

# WORKS WORTH Rs 575 Cr TAKEN UP IN 5 YRS: MAYOR

- Mayor of Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Rayana Bhagya Lakshmi thanks corporators, municipal officials, public representatives and citizens for their cooperation in implementing development initiatives
- Development activities were carried out across all three Assembly constituencies in the city

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VIJAYAWADA

MAYOR of Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Rayana Bhagya Lakshmi said that development works worth about Rs 575 crore were carried out in the city during her five-year tenure with the support of corporators, municipal officials and citizens.

The present elected body of the civic corporation will complete its five-year tenure on March 17, after which Special Officer rule will come into effect from March 18. Bhagya Lakshmi assumed office as Mayor on



Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Mayor Rayana Bhagya Lakshmi addressing the media at her chamber on Monday

March 18, 2021.

Addressing the media at her chamber at the VMC premises in Vijayawada on Monday, the mayor said the funds were utilised for laying Black Top (BT) roads, Cement Concrete (CC) roads, underground drainage (UGD), drainage systems, drinking water supply, development of parks and city beautification works. Several projects were also implemented under schemes such as the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and grants from the 14th and 15th Finance Commissions. Expressing satisfaction over

the achievements during her tenure, the mayor thanked corporators, municipal officials, public representatives and citizens for their cooperation in implementing development initiatives. She said development activities were carried out across all three Assembly constituencies in the city, covering roads, drainage, sanitation and drinking water supply.

Highlighting civic achievements, Bhagya Lakshmi said Vijayawada secured third rank in the Swachh Survekshan rankings in 2021 in the category of cities with a population above 10 lakh. In 2022,

the city ranked fifth and achieved a four-star rating along with the Water Plus certificate under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban). The city also received a five-star rating in the Garbage-Free City category and recognition under the Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework 2.0.

Providing details of works taken up, she said Rs 91.47 crore was spent on BT roads and Rs 101.37 crore on CC roads, while Rs 19.51 crore was utilised for steps, drains, ramps and other works in hill areas. Infrastructure projects such as development of Payakapuram tank with Rs 3.25 crore, extension of UGD lines, drainage pumping stations and improvement of drinking water supply were also taken up. About Rs 67 crore was spent under the AMRUT scheme between 2021 and 2025.

Other works included construction of overhead tanks, reservoirs and new pipelines. A Rail Under-Bridge (RUB) at Madhuranagar was constructed at a cost of Rs 17.42 crore, while Rs 12.10 crore was spent on sports infrastruc-

ture, swimming pools and parks. Additionally, she said a retaining wall was constructed along the banks of the Krishna River in Phase II at a cost of Rs 7.78, along with the development of a retaining wall plaza and an entry plaza adjacent to the protective wall at Rs 7.78 crore.

The mayor said the corporation also cleared several old dues inherited from previous administrations. She added that development works were continued through the corporation's own resources using a green channel mechanism. She also said that the civic body rejected Rs 450 crore Public-Private Partnership drainage project proposal as it would have placed a financial burden on the corporation.

Responding to allegations by some political leaders, Bhagya Lakshmi said the claims were baseless and invited critics to verify the development works carried out in the city. She said several projects were implemented without imposing any additional tax burden on the people during her five-year tenure.

## SSC exams begin smoothly

- The DEO inspected open school examination centres being conducted at Nirmala High School and Sri Balaji Vidyalayam
- NTR district recorded an attendance of 99.24 per cent on the first day of the examination

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VIJAYAWADA/  
MACHILIPATNAM



Krishna District Educational Officer UV Subba Rao inspecting an SSC Public Examinations centre in Machilipatnam on Monday

THE Secondary School Certificate Public Examinations (March 2026) commenced smoothly across Krishna and NTR districts on Monday, with both districts recording more than 99% attendance on the first day.

According to official data, in Krishna district 21,272 regular candidates registered for the examination, of whom 21,080 appeared while 192 were absent, recording an attendance of 99.10 per cent. Among private (once-failed) candidates, 166 registered, of whom 93 appeared and 73 were absent, registering an attendance of 56.02 per cent.

In total, 21,438 candidates registered for the examination in the district, including both regular and private candidates. Of them, 21,173 appeared while 265 were absent,

indicating a high turnout of students on the first day. Meanwhile, Krishna District Educational Officer U V Subba Rao visited several examination centres in Machilipatnam to review the conduct of the examinations. He inspected centres at CPM High School, Chilakalapudi, Nirmala High School, Hynny High School, Sri Balaji Vidyalayam, and MEK Balabhanu High School.

