

KEEN TUSSLE ON THE CARDS...

BRS, Cong uncork plans tailored to tap JH voters

Development track record clashes with electoral sentiment in the high-voltage battle for the key seat

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AHEAD of the upcoming Jubilee Hills Assembly election, a significant question is preoccupying the three major political parties: will the constituency's voters choose in favour of past development or be swayed by the sentiment factor? The campaign has intensely heated up, with leaders from all three parties hitting the roads to present their respective cases before the electorate.

The BRS campaign is being spearheaded by the party's working president, K T Rama Rao, who is focused on two main themes. Firstly, he is aggressively targeting the Congress government, alleging that it has failed to implement its promises to the people.

Secondly, he is meticulously listing the development works achieved during the BRS's nine-and-a-half-year tenure. He stated that the party followed tradition by giving the ticket to the family member of the deceased candidate, and promised that candidate Sunitha was not alone; he would be behind her and would personally ensure the safety of the people "even at midnight" against the "goondaism" of Congress leaders.

On the other side, all Ministers, along with the AICC in-charge Meenakshi



Natarajan, are campaigning vigorously in favour of the Congress candidate, Naveen Yadav. Ministers are relentlessly campaigning, with newly inducted Minister Md Azharuddin also participating in the electioneering.

Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar asserted that the people of Jubilee Hills have a clear opportunity to "teach a lesson to the BRS." He alleged that the BRS and the BJP have colluded in this election. Prabhakar claimed that the Revanth Reddy-led government has accomplished numerous welfare and development works in the last two years, criticising the BRS for failing to give a single ration card during their ten-year rule.

He cited the Cantonment constituency, where he

claimed voters ensured the Congress candidate's victory and subsequently received development works worth Rs 6,000 crore in the last two years. He called upon the people to ensure Naveen Yadav's victory, assuring them that the entire government would stand behind him to deliver development.

BRS senior leader Nagesh Mudiraj countered the Congress's claims, arguing that people will teach the Congress government a lesson for failing to implement its promises. He noted that the Congress gained power by giving "guarantees as promises" and pledging implementation within 100 days. "It has been 700 days but there is not a single guarantee they have implemented," he claimed, expressing confidence that the "victory parade of BRS would start from Jubilee Hills."

Political analysts have opined that this election is a crucial litmus test for both major political parties. One political analyst suggested that a Congress victory would provide a significant boost to the party and Revanth Reddy in particular, while being detrimental to the BRS. Conversely, if the BRS wins, it would signify that voters prioritised the sentiment factor, setting a positive tone for coming elections by showing that the "Pink party was back in business."

VOTE-BANK POLITICS...

POLITICAL PARTIES CAUGHT IN A BIND OVER MINORITY VOTES

Azharuddin's elevation is countered by BRS accusations of 'tokenism' as both parties aggressively woo Muslim voters

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DESPITE actively wooing minority communities with political incentives, the two major political parties—the Congress and the BRS—are caught in a dilemma regarding which way the crucial 1.4 lakh Muslim minority voters will lean in the upcoming Jubilee Hills by-election on November 11.

The Muslim minority vote shifted heavily towards the Congress during the 2023 Assembly election, which played a key role in the party forming the state government. However, the current situation is tricky for the Congress as city voters have historically favoured the BRS. This concern reportedly prompted the ruling party to grant Mohammed Azharuddin a cabinet berth.

The minority votes appear to be sharply divided between the ruling Congress party and the opposition BRS. Both parties are facing a dilemma as to whether they will secure a considerable number of votes from the minority, particularly the Muslim community, in the by-poll.

Political observers note



TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud addresses minority leaders of Yusufguda Division in Hyderabad

that following a longstanding demand for minority representation in the Cabinet, the Congress appointed Azharuddin as Minister for Minority Welfare and Public Enterprises ahead of the by-polls, projecting this as proof of its commitment to minorities. The BRS, however, accuses the Congress of political tokenism, alleging that Azharuddin's elevation was a calculated move purely for the by-election.

Political analyst Mohammed Asif Hussain Sohailobserved that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy is accompanying Azharuddin during his campaign to woo Muslim community votes.

Asif Hussain added that, apart from development and

infrastructure, minorities require upliftment in terms of education, jobs, and employment. With Muslims constituting 1.4 lakh of the total 3.9 lakh voters, the community's vote will play a crucial role, a fact evident from the aggressive efforts by both Congress and BRS to woo these voters.

