# CPM calls 'Chalo Delhi' on March 24, slams Centre's 'anti-people' policies

- Party to hold nationwide mobilisation from March 9–20 ahead of 'Chalo Delhi' protest, targeting what it calls anti-people laws and policies of the Centre
- Politburo member Raghavulu terms Union Budget 'accounting jugglery,' flags cuts to welfare sectors, Polavaram funding drop, MGNREGS cost burden on states, and loan-driven Amaravati funding
- Questions NDA allies TDP and Jana Sena over Andhra Pradesh fund denial, criticises pro-corporate projects, and warns new Bills will hurt workers and farmers

CPM politburo members B V Raghavulu and U Vasuki, along with state secretary V Srinivasa Rao, at the two-day state committee meet in Vijayawada on Monday

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Vijayawada

CPM politburo member B V Raghavulu announced that the party will stage a 'Chalo Delhi' protest on March 24, demanding withdrawal of what he termed the Centre's anti-people policies and laws. Ahead of this, a nationwide campaign from March 9 to 20 will be launched to mobilise public opinion.

The announcement came during the CPM state committee's two-day meeting at MBVK here, attended by politburo members Raghavulu, U Vasuki and state secretary V Srinivasa Rao.

Addressing the media, Raghavulu described the Union Budget as "deceptive accounting jugglery," alleging that allocations to key sectors and welfare schemes were slashed. He accused the Centre of manipulating figures by comparing allocations with revised expenditure estimates, creating an illusion of higher spending.

Citing examples, he noted that Polavaram project funding fell from over Rs 5,000 crore last year to Rs 3,320 crore, warning that completion could take decades. He also criticised replacing Amaravati funds with loans, forcing dependence on borrowings. On MGNREGS, he said though Rs 95,000 crore was allocated, states must bear 40% of costs, calling it "fraudulent."

Raghavulu alleged that despite TDP and Jana Sena's alliance with the NDA, Andhra Pradesh continues to face injustice in fund allocation. He questioned CM Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan over their failure to secure resources.

He further criticised industrial corridors and semiconductor projects as benefiting corporates rather than generating local employment. He warned that new Bills on labour, electricity, seeds, nuclear liability, and geo-spatial issues would harm workers and farmers. Condemning recent political violence, Raghavulu urged parties to end abusive language and attacks, stressing that democracy can only survive through constructive debate and public trust.

# Don't turn AP into a 'Ravana Kashtam': CPI

## CPI state secretary Eswaraiah alleges that mutual attacks by TDP and YSRCP are aimed at diverting attention from people's issues

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Vijayawada

G Eswaraiah

CPI state secretary Gujjula Eswaraiah cautioned the ruling TDP and opposition YSRCP against dragging Andhra Pradesh into a climate of hatred, violence, and political vendetta. He urged both parties not to turn the state into a ;'Ravana Kashtam' through their bitter rivalry. He asserted that the state does not belong to any individual or family but is the collective asset of six crore people.

In a statement issued on Monday, Eswaraiah alleged that both the TDP and YSRCP were indulging in mutual abuse, provocative statements, and attacks with the sole aim of diverting public attention from pressing public issues. He said the recent political developments were bringing disrepute to a state once ruled by great leaders and were creating a situation in which democracy itself appeared to be hanging its head in shame.

Criticising the politicisation of sensitive spiritual issues such as the Tirupati laddu, he said such actions reflected a lack of maturity and responsibility on the part of political leaders. Instead of addressing people's concerns, both parties were resorting to personal attacks to conceal their failures and anti-people policies, which he described as highly deplorable.

Eswaraiah expressed serious concern over attacks on houses and offices, prolonged detentions even in the presence of women, and the apparent inaction of the police. He said there was little difference between the previous YSRCP regime and the present TDP-led government in terms of governance style. He warned that political violence, irrespective of who was in power, would erode democratic values.

The CPI leader stressed that the state is not a private estate or a rowdy arena, and demanded that both ruling and opposition parties focus on real issues such as unemployment, education, healthcare, agrarian distress, remunerative crop prices, labour rights, and overall development.

He urged political parties to exercise restraint, uphold democratic decorum, and act responsibly, warning that people were closely watching their conduct and would respond at the appropriate time.

# Rs 10,000 cr allocated to AP rail projects in Budget: Vaishnaw

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ANDHRA Pradesh has been allocated a record outlay of over Rs 10,000 crore for railway projects in the Union Budget for fiscal 2026-27, railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. "Infrastructural projects worth Rs 93,649 crore are underway in Andhra Pradesh and a record budget allocation of Rs 10,134 crore has been made for the state for the year 2026-27," Vaishnaw was quoted as saying in a press release issued by the Vijayawada division of the South Central Railway (SCR).

The railway network in the southern state has achieved 100 percent electrification, the minister added. Observing that seven high-speed rail corridors were announced across the country in the budget, he said two of those, Hyderabad - Bengaluru and Hyderabad - Chennai, will traverse through the state.

# Pawan raps JSP leaders over silence on ghee issue

## Deputy CM says party failing to counter YSRCP attacks

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JANA Sena Party president and Deputy chief minister K Pawan Kalyan on Monday expressed strong displeasure with party leaders for failing to effectively counter the YSRCP's criticism against him over the Tirumala laddu issue.