The DEO also inspected open school examination centres being conducted at Nirmala High School and Sri Balaji Vidyalayam, and reviewed the facilities and arrangements made for students.

On the other hand, NTR district recorded an attendance of 99.24 per cent on the first day of the examinations. A total of 27,249 candidates regis-

tered for the exams across 149 examination centres, of whom 27,043 appeared while 206 were absent. G Lakshmi, Collector of NTR district, along with District Educational Officer L Chandrakala, visited CVR Municipal High School in Vijayawada and inspected the arrangements at the examination centre.

District Level Observer Krishna Mohan also inspected seven examination centres, while DEO Chandrakala personally visited eight centres to ensure that the examinations were conducted smoothly and in accordance with the prescribed guidelines.

Officials said strict monitoring and arrangements were in place across both districts to ensure fair, transparent and peaceful conduct of the SSC examinations.

## Four get life imprisonment for gang-rape, murder

- The case was investigated by South Zone DSP S Bhavya Kishore, who filed the charge sheet
- Court also imposed a fine of Rs 2,000 on each of the convicts

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RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

THE VIII Additional District Judge Court here has sentenced four accused to life imprisonment for the gang rape and murder of a woman, Routhu Kasturi, from Burrilanka village in Kadiyam mandal. District Superintendent of Police D Narasimha Kishore disclosed the details of the case to the media on Monday. According to the police, Kasturi had left her house around 2 pm on October 15, 2024, to work at a nursery owned by Patamsetti Ramudu near the Burrilanka bridge. When she did not return home by evening, her husband tried calling her phone, but it was switched off. Family members and villagers searched the surrounding areas but could not find her.

A complaint was lodged at Kadiyam police station on October 16, following which police registered a case of a missing woman under Crime No 314/2024 and began an investigation.



SP D Narasimha Kishore addressing the media in Rajamahendravaram on Monday

On October 17, Kasturi's body was found in a canal near Choppella locks. The body was shifted to the Government General Hospital in Rajamahendravaram for post-mortem examination. During the investigation, police identified four suspects, Devara Yesu (26), Velubudi Praveen (21), Lokina Jayaprasad (19) and Dasari Suresh (22), all residents of Burrilanka and nearby areas. They were arrested on October 30, 2024. Police investigation revealed that the accused were consuming alcohol among the nursery plantations around 5.30 pm on October 15. When Kasturi was returning home after completing her work, they allegedly dragged her into the nursery area, sexually assaulted her and later murdered her. The accused then dumped the body in a nearby canal to conceal the crime.

The case was investigated by South Zone DSP S Bhavya Kishore, who filed the charge sheet against

the accused under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, including Sections 70(1), 103(1), 238 read with 3(5). After hearing the arguments from both sides, the VIII Additional District Judge Court at Rajamahendravaram delivered its verdict on March 16, 2026, sentencing all four accused to life imprisonment.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 2,000 on each of the convicts, with an additional six months of imprisonment in case of default. The SP appreciated the efforts of Assistant Public Prosecutor K Radhakrishna Raju, investigating officer DSP S Bhavya Kishore, Kadiyam SI B Naga Durga Prasad, court constable K Srinivas and other police personnel who assisted in the investigation and ensured the presence of witnesses in court. SP announced rewards also for the officers and staff involved in successfully securing the conviction.

## Sriramulu a source of inspiration: CPI

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GUNTUR

CPI national executive member Muppalla Nageswara Rao praised Potti Sriramulu as a great martyr, prominent freedom fighter, and the architect of Andhra State. On the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Potti Sriramulu, CPI leaders paid floral tributes to his statue at Hindu College Centre in Guntur on Monday. The programme was organised by the CPI city committee under the leadership of city secretary Akiti Arun Kumar. Nageswara Rao, along with CPI State secretary Jangala Ajay Kumar and other party leaders, garlanded the statue and paid tributes.

Speaking to the media on the occasion, Nageswara Rao said that Potti Sriramulu dedicated his life to the upliftment of Dalits, Adivasis, and weaker sections of society. Ajay Kumar described Potti Sriramulu as a source of inspiration.

He said that Sriramulu undertook a historic 58-day fast unto death for the formation of Andhra State. He praised him as a great freedom fighter who followed the path of Mahatma Gandhi and participated in many struggles for justice, enduring police repression during the freedom movement. CPI Guntur district assistant secretary Media Hanumantha Rao, Chinni Tirupatayya were among those who participated.

