

Int'l Fleet Review, Milan-2026 to be held in Vizag on Feb 18&19

- Ships from 19 nations, 4,000 delegates to participate
- President, Governor, Chief Minister, defence minister will attend the event
- State govt assures full cooperation to ensure the successful conduct of both events
- Chief of staff, vice admiral along with senior naval officers met CS Vijayanand



Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command, Vice-Admiral Sushil Menon, along with senior naval officers, meet chief secretary K Vijayanand to review preparations for the International Fleet Review, at the Secretariat on Monday

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THE International Fleet Review (IFR) will be held in Visakhapatnam on February 18, followed by Milan-2026 on February 19, with the participation of naval forces from several countries.

On Monday, Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command, Vice Admiral Sushil Menon (VSM), along with senior naval

officers, met chief secretary K Vijayanand at the AP Secretariat to review preparations for the events. During the meeting, Vice Admiral Menon informed that ships from 19 countries, including Sri Lanka and Iran, would take part in the IFR, along with nearly 4,000 delegates. He said three ships and about 150 delegates from the United States, Germany, and France would also participate. From India,

around 90 ships, 45 aircraft, and nearly 600 delegates are expected to take part. The events will be held along the Visakhapatnam coastline on February 18 and 19. President Droupadi Murmu, Governor Justice S Abdul Nazeer, and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu will attend the International Fleet Review, while defence minister Rajnath Singh will participate in Milan-2026. The Chief Minister and

other dignitaries will also take part in the International City Parade. Chief secretary K Vijayanand assured full cooperation from the State government to ensure the successful conduct of both events. He instructed officials of various departments to make necessary arrangements, especially in view of the presence of VVIPs. He also directed them to ensure foolproof security and logistical

facilities. The President of India reviews the operational preparedness and capabilities of the Navy once during his tenure through the President's Fleet Review.

In the International Fleet Review, warships from friendly and neighbouring countries also participate. Key warships and submarines take part in the programme.

Milan is a multinational naval exercise aimed at strengthening mutual cooperation and enhancing maritime capabilities. Naval forces from various countries participate in demonstrations and joint activities. Cultural programmes by participating nations are also held as part of the event. Principal secretary, GAD, J Shyamala Rao, protocol additional director Mohan Rao, special chief secretary Krishna Babu, and IG operations CH Srikanth participated.

Don't turn AP into a 'Ravana Kashtam': CPI to TDP and YSRCP

VIJAYAWADA :CPI state secretary Gujula 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



G Eswaraiah

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.

Fuel conservation drive SAKSHAM 2026 launched

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

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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

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.

GAIL DGM S K Tiwari called upon students to act as ambassadors of energy conservation, while Pankaj S Chaudhary, DGM (LPG), HPCL, Vijayawada territory manager (LPG), advocated the use of renewable, clean, and green fuels and electric vehicles for transportation.

He added that the campaign would engage different segments of society through people-centric activities such as cycloths, 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.

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.

Kondaveedu festival from Feb 7

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GUNTUR district collector Krutika Shukla announced that the Kondaveedu Festival will be conducted with an estimated expenditure of Rs 1 crore. She convened a review meeting at the Collectorate regarding the Kondaveedu Festival scheduled to be held on February 7 and 8 in Narasaraopet on Sunday.

Speaking at the meeting, she said the government has already approved the release of Rs 75 lakh for the festival. She informed that the inaugural event of the Kondaveedu Festival will be held on February 5 with a 2K run in

Chikalakuripet town. Various competitions will be organised on the Kondaveedu hill on February 7 and 8 for nearly 10,000 students, and prizes will be distributed to the winners. She stated that Heli rides, food stalls, and cultural programmes should be made special attractions of the festival. The cost of the Heli ride has been fixed at Rs 3,500 per person.

She directed officials to conduct extensive publicity campaigns and ensure that all arrangements are completed in time. Joint Collector Sanjana Sinha, DFO Krishna Priya, and other district officials attended the meeting.

Two AP veterinarians bag national award

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Veterinary Poly Clinic and Dr Madina Prasada Rao, Assistant Director in Visakhapatnam. Dr Damodar Naidu, state Director of Animal Husbandry, presented the award certificates at a ceremony attended by senior department officials. Both veterinarians have previously received numerous state and national honours for their service.



Pawan raps JSP leaders over silence on ghee issue

AMARAVATI: 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.

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.

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

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.

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

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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 ac-



counting 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 de-

CM to address WUA presidents' meet on Feb 5

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Water Resources Department Chief Engineer B Rambabu, inspected the arrangements for the conference.

Ansariya directed that all arrangements, including food facilities, drinking water, sanitation, and other amenities, be made meticulously.

Guntur Revenue Divisional Officer K Srinivasa Rao, ASP ATV Ravi Kumar, DSP T Murali Krishna, Water Resources Department Superintendent Engineer Venkata Ratnam, Rural Water Supply Superintendent Engineer K Kalyana Chakravarthy, District Panchayat Officer BV Naga Sai Kumar, District Civil Supplies Officer P Komali Padma, Joint

Director of Agriculture M Padmavathi, District Social Welfare Officer U Chennayya were present.

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

spite 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.

Criticising recent political violence, Raghavulu urged parties to end abusive language and attacks, stressing that democracy can only survive through constructive debate and public trust.

Presidents of irrigation associations from all districts across the state are expected to attend in large numbers, officials of the Water Resources Department said.

District Collector A Tameem Ansariya, along with Joint Collector Ashutosh Srivastava and