At the party's general body meeting held at the Jana Sena office in Mangalagiri, Pawan Kalyan reacted sharply to the conduct of party MLAs, ministers, and Political Affairs Committee (PAC) members, questioning their silence despite sustained attacks from the YSRCP.

Citing the ICAR–NDRI report, which stated that no animal fat was found in the Tirumala laddu samples, the YSRCP has been targeting Pawan Kalyan. The opposition party has alleged that he had earlier spread false propaganda about animal fat being mixed in the laddus and had also made false claims regarding laddus sent to Ayodhya.

Against this backdrop, Pawan said he was facing intense criticism from the YSRCP, while Janasena leaders were not responding adequately. "Even with so much happening regarding the Tirumala laddu issue, why is no one speaking up? Do I have to answer everything? If that is the case, why are you here as MLAs and ministers?" he asked. "If I have to speak about everything, then what are you here for?" he remarked, expressing dissatisfaction over their silence.

The Deputy CM cautioned party leaders against falling into what he described as the YSRCP's trap. He said opposition leaders were resorting to personal attacks and advised Jana Sena members to remain vigilant. He instructed them to counter criticism with facts and ideological clarity and warned that YSRCP leaders might target them and their family members. He urged party leaders to respond only on policy, ideology, and subject-related matters and avoid personal controversies.

Pawan made it clear that the party should not suffer setbacks due to the personal affairs of individual leaders and stressed the need for disciplined public conduct.

# Kollu blames anger against YSRCP for attack against Ambati

- The excise minister says attack on Rambabu reflects growing resentment against 'corrupt YSRCP'
- Rejects caste angle, calls comparisons with Vangaveeti Ranga 'shameful' and accuses YSRCP of provoking divisions
- Alleges misdeeds by YSRCP leaders, warns of legal action, and claims Jagan Reddy is plotting unrest in the state

Excise minister kollu Ravindra addressing a meeting of TDP leaders in Machilipatnam on Monday

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Vijayawada

EXCISE minister Kollu Ravindra on Monday said the attack on YSRCP leader Ambati Rambabu was the result of growing public anger against the party. Speaking to the media in Machilipatnam, the minister said public resentment against the "corrupt YSRCP" was increasing by the day and accused the party of provoking caste and religious sentiments as it was unable to face people's anger.

He strongly objected to comparisons being made between Rambabu and late leader Vangaveeti Mohana Ranga, calling such remarks shameful. "What was Ranga's stature as a leader who stood for the people, and what is the stature of Rambabu, who speaks irresponsibly on the streets?" he said. Ravindra said it was disgraceful to attribute the attack on Ambati Rambabu to caste when it was a spontaneous expression of public outrage.

The minister urged people to note YSRCP's "devious attempts" to gain political mileage by giving caste colour to incidents. He said YSRCP leaders had no moral right to criticise Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and minister Nara Lokesh, adding that Rambabu was being widely criticised by the public. He claimed the ruling coalition was exercising restraint despite what he termed as "shameful conduct" by YSRCP leaders, and alleged that former chief minister Jagan Mohan Reddy was conspiring to create unrest in the state.

Ravindra also lashed out at YSRCP leader Perni Venkatramaiah alias Nani, accusing him of speaking without shame after allegedly misappropriating rice meant for the poor.

He further criticised former minister Jogi Ramesh, alleging that he had endangered public lives through spurious liquor. Terming Jogi Ramesh's claims of speaking for Backward Classes (BCs) as ironic, Ravindra asked where he was when BCs faced attacks and arrests during the previous YSRCP regime. The minister said the government was committed to maintaining law and order and warned that cases would be filed and legal action taken against every YSRCP leader found guilty of wrongdoing. He earlier addressed a meeting of TDP leaders and in-charges of various wings.

# Govt move to halt hike in land market value hailed

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THE Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI), Andhra Pradesh has welcomed the State government's decision to suspend the proposed hike in land market values, saying it will ease the registration burden on homebuyers and boost liquidity in the real estate sector.

In a statement issued on Monday, CREDAI AP Chairman Buddiga Srinivasu, President Bayana Srinivasa Rao, and General Secretary Dasari Rambabu expressed gratitude to the NDA-led state government for the timely intervention, which they said would help accelerate real estate activity across the State. They noted that halting the increase in market values will particularly benefit middle and lower-income homebuyers by preventing additional financial pressure during property registration. The leaders also applauded the Union Government for presenting a growth-oriented Budget that provides a major boost to the construction and real estate sectors. They highlighted the increased allocation for infrastructure development and the announcement of a one-crore housing target under PMAY–Urban 2.0 as confidence boosters for developers.

Furthermore, they urged the Centre to revise the definition of "affordable housing," noting that existing parameters fixed nearly eight years ago are no longer viable due to inflation.