## Stress on youth's role in shaping economic future

- Artha Veda 2K26 - Reviving the Roots of Economics, an academic event was organised
- The programme aims to connect students with both classical and contemporary dimensions of economics

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

EMPHASISING the crucial role of youth in shaping the country's economic future, Manchala Sai Sudhakar Naidu, chairman and managing director of No 1 news channel, said students should cultivate analytical thinking, entrepreneurial spirit and awareness of socio-economic issues to contribute to national development. He said that effective communication of economic realities through media and research can play a vital role in strengthening the nation.

He was speaking as the chief guest at Artha Veda 2K26 - Reviving the Roots of Economics, an academic event organised by the Department of Economics of Andhra Loyola College here on Monday. The programme aimed to connect students with both classical and contemporary dimensions of economics and highlight its relevance in everyday life, aligning with the Indian Knowledge System (IKS). Deputy General Manager of NRED-



Earlier, Correspondent A Rex Angelo welcomed the gathering and described economics as a powerful pathway that can transform societies from poverty to prosperity. Principal S Melchior highlighted the enduring relevance of Arthashastra by Kautilya, noting its continued influence on modern concepts such as trade, taxation and public welfare.

The event featured several engaging academic and cultural activities including Chanakya Niti Quiz, Arthapreneur, Artha Kala, Artha Lekhana, Artha Charcha and Kautilya Darbar, with participation from around 150 students representing various colleges. The programme was convened by Head of the Department of Economics B Baby Rani and concluded successfully with enthusiastic student participation, showcasing the relevance of economic thought from ancient wisdom to modern applications.

## YSRCP's 'legal terrorism' criticised

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
GUNTUR

CHAIRMAN of the Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board Neelayapalem Vijay Kumar accused the YSR Congress Party of engaging in what he called "legal terrorism" aimed at sabotaging job opportunities for Andhra Pradesh's youth.

In a statement, he pointed out recent negotiations last week led by IT Minister Nara Lokesh with Capgemini CEO Aiman Ezzat, which expanded potential job creation from an initial 5,000 to 15,000-20,000 positions. He claimed the YSRCP filed a Public Interest Litigation in the High Court the same time, seeking to block incentives for new companies like Google. He referenced Google's planned \$15 billion investment—the largest foreign direct investment in India—as a prime

example. "Our Prime Minister aims for a \$5 trillion economy, and here we have a \$2 trillion company ready to invest, but the YSRCP wants to chase it away with cases. How absurd is that?"

He warned that the YSRCP's strategy seems designed to stall progress, especially with elections in mind, by spreading negative propaganda about the government's competence.

Kumar accused the party of a "Stall, Sue, and Sabotage" policy, citing instances where big firms backed out of pre-2019 MoUs due to similar obstructions. In Visakhapatnam, he said, land allotments for Google at just 99 paise per acre—tied to promises of 500 jobs per acre and clauses for reclamation if unmet—have faced a PIL from YSRCP's Tirupati MP Maddela Gurumurthy, despite no direct connection to the area.

## Siddhartha students shine at youth festival

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

STUDENTS of PB Siddhartha Arts and Science College here brought laurels by winning several prizes at the 39th National Inter-University Youth Festival held at Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology in Chennai from March 10 to 14. The students participated in the festival representing Krishna University and secured awards in various competitions for the fourth consecutive time. On the occasion, the Siddhartha Academy of General and Technical Education (SAGTE) felicitated prize winners at the college webinar hall in the city on Monday.

SAGTE secretary Paladugu Lakshmana



Students of PB Siddhartha Arts and Science College addressing a press conference in the college in Vijayawada on Monday

Rao, joint secretary Nimmagadda Lalitha Prasad, principal Dr Meka Ramesh, Director Vemuri Baburao, Cultural Convener Dr PITSRK Prasad Rao and former cultural convener Dr B Jayaprakash congratulated the students for their achievements.

Speaking on the occasion, they said the students had earlier excelled in the South Zone cultural

competitions titled "Kalai Kodam" and were selected to represent the university at the national-level youth festival, "Kalai Saaral." In the festival, which saw participation from 2,963 students representing 142 universities from across the country, Siddhartha students won prizes in all the events they participated in, they added.

