aims to emerge as a science and technology powerhouse.

Inaugurating the first-ever Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC), the annual flagship event involving policymakers, innovators and global visionaries, Modi said his government has introduced significant reforms for a modern ecosystem of innovation to flourish in the country.

The Prime Minister said the world was witnessing a new shift in the global order and the pace of change was exponential. "In this time of the 21st century, there is a great need for experts from all over the world to come together to brainstorm on emerging science, technology and innovation, and together they should show the direction," said Modi, giving the reasons for hosting the Conclave, which will be an annual feature.

At the conclave, the Prime Ainister also launched the Rs 1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation Fund to spur private sector investment in the domain. "This significant investment is aimed at benefiting the public and unlocking new avenues of opportunity. Our goal is to foster a culture of research and development within the private sector as well," he said.

### **'WHAT MODI IS SAYING IS A LIE'**

Continued from P1

Nobody will tell someone else to make someone the CM at gunpoint," Kharge said. "Congress has never done this. Modi ji is the PM of this country; his saying such things is laughable. This shows his level," he said, adding that Modi is making election speeches in Bihar."

Kharge's remarks came after the PM on Sunday alleged that the RJD had 'snatched' the chief minister's post from the Congress under pressure.

#### Over 10 people killed in Af quake

KABUL: A powerful, 6.3 magnitude earthquake shook northern Afghanistan before dawn Monday, killing at least 10 people and injuring scores, officials said. The US Geological Survey said the quake's epicentre was located 22 kilometres west-southwest of the town of Khulm, and that it struck at 12:59 am local time at a depth of 28 kilometres. Along with at least 10 people who died, about 260 were injured in the earthquake, according to Sharafat Zaman, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Public Health.

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