

Cong govt brought perceptible change in two years: Ponguleti



HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

STATE Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Monday said the Telangana government has demonstrated the change the people desired and upheld public trust in just two years.

Addressing the launch of the modernized I&PR Department website at the Secretariat, he said the state was in crisis when their government took office, particularly in the economic sector. "Under Chief Minister Revanth

Reddy's leadership, we are overcoming challenges step by step and accelerating development and welfare programs," he said.

Highlighting reforms across agriculture, education, healthcare, housing, ration distribution, and employment generation, the Minister said Telangana has become a role model for the country. He stressed that the Information Department plays a key role in communicating these achievements effectively to the public and instructed officials to leverage technology for quick dissemination of govern-

ment schemes. "Two years is a short period, but the government's achievements are remarkable. We have implemented several welfare schemes, promoted economic growth, and are moving forward with the Telangana Rising - 2047 vision. Our approach combines global competitiveness with welfare for the poor," he said.

I&PR Commissioner Ch. Priyanka, Chief Minister's CPRO G. Malsur, Information Department Additional Director D.S. Jagan, Joint Director Ramana, and other officials participated in the program.

Harish questions Sajjanar's derogatory remarks on phone-tapping case

HYDERABAD

FORMER minister and BRS legislature party deputy floor leader Harish Rao has expressed strong dissent regarding the statements made by Hyderabad police commission and SIT chief VC Sajjanar, who referred to the alleged phone-tapping case as "illegal." He contended that this characterisation lacks legal validity pending a judicial resolution.

The BRS MLA also raised a serious question being asked by the people of Telangana. "Why does the SIT chief repeatedly avoid recognising K. Chandrasekhar Rao, as the Leader of the Opposition?" Harish Rao asked.

In a statement on Monday, Harish Rao said it was deeply disturbing that the head of an investigating agency would



publicly use language that presumes the outcome of an ongoing probe. He stressed that in a constitutional democracy, until a competent court records a finding, no allegation can be treated as an offence.

Harish Rao pointed out that the role of the police is strictly limited to investigation. Police officers are not judges or adjudicators, and

they have no authority to declare any act as "illegal" at the stage of enquiry.

Harish Rao explained that whether any phone interception was legal or illegal depends entirely on strict compliance with Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, the Information Technology Act, and the safeguards laid down by the Supreme Court in PUCL vs Union of India. Any

deviation or violation can be determined only through judicial scrutiny, not through official police communications. By using the expression "illegal phone tapping" in an official message, the SIT Chief has displayed a preconceived notion about the outcome of the investigation.

Harish Rao said this conduct is unbecoming of the office held by a senior IPS officer and runs contrary to the standards of neutrality, restraint, and impartiality mandated under the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968.

He warned that such premature conclusions, particularly in a politically sensitive matter involving a former Chief Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, create a reasonable apprehension of bias and political motivation in the investigation.

PHONE-TAPPING CASE

Kavitha slams KTR for finding fault with SIT grilling KCR

Says BRS should reflect upon this internally as to why such a situation emerged

HYDERABAD

SUSPENDED BRS leader K Kavitha on Monday criticised party working president and her brother K T Rama Rao for finding fault with SIT questioning party supremo K Chandrasekhar Rao in connection with the phone-tapping case.

Rama Rao spoke as if it's a crime to summon KCR for examination but nobody is exempted from law, she observed. Speaking to reporters here, she said "KCR was called (for questioning) in phone-tapping yesterday. (BRS) working president K T Rama Rao said many things. He spoke as if summoning for examination is a crime and atrocious. When you are in public life, there will be many issues and you have to face



their consequences," she said.

It would be better if leaders cooperate for investigation to take place transparently and help in bringing it to a closure, said Kavitha, daughter of KCR. Observing that KCR has not been summoned for examination all

these days, she said the BRS should reflect upon this internally as to why such a situation emerged. She said she had appeared before the ED and the CBI in the case related to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam, though she did not do anything wrong.

"All have to cooperate with the law. We have to appear for the examination when we are summoned. None can salvage BRS unless there is a change in their way of thinking," she said.

In an apparent reference to her cousin and BRS MLA

T Harish Rao, she claimed that truth may not come out in the phone-tapping case as there is a match-fixing between Congress government and the former. She suspected that the Congress government would only make some noise in the phone-tapping case in view of the municipal elections (on February 11) and leave it at that and wouldn't finish the probe. Alleging that there has been no progress in the investigation into phone-tapping case during the last two years, Kavitha said the probe should go forward if the Congress government is transparent. Speaking to reporters on Sunday after KCR's examination, Rama Rao claimed that the phone-tapping case is a "frivolous" one and that there is "nothing" in it.

CM presents Ravi Narayana Reddy award to Justice Sudarshan Reddy

HYDERABAD

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday presented the "Ravi Narayana Reddy National Award" to eminent jurist Justice B. Sudarshan Reddy at a city ceremony, hailing the awardee's commitment to democracy and constitutional values.

