

TG govt forms SIT for Moinabad farmhouse drugs case; DCP to lead

It will investigate origins and background of party held at farmhouse belonging to BRS leader and former MLA Rohit Reddy

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU HYDERABAD

THE Telangana government has taken a key decision regarding the Moinabad farmhouse drugs case.

It has constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) under the leadership of Chevella DCP Yogesh Gautam. DGP Shivadhar Reddy issued orders to this effect. The SIT is set to investigate the origins and background of the party held at the farmhouse belonging to BRS leader and former MLA Rohit Reddy.

Furthermore, the SIT will conduct inquiries into the Dubai connections, Namith Sharma's real estate business dealings, and the illicit drug trade involved in the case.

It is a known fact that the Telangana Eagle and Moinabad police raided a party held on March 14 night at a farmhouse located in Aziznagar, Moinabad mandal, Ranga Reddy district.

During the police investigation, Rohit Reddy was



identified as the prime mastermind behind the party, which involved both drugs and alcohol.

While a total of 11 individuals participated in the event, the police inquiry revealed that Mahesh Kumar, Rohit Reddy, Ritesh Reddy, Kaushik Ravi, Arjun Reddy, Namith Sharma, and others consumed cocaine mixed with their alcoholic beverages.

The police have registered a case against 11 individuals in connection with this matter. The Moinabad police have decided to take the arrested accused—Rohit Reddy, Ritesh Reddy, and Namith Sharma—into custody for interrogation. They are set to

file a petition in court seeking custody of the accused for a period of three to five days. Meanwhile, acting on the directives of BRS president K. Chandrashekar Rao, party legal cell leader Soma Bharath has issued a show-cause notice to former MLA Pilot Rohit Reddy, who was arrested in connection with the farmhouse drugs party case. The notice stated that the extensive media coverage surrounding the issue has tarnished the party's reputation and caused public anxiety.

It further emphasised that the BRS, as a responsible political organisation, remains committed to upholding legal norms and ethical values.

Differently-abled in AP to get free bus travel from Ugadi

The Chief Minister will formally inaugurate the programme in Amaravati for 12.76 lakh beneficiaries

ENABLING SPECIALLY ABLED

- Largest state-led mobility support programme in India
- Announced International Day of Persons with Disabilities last year
- Implementation from auspicious day
- Entails ₹207-cr annual expenditure

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU AMARAVATI



last-mile dignity, while also reinforcing its governance narrative of "welfare with scale."

The Chief Minister will formally inaugurate the programme in Amaravati in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, Minister Nara Lokesh, and BJP Andhra Pradesh president PVN Madhav - signalling a coordinated NDA political messaging around inclusive governance.

The scheme will entail an additional expenditure of Rs207 crore per annum.

The government has decided to reimburse the amount to APSRTC for its

implementation.

Originally announced on December 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the scheme's rollout during Ugadi adds cultural resonance while reinforcing the government's positioning of Andhra Pradesh as a "people-first, inclusive growth State."

With Divyang Shakti, the Naidu administration is not only addressing a critical accessibility gap but also sharpening its welfare narrative at scale - combining fiscal commitment, symbolic politics, and targeted social impact.

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Divyang Shakti Scheme is expected to benefit over 12.76 lakh individuals, including 11.16 lakh persons

with disabilities and their attendants, making it one of the largest state-led mobility support programmes for the differently-abled in India.

Key features include free bus travel for persons with disabilities across APSRTC services, 50% fare concession for attendants accompanying beneficiaries, eligibility for individuals with over 40 per cent disability and coverage expanded across 4 to 21 categories of disabilities.

In a coordinated Statewide rollout, MLAs will simultaneously launch the scheme in their constituencies, travel with beneficiaries, and participate in community outreach events - giving the programme both administrative scale and political visibility.

The launch of Divyang Shakti builds on the success of the 'Stree Shakti' scheme, under which women in Andhra Pradesh have undertaken over 52 crore free bus journeys, backed by a government outlay exceeding Rs1,826 crore.



PhysicsWallah opens branch in AP

VIJAYAWADA: Education company PhysicsWallah (PW) has expanded its presence in Andhra Pradesh with the inauguration of its first tech-enabled PW Vidyapeeth centre in Vijayawada. The centre was inaugurated by Amit Singh Rathore, SVP at PW, featuring multiple tech-enabled classrooms that offer a conducive learning environment. PW Vidyapeeths are tech-enabled offline centres where students attend in-person classes taught by experienced teachers. These centres offer a comprehensive curriculum for JEE/NEET/foundation & also focus on scholastic exams such as Olympiads. Facilities such as recorded lectures, assistance with NCERT materials, offline doubt-solving, Daily Practice Problems, specialised modules, activity-based learning, Previous Year Questions, and PW-AITs are also offered. Additionally, the centres have a dedicated desk for the Student Success Team (SST) and a parent-teacher dashboard system for updates on student progress.

British Safety Council honours for Coromandel plant



BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU KAKINADA

COROMANDEL International Limited (CIL), agri-solutions provider, continues to set global benchmarks in workplace safety, with its Kakinada Plant being awarded the British Safety Council's Sword of Honour 2025—one of the world's most prestigious recognitions for excellence in health, safety and wellbