

Council LoP flays Revanth for ‘vulgar remarks’ against KCR

BRS MLC says Revanth is running a deceptive government, neglecting implementation of the pre-poll guarantees

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HYDERABAD

LEADER of Opposition in the Legislative Council Madhusudhana Chary on Tuesday condemned the vulgar remarks made by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy against BRS president Chandrashekar Rao. Addressing a press conference, Chary stated that the words of the Chief Minister were intended to influence the ongoing SIT investigation. He clarified that Rao has never refused to face the inquiry but merely requested more time due to his current responsibilities regarding the upcoming municipal elections. “We have faced many investigations in the last two years and are not afraid. Rao is a national leader who brought statehood to Telangana and remains in

the hearts of the people,” Chary said, noting that Reddy had no involvement in the original statehood movement.

The BRS leader alleged that despite advice from Justice Sudarshan Reddy against hateful speeches, the Chief Minister continued making derogatory remarks. He compared the nature of Reddy to a dog’s tail that can never be straightened, alleging the current government is deceptive and neglects implementing its guarantees.

Madhusudhana Chary further alleged that the government miserably failed in conducting the Sammakka Sarakka Jatara. Despite boasts about permanent arrangements, a massive 15-hour traffic jam occurred, proving a lack of basic preparations. He noted that under the tenure of Rao, the festival was

celebrated grandly with superior action rather than empty words.

Chary demanded a public apology to the devotees for the hardships faced. MLC Takkellapalli Ravinder Rao added that the comments of the Chief Minister deeply hurt Telangana society, stating Reddy is not fit to be compared to Rao, who has a history of sacrificing positions for the cause of the state.

Former Corporation Chairman Venkateshwar Reddy was also present at the briefing to support the opposition’s stance on these administrative and political issues.

The leaders concluded that the focus should remain on developmental goals rather than engaging in personal vendettas that distract from the welfare of the common citizens of Telangana.

KTR: Respect ‘rebel’ leaders for pulling out from poll fray

Says Congress party is facing strong public resentment and asked his party cadre to expose the failures of the ruling party

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BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Tuesday called upon the party leaders in the district to give due respect to the leaders who have withdrawn from the elections and should be warmly welcomed.

Stating that within just two years of coming to power the Congress party was facing strong public resentment and calling up on the cadre to expose the failures of the ruling party and hoist the Pink flag in the municipal elections, Rama Rao said that BRS must register a massive victory in the municipal elections: KTR’s directives to party cadres.

He was speaking during a teleconference held on Tuesday with party constituency in-charges, municipal coor-



dinators, and district presidents. He said that within just two years of the current Congress party coming to power, strong public resentment was being expressed towards it. He said that the people were observing the betrayal of the Congress government and its failure to fulfill its promises, thus deceiving the public. In this context, he expressed

confidence that a favorable atmosphere prevails for the BRS party across the state, and that the people would definitely teach the Congress party a lesson in these elections.

The BRS leader expressed confidence that if all the party cadres work hard in coordination for the next week, a victory with a huge

majority was certain. He recalled that in the last municipal elections, the opposition parties could not stand before the BRS wave, and that the Congress and BJP were then limited to only seven or eight seats. KTR emphasized that coordination was crucial as part of the election strategy. He requested that rebel candidates, who withdrew their nominations in many places, respecting the party’s request, be warmly welcomed. He instructed the candidates to personally visit the homes of every leader who made a sacrifice by adhering to party discipline and to involve them in the campaign. He stated that it is the responsibility of the municipal coordinators to give them due respect and move forward together. Following the conclusion of the nomi-

nation process, he instructed that a comprehensive report on the ground situation be immediately sent to the party headquarters.

Focusing on the final stage of the campaign, KTR called for every minute to be utilized effectively. He directed district presidents and former ministers to assess the chances of victory in the municipalities under their purview and prepare the necessary action plan to ensure the success of the winning candidates. He suggested that leaders should also focus on increasing the voter turnout on polling day, in addition to ensuring the victory of the candidates. He asked the municipal coordinators to remain available in their assigned areas until the completion of the election process.

Polls should be conducted effectively, says DGP

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TELANGANA State Director General of Police Shivadhar Reddy has emphasised to police officers the critical importance of conducting the upcoming municipal elections in strict accordance with the law.