Recalling the legacy of freedom fighter Ravi Narayana Reddy, the Chief Minister said he fought feudalism and monarchical rule, donated 500 acres of land to the poor, and inspired generations by stepping away from power at the peak of his influence.

Ravi Narayana Reddy was elected to Parliament with a bigger majority than Jawaharlal Nehru and was chosen by Nehru himself to in-



augurate the first Parliament building, he noted.

Drawing parallels with the present, Revanth Reddy said some leaders today refuse to give up power despite public rejection. He said

leaders like Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, Ravi Narayana Reddy, Jaipal Reddy and Justice Sudarshan Reddy shaped Telangana's political consciousness across the generations.

Praising Justice Sudarshan Reddy, the CM said his democratic commitment led him to contest against 'single-party, single-person rule', making him a deserving recipient of the award.

CEF South-Creativity is the new economy

MSME Minister highlights AP's visionary growth model

- India's strong democratic framework offers an unparalleled platform for talent to flourish
- Kondapalli Srinivas lauds The Hans India for hosting CEF South
- Says that anything created in Visakhapatnam can now reach the world

VASU POTNURU
VISAKHAPATNAM

CREATIVITY today is not just an idea but a powerful economic driver capable of positioning regions on the global map, MSME Minister Kondapalli Srinivas underlined. Delivering his address at the concluding session of the first edition of Creative Economy Forum (CEF) South organised by The Hans India in collaboration with the CEF along with HMTV as the media partner in Visakhapatnam, the minister stressed the immense economic power of creativity and that innovative thinking has the potential to build strong and sustainable economies.

Underlining that India's strong democratic framework offers an



MSME Minister Kondapalli Srinivas along with Tamil Nadu BJP vice-president Khushbu Sundar, Creative Economy Forum South founder Supriya Suri, among others, at the first edition of the CEF South organised in Visakhapatnam

unparalleled platform for talent to flourish, the minister said, "The state government's progressive journey, the minister attributed credit to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for his visionary leadership spanning over four decades. Between 1995 and 2004, the Chief Minister was among the top leaders in the country to foresee the future of Information Technology, laying a strong foundation through pioneering IT initiatives, modern agricultural practices, micro-education

reforms, and reliable power supply for farming."

Highlighting Andhra Pradesh's future-ready governance, he stated that the government has rolled out 23 progressive policies covering key sectors such as Artificial Intelligence, advanced equipment manufacturing, aeronautics and space technology. Despite challenging circumstances, these reforms have helped the state attract substantial investments, with nearly 25 percent of India's total investments in the past year flowing into

Andhra Pradesh, Kondapalli Srinivas stressed. Talking about Visakhapatnam's growing role as a global hub for innovation and enterprise, the minister said, "Anything created in Visakhapatnam can now reach the world." After spending 17 years in the IT sector, the Minister shared that he returned to his hometown to actively support government-led initiatives and contribute to educational institutions. The Minister further noted that the Chief Minister's commitment to transparent



MSME Minister Kondapalli Srinivas speaking at the CEF South organised by The Hans India and CEF in Visakhapatnam

and efficient administration led to the adoption of real-time governance.

Stressing the importance of ideas in entrepreneurship, the minister said that strong and original ideas naturally attract investment and sponsorship. With multiple funding mechanisms now available, he said, even innovators from remote areas have an opportunity to pitch their ideas. Appreciating The Hans India for organising the prestigious event in Visakhapatnam, the minister described the event as a true representation of South India's dynamic spirit, calling it highly inspiring and impactful.

Wow! Two-time kidney transplant recipient scripts Antarctica history

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

IN a landmark achievement, Sneha Raju has become the world's first two-time kidney transplant recipient to set foot on Antarctica, camp overnight there, and cross the Antarctic Circle.

The historic expedition took place from December 17 to 28 and was conducted in full compliance with established Antarctic expedition standards. This is the first time that an individual has successfully accomplished the typical Antarctic expedition, including interior landing, overnight camping, and Circle crossing, after undergoing two kidney transplant surgeries. This makes the triumph a first-of-its-kind in the world, eligible for global recognition.

The expedition began



from Ushuaia on December 17, 2025, crossing the notoriously challenging Drake Passage before reaching the Antarctic Peninsula.

On December 19, the first landing was made at Barrientos Island, followed by an official continental landing

at Portal Point.

Sneha Raju camped overnight on the Antarctic continent at Portal Point under continuous daylight, setting foot on Detaille Island (66° 52' S, 66° 48' W) after crossing the Antarctic Circle. This marks one of her remarkable accomplishments under extreme climatic conditions. Sneha Raju was serving as the Deputy Head (Corporate Communications) at NCC Limited in Hyderabad.

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