# Gunadala Matha Utsavams from Feb 9

## Elaborate arrangements are being made for the 102nd annual Gunadala Lourdes Matha Maha Utsavams, scheduled to be held for three days

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Vijayawada

VIJAYAWADA Catholic Diocese Bishop Rev Dr Telagathoti Joseph Raja Rao has said that elaborate arrangements are being made for the 102nd annual Gunadala Lourdes Matha Maha Utsavams, scheduled to be held for three days from February 9 to 11. He said that more than 10 lakh devotees from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and other states are expected to attend the annual festival.

In view of the upcoming celebrations, Bishop Joseph Raja Rao, along with Monsignor Muvvala Prasad and other clergy, unveiled the festival poster at the Gunadala Social Service Centre in Vijayawada on Monday. Later, the bishop also laid foundation stones for new residential complexes near the Centenary Church, intended for the benefit of priests and devotees visiting the shrine.

Addressing a press conference, Bishop Raja Rao said that comprehensive arrangements are being put in place to ensure the smooth and orderly conduct of the three-day festival. He informed that several bishops from the Visakhapatnam Archdiocese, along with bishops from the dioceses of Nellore, Kadapa, Kurnool, Guntur, and others, would attend the celebrations as chief guests. Vicar General Meshapam Gabriel, Education Desk Director Father Kolakani Marianna, Social Service Centre Director Father Thota Sunil Raju, and others were present at the press meet.

Vijayawada Catholic Diocese Bishop Rev Dr Telagathoti Joseph Raja Rao, along with Monsignor Muvvala Prasad and festival committee members, releasing the poster for the 102nd Gunadala Lourdes Matha Utsavams in Vijayawada on Monday

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Tender Notice No.12/EE/APMSIDC/NLR/2025-26, Dated.30-01-2026
Tenders are invited through the e-procurement platform for "Purchase of Medical Equipment for use of AH, KAVALI (3 works)", Approx. **value of works is Rs.44.00 Lakhs.** Other details can be seen at the website ***https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in*** by selecting **'Circle/Division'** category as 'EE, APMSIDC-DIVISION NELLORE" and 'Department' category as 'APMSIDC'.
**Sd/- Executive Engineer**
DIPR R.O.No. 4784 PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt: 02-02-2026

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH SAMAGRA SHIKSHA**
**Notification for Expression of Interest**
**(RFB No.SS/5/2026-GCDO, Dt.01-12-2026)**
The State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Andhra Pradesh invited applications from the interested firms/agencies to participate in Request for Bid (RFB) for Procurement and Supply Sanitary Incinerator with Smoke Eliminator under Samagra Shiksha & PM SHRI Schemes for AY 2025-26. The details can be seen in the e-procurement portal at ***https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in*** from **03.02.2026** by **11.00 AM**
**Sd/- B. Srinivasa Rao, I.A.S.,**
**State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha**
DIPR R.O.No.4786-PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt: 02.02.26

# *Fuel conservation drive SAKSHAM 2026 launched*

- Fortnight-long campaign aims to spread awareness on efficient fuel use and sustainable energy practices
- Activities include cyclothons, walkathons, rallies, training for LPG staff, student interactions, emission checks and technical workshops
- Officials stress on renewable fuels, electric vehicles, and reducing crude oil imports; students awarded for conservation-themed drawings

State level coordinator N Bhaskara Reddy addressing participants during the launch of SAKSHAM 2026 fuel conservation campaign at the Tummalapallivari Kshetrayya Kalakshetram in Vijayawada on Monday

Hans News Service
Vijayawada

SAKSHAM 2026 (Sankrakshan Kshamta Mahotsav), the flagship fuel conservation campaign of the ministry of petroleum and natural gas, Government of India, was launched in Andhra Pradesh on Monday.

The fortnight-long awareness campaign, which began on February 1, will conclude on February 15.

The state-level inauguration of SAKSHAM 2026 was held at Tummalapallivari Kshetrayya Kalakshetram in Vijayawada. The campaign was formally launched, and a fuel conservation pledge was administered by State Level Coordinator (SLC) for the oil industry, N Bhaskara Reddy, along with senior officials from various Oil Marketing Companies.

Addressing the gathering, Bhaskara Reddy said SAKSHAM aims to create widespread awareness among citizens on the importance of fuel conservation, efficient utilization of petroleum products, and sustainable energy practices.

He added that the campaign would engage different segments of society through people-centric activities such as cyclothons, walkathons, CNG auto and car rallies, training programmes for LPG delivery personnel, group interactions with homemakers, students, and college youth, vehicle emission checks, and technical workshops on oil and gas conservation.

T Bhaskara Rao, divisional LPD head of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Vijayawada, stressed the need to conserve petroleum products in view of rising demand due to the rapid increase in vehicles. C T Venugopala, BPCL, Vijayawada territory manager (LPG), advocated the use of renewable, clean, and green fuels and electric vehicles for transportation.

GAIL DGM S K Tiwari called upon students to act as ambassadors of energy conservation, while Pankaj S Chaudhary, DGM (LPG), HPCL, highlighted the importance of fuel conservation for environmental protection and reducing India's dependence on crude oil imports.

Prizes were distributed to school students who won drawing competitions on the conservation theme. A large number of students and stakeholders participated in the event. HPCL senior sales manager N Murali Krishna and other officials were also present.