During a video conference on Tuesday, the DGP addressed Police Commissioners, District SPs, and Station House Officers from regions where the municipal elections are scheduled to take place. With elections set for 7 municipal corporations and 116 municipalities across the state, officers have been directed to ensure smooth proceedings in 414 wards under corporations including Kothagudem, Karimnagar, Mahabubnagar, and Nizamabad, as well as 2,582 wards in the municipalities.

The DGP stressed that adhering to regulations is essential to uphold the reputation of the state police and the government. He made it clear that measures must be implemented to avert complaints or unwanted incidents. During the meeting, Hyderabad Police Legal Advisor Ramulu provided an overview of the laws governing election conduct. Shivadhar Reddy highlighted that under the law, severe penalties are unavoidable for those attempting to sway voters,

Telangana police chief Shivadhar Reddy directs officials to ensure seamless municipal polls across 123 urban local bodies while warning of strict imprisonment for voter coercion or illegal distribution of alcohol

coerce them, or obstruct the nomination process.

Additionally, distributing alcohol to disturb the peace or breaching the Excise Act could lead to imprisonment ranging from six months to two years. Under the Arms Act, individuals with licensed firearms must surrender them to police stations, with non-compliance carrying a prison sentence of one to three years.

The DGP also directed authorities to enforce strict campaign regulations for political parties. He emphasised that using religious institutions for political agendas is a grave offence under the Prevention of Misuse of Religious Institutions Act 1988. Furthermore, individuals engaging in hate speech or inciting division may face up to five years in prison. The conference was attended by high-ranking officials including AIG Law and Order Ramana Kumar, ensuring a unified strategy for a fair and peaceful electoral process across the entire state of Telangana.

Ticket distribution triggers trouble in Jagtial Congress

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HYDERABAD /JAGTIAL

TENSION prevailed within the Congress party in Jagtial on Tuesday after activists staged a spirited protest at the residence of senior leader Jeevan Reddy. The demonstration erupted as supporters expressed deep dissatisfaction over the distribution of tickets for the upcoming municipal elections. According to internal sources, the agitation followed a decision by the party high command to grant preference to local MLA Sanjay Kumar in the allocation process. Protesting workers alleged that tickets were being primarily allotted to leaders who recently defected from the Bharat Rashtra Samithi, effectively sidelining dedicated Congress



loyalists who have served the party for decades.

During the protest, activists conveyed their grievances to Jeevan Reddy, who reportedly expressed his own frustration with the current approach. Sources close to the leader stated that he appeared visibly upset, claiming his views on ticket distribution were being sys-

tematically ignored. Reddy is also reportedly unhappy with the conduct of Sanjay Kumar. Despite this growing unrest, the party high command has not yet taken steps to pacify the veteran leader, leading to speculation that he is being taken lightly by senior leadership.

The rift traces back to the 2023 Assembly elections,

when Sanjay Kumar defeated Jeevan Reddy as a BRS candidate before later joining the Congress. This defection was strongly opposed by Reddy at the time. Since the entry of Kumar, two distinct factions have emerged within the district unit, resulting in frequent clashes. Amid this worsening rivalry, rumours are gaining significant ground that Jeevan Reddy may be considering leaving the party, although no official confirmation has been provided.

The internal crisis now threatens the unity of the party as it prepares for the competitive municipal polls. The high command must act swiftly to prevent a further escalation of this bitter political feud between the two dominant groups.

Speaker asks Kadiyam to attend hearing today

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IN a significant political development, Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar on Tuesday issued formal notices to Station Ghanpur MLA Kadiyam Srihari, directing him to appear for a hearing at 11 am on Wednesday. The Speaker has now issued notices to all ten members facing defection charges. BRS MLA KP Vivekananda filed the initial complaint alleging that Srihari, who won his seat on a BRS ticket, defected to the Congress party. Notices were also served to Vivekananda, requiring his presence at the same hearing scheduled for tomorrow. The Speaker is set to hear arguments from both Srihari and Vivekananda regarding the allegations.

To date, the Speaker has already granted a clean chit to seven other MLAs, ruling that they had not officially changed parties and remain affiliated with the BRS. While a petition against Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender remains under consideration, the Speaker has reserved orders on the petition against BRS MLA Sanjay Kumar. These proceedings follow a stern



directive from the Supreme Court, which recently issued a final warning to Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar. The apex court has granted a two-week window to decide on the disqualification petitions involving BRS MLAs who allegedly joined the Congress.