For Congress, the by-poll is about retaining dominance in the City, while for the BRS, it is an opportunity to prove its grassroots strength after losing power. BJP Union Minister G Kishan Reddy also weighed in, criticising Revanth Reddy for allegedly becoming a slave to the Majlis Party in the state and calling him a 'ji-Huzur' in his attempt to

win in Jubilee Hills and save his party's reputation.

Meanwhile, the AIMIM is backing the Congress party nominee V Naveen Yadav and has been actively campaigning in the minority-dominant areas of Jubilee Hills. The MIM had fielded Shaikpet corporator RashedFarazuddin in the 2023 elections, who received some 7,800 votes.

BRS working president K T Rama Rao alleged that the Congress is treating minorities as a mere vote bank and accused the party of cheating the minorities by failing to implement its Minority Declaration. He stated: "Two years ago, it said it would allocate Rs 4,000 crore annually for minority



welfare and introduce a Minority Sub-Plan. But both these promises were broken. Two years have passed, and even in the next three years, they will not be able to deliver anything," he asserted.

Moreover, in an attempt to woo voters, Revanth Reddy recently met with religious leaders, who urged the Chief Minister to introduce a separate minority sub-plan, similar to the SC/ST sub-plan, in the state budget and also requested him to protect Wakf properties.

In the 2023 Assembly elections, Congress candidate Azharuddin received 64,212 votes. The winner, BRS's Maganti Gopinath, polled 80,549 votes, and BJP's Lankala Deepak Reddy got 25,866 votes. The MIM candidate, Rashed-Farazuddin, received 7,848 votes.

97 citizens cast votes via home voting in Jubilee Hills

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THE Hyderabad District Election Officer and GHMC Commissioner RV Karnan on Tuesday inspected the home voting process in Madhura Nagar of the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency.

Out of the 103 voters, who had applied for home voting, 97 senior citizens and persons with disabilities exercised their right to vote from their homes, ensuring inclusive participation in the electoral process.



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STATE Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday asserted that the Congress was the only party that remained truly secular "from Delhi to Gully" and the sole force capable of defeating the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) both in Telangana and across India.

Addressing a minority meeting at Yousufguda as part of the Jubilee Hills by-election campaign in support of Congress candidate Naveen Yadav, he argued that regional parties like the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) were politically unreliable and had repeatedly facilitated the BJP's growth



by dividing the secular vote base.

The meeting was also addressed by TPCC President B Mahesh Kumar Goud, Advisor to Telangana Government Mohammed Ali Shabbir, Ministers Pon-

nam Prabhakar and Md Azharuddin, and other senior leaders.

"The BRS will meet the same fate as the Telugu Desam Party (TDP)," Uttam Kumar Reddy stated, recalling that the TDP's oppor-

Minister asserts Congress is the only reliable force against the BJP, predicting BRS will meet the same fate as TDP

tunistic alliance with the BJP led directly to its political decline. He stressed: "Wherever regional parties grow, Congress declines, and BJP gains. BRS too has been acting as a silent partner of the BJP. It never protested when the BJP reduced budgets for minorities or targeted their educational and employment opportunities."

He said that while the BRS government failed to protect minority institutions and interests, the Congress had a long and verifiable record of empowerment. The Minister alleged that nearly 80 per cent of minority colleges had closed during the BRS regime and welfare schemes for minority men were left incomplete.

"In contrast, the Congress government announced a Minority Declaration with a Rs 4,000 crore budget and a Minority Sub-Plan. Out of this, Rs 1,000 crore subsidy was earmarked for the first two years. Though not fully released yet, the process has started, and the implementation is underway," he explained.

Elaborating on the educational achievements, he said that in the past 22 months of the Congress government's rule, 2,200 additional engineering seats were sanctioned for minority colleges, while one law college and one pharmacy college were approved exclusively for minority students.

BJP State unit chief calls for change in JH amid civic neglect

HYDERABAD: BJP State unit President N Ramchander Rao strongly criticised the state government's handling of civic and administrative issues during a public meeting held at Kalpataru Residency Club House, Multipurpose Hall in Erragadda Division on Tuesday. Addressing residents and party supporters, he called for a political shift beginning from Jubilee Hills, citing years of neglect and misgovernance by successive regimes.

Ramchander Rao condemned the recent decision to permit a private cemetery in the heart of Erragadda's residential colony, calling it "unwise and inhumane." He alleged that the government was manipulating public sentiment for electoral gains and warned against granting permissions near sensitive military lands without proper scrutiny.