Student Malladi Sindhu

Hans India Classifieds

<p><b>CHANGE OF SURNAME</b> I, MEDARAMITTA VENKATARAJO (Old Name) S/O MEDARAMETLA SRINIVASULU, residing at 1-78, Budawada, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District -523253, Andhra Pradesh, India. I have Changed my Surname as MEDARAMETLA VENKATARAJO (New Name) S/O MEDARAMETLA SRINIVASULU. Hereafter my surname is known as MEDARAMETLA VENKATARAJO (New Name) S/O MEDARAMETLA SRINIVASULU.</p>	<p><b>CHANGE OF NAME</b> I, SANGALA V V SATYANARAYANA S/o Veera Nageswara Rao (Old Name), R/o D.No. 11-27, Venkatadripuram Village, H/o Annaram Post, Nuzvid Mandal, Krishna District (now Eluru District), Andhra Pradesh-521201, have changed my name to SANAGALA VEERA VENKATA SATYANARAYANA (New Name), S/o Venkata Nageswara Rao, for all purposes.</p>
<p><b>CHANGE OF SURNAME</b> I, MEDARAMITTA SREENIVASULU (Old Name) my wife name MEDARAMETLA ESWARAMA residing at 1-78, Budawada, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District -523253, Andhra Pradesh, India. I have Changed my Surname as MEDARAMETLA SREENIVASULU (New Name) my wife name MEDARAMETLA ESWARAMA (New Name) my husband name MEDARAMETLA SRINIVASULU. Hereafter my surname is known as MEDARAMETLA SREENIVASULU (New Name) my wife name MEDARAMETLA ESWARAMA.</p>	<p><b>CHANGE OF NAME</b> I, SHAIK SAYYAD BAJI, (New Name), S/O Shake Akhalish, Previously Called SHAKE SIDHBAGI (Old Name), Resident of D.No:16-13-19, Mutupalli Vari Street, Bhimavaram, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh-534201. I have changed my name from SHAKE SIDHBAGI (Old Name) to SHAIK SAYYAD BAJI (New Name) for all practical purposes.</p>
<p><b>CHANGE OF SURNAME</b> I, MEDARAMITTA ESWARAMA (Old Name) my husband name MEDARAMETLA SRINIVASULU, residing at 1-78, Budawada, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District -523253, Andhra Pradesh, India. I have Changed my Surname as MEDARAMETLA ESWARAMA (New Name) my husband name MEDARAMETLA SRINIVASULU. Hereafter my surname is known as MEDARAMETLA ESWARAMA (New Name) my husband name MEDARAMETLA SRINIVASULU.</p>	<p><b>CHANGE OF NAME</b> I, SHAIK SHARFUUNNISA BEGUM (New Name), W/O Shaik Sayyad Baji, Previously Called SHARIF MUNNISHA (Old Name), Resident of D.No:16-13-19, Mutupalli Vari Street, Bhimavaram, W.G.D., Andhra Pradesh-534201. I have changed my name from SHARIF MUNNISHA (Old Name) to SHAIK SHARFUUNNISA BEGUM (New Name) for all practical purposes.</p>
<p><b>CHANGE OF SURNAME</b> I, MEDARAMITTA LAKSHMI (Old Name) my husband name MEDARAMETLA VENKATARAJO, residing at 1-78, Budawada, Chimakurthy, Prakasam District -523253, Andhra Pradesh, India. I have Changed my Surname as MEDARAMETLA LAKSHMI (New Name) my husband name MEDARAMETLA VENKATARAJO. Hereafter my surname is known as MEDARAMETLA LAKSHMI (New Name) my husband name MEDARAMETLA VENKATARAJO.</p>	<p><b>CHANGE OF NAME</b> I, CHELLUBOINA RAMESH S/O VENKATESWARA RAO, D.NO.: 5-97, RAMALAYAM ROAD, BHAGESWARAM, PALAKOLLU MANDALAM - 534 260, WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT, ANDHARA PRADESH. I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM CHELLUBOINA RAMESH (OLD NAME) TO CHELLUBOINA RAMESH (NEW NAME) HENCE FORTH I AM BEING CALLED AS CHELLUBOINA RAMESH (NEW NAME) FOR ALL PURPOSES.</p>
<p><b>CHANGE OF NAME</b> I, PARBATHI DEVI, is legally wedded Wife of No: 13878908A, Rank: EX NAIK (TS), Name: RAM CHANDRA REDDY presently resident of H.No.5-16, Akkapalli Village, Basinipelli Post, Bestawaripeta Mandal &amp; Tetsli, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh -523346. I have changed my name from PARBATHI DEVI to CHILAKALA PARVATHI as per affidavit dated 16-03-2026 before Ptl. Judd. Magistrate of 1st Class, Giddalur.</p>	<p><b>CHANGE OF SURNAME</b> I, MULAGUNDLA SWAPNA, W/O MUKKALA SRINIVASA REDDY, R/O H.No.5-73-1, O C Colony, MUTYALAMPADU, DACHEPALLE, PALNADU District, Andhrapradesh State. Pin code 522414. I have changed my name to MUKKALA SWAPNA for all future purposes. Sd/-MUKKALA SWAPNA. MUTYALAMPADU.</p>

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