A bench comprising Justice Sanjay Karol and Justice AG Masih is currently hearing the case. Previously, on 31 July, the Supreme Court had provided three months for a resolution. BRS leader Kaushik Reddy and others subsequently filed a defamation case after the initial deadline passed without a verdict. Most recently, the Speaker completed a hearing for Nagender after issuing similar notices. This hearing marks a critical phase in resolving the long-standing legal battle over legislative loyalties in the state.

GI Outsourcing launches AI-first GCC in Hyderabad

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HYDERABAD’S reputation as a premier technology hub has received a fresh boost with GI Outsourcing establishing a new Global Capability Centre at the International Tech Park. The move, announced on Tuesday, is expected to generate 200 professional jobs by 2028 and significantly contribute to long-term income growth for young professionals in the region. The centre has commenced operations with approximately 50 employees and is projected to scale up steadily over the next few years.

Industry observers note

that this expansion coincides with a rising global demand for skilled finance, accounting, and AI-enabled services. By integrating artificial intelligence into routine accounting and knowledge processes, the centre aims to equip youth with future-ready skills, thereby improving their employability and earning potential.

Analysts suggest that such AI-first hubs drive indirect income generation through allied services, training ecosystems, and local businesses. Hyderabad’s deep pool of finance graduates and technology talent makes it an attractive destination for global firms seeking cost-efficient yet high-value de-

livery hubs. This new facility is seen as part of a broader trend where global capability centres are moving beyond traditional back-office roles to become engines of innovation and sustainable employment.

Group CEO Tariq Husain stated that India remains central to the company’s growth strategy, while Siddharth Viswanathan from the British Deputy High Commission noted that the launch reflects the deepening economic partnership between the UK and India. This development further strengthens the city’s vital contribution to the national digital and knowledge economy.



FORMER MIM MLA QUADRI PASSES AWAY

HYDERABAD: ALL India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen General Secretary and former legislator Syed Ahmed Pasha Quadri passed away on Tuesday following a prolonged illness. Associated with the party for several decades, Quadri was among the most trusted confidants of the late Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, father of current AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi.

A four-time MLA, Quadri represented

the Charminar constituency for three consecutive terms starting in 2004, before shifting to the Yakutpura seat in 2018. Citing health issues, he refrained from contesting the 2023 elections but continued serving the party in his capacity as General Secretary. Over the past few months, his health had deteriorated, necessitating multiple hospital admissions. His passing is widely mourned across the city’s political circles.

ALL INDIA BREAKDOWN

APP-BASED TRANSPORT WORKERS TO GO OFF ROADS ON SATURDAY

Transport unions including TGPWU and IFAT call for mass strike as drivers protest against government inaction on minimum fares and alleged exploitation by major aggregator platforms

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

APP-based transport workers across India, associated with major platforms such as Ola, Uber, Rapido, Porter, and other aggregator companies, have announced a nationwide breakdown on 7 February. The strike serves as a protest against continued government inaction and rampant fare exploitation by digital aggregator platforms. According to the workers’ union, despite the notification of the Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines 2025, companies continue to arbitrarily determine fares in open violation of the spirit of these regulations.

Shaikh Salauddeen, Founder President of the Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Union, stated that this unchecked practice has pushed drivers into severe income



insecurity and mounting debt. He noted that commuters are also adversely affected by unpredictable pricing and surge manipulation due to a lack of effective regulatory oversight. Unions have repeatedly highlighted that the

failure of Central and State Governments to notify minimum base fares has allowed platforms to unilaterally slash driver earnings while increasing their own commissions.

The workers’ demands

include the immediate notification of minimum base fares for all services including autos, cabs, and bike taxis finalised in consultation with recognised unions. Furthermore, they seek a strict prohibition on the use of private,

non-commercial vehicles for commercial rides unless they are legally converted in accordance with Motor Vehicle laws.

The union has urged immediate dialogue with elected representatives to ensure fair and sustainable regulation. Salauddeen warned that continued delays will only deepen the economic crisis faced by millions of workers and their families. Prominent union members including Nagesh Kumar, Abdul Rawoof, Ali Baqri, and R K Reddy were present at the announcement, underscoring a united front against what they describe as unsustainable working conditions that make dignified livelihoods impossible. This nationwide action highlights the growing friction between traditional labor rights and the rapidly evolving digital economy across urban India.