He credited the NDA government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee, along with the then Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, for laying the foundation of Hyderabad's modern development. "Projects like Gachibowli Stadium and Cyber City are the result of that visionary leadership," he said, adding that it was misleading for current governments to claim full credit for continued progress. Highlighting the dire state of civic infrastructure in Erragadda and nearby colo-

nies, Ramchander Rao pointed to the absence of basic amenities such as drainage systems, manholes, roads and street lighting. "Flooding, foul smells and uncovered manholes during rains are posing serious health risks," he said, expressing disappointment over the inaction of municipal officials and local representatives.

He also raised concerns about the violation of noise regulations, noting that DJ programmes and loud music continue beyond the permitted hours in several areas. "The police and local authorities must enforce these rules strictly," he urged.

Taking aim at both Congress and BRS, he said that despite having had opportunities to govern, both parties failed to address core public issues. He appealed to voters to give the BJP a chance, citing the party's 12-year record of corruption-free governance under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said the party's Jubilee Hills candidate, Deepak Reddy, is a responsive and experienced leader, deeply connected to the people. "Your vote is more powerful than a bullet," he declared, urging citizens to vote responsibly and strengthen democracy. "The people have seen the rule of two parties. Now it is time for change—and that change should begin in Jubilee Hills."

KTR urges Jubilee Hills voters: Choose 'car' over 'bulldozer'

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STATING that it was a contest between 10 years of development and two years of destruction and people were the real judges, the BRS Working President KT Rama Rao on Tuesday called upon the voters in Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency to judge between the two by voting on November 11.

Addressing a road show in the Somajiguda division in the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency, Rama Rao targeted the government on various aspects, including unfulfilled promises. Rama Rao said the Congress leaders were asking again to give them one chance. Is it because of this one chance the state has become pathetic. It is because of giving one chance the auto drivers have committed suicide, the real estate has been destroyed. The state which was in first place has fallen to last place.

Rao accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of deliberately withholding fee reimbursement dues worth over Rs 10,000 crore, thereby depriving lakhs of poor and middle-class students of their right to higher education.



Targeting the government on HYDRAA and real estate, Rao said that the Indiramma rule has become a rule of destroying houses. The Hydras monster is destroying the houses of the poor. Is Hydras brought only for the poor and not for the rich, he asked.

The HYDRAA does not go to the houses of Tirupathi Reddy, the brother of the Chief Minister, Ministers Patnam Mahender Reddy, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, G Vivek's and others. The party leaders showed videos of people affected due to HYDRAA, their pain and sorrows on the big screens.

KTR said that this election was not a random contest but a fight between a car and a bulldozer. People should vote for car symbol to teach the bulldozer government a lesson. Vote on the car symbol because it is the only thing

that stands in the way of the bulldozer.

He alleged that Congress gave 420 promises but never implemented a single promise. They say they have given free bus but the free bus is for females and double fares for males in the family. He called upon the people to judge whether the ten years of KCR's rule was good or two years of Revanth Reddy's rule was good.

KTR further said that CM Revanth Reddy understood that if he fights impartially, he will definitely lose and that is why they were looking to win with illegal votes. Everyone should exercise their right to vote and teach Congress a lesson. He interacted with the voters stating, "Teesre number par hai car" and people replied, "Baaki Sab bekar" (car is in third in the list on ballot and remaining others were waste).

Jana Sena extends support to BJP in Jubilee Hills by-poll

Jana Sena Chief and AP Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan is likely to campaign

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IN an important political development ahead of the Jubilee Hills by-election, the Jana Sena Party has formally announced its support for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate, Lankala Deepak Reddy. Jana Sena Telangana state president Shankar Goud, accompanied by senior party leaders, met with BJP state unit president N Ramchan-

der Rao and Union Minister G Kishan Reddy on Tuesday to convey the party's decision. The meeting marked a strategic alignment between the two parties, aimed at consolidating votes in the high-profile constituency.

Jana Sena leaders confirmed that they will actively participate in the BJP's campaign efforts, lending their cadre and resources to bolster Deepak Reddy's prospects in the upcoming poll.

The by-election for Jubilee Hills is scheduled to be held on November 11, and this alliance is expected to reshape the electoral dynamics in the constituency, which has traditionally witnessed multi-cornered contests.

Political observers are closely watching the impact of this partnership, as it may signal broader cooperation between the two parties in future electoral battles across Telangana.



Jana Sena Telangana State President Shankar Goud, along with several party leaders, met BJP State President N. Ramchander Rao and Union Minister Kishan Reddy. The leaders discussed Jana Sena's participation in the campaign supporting BJP candidate Lankala Deepak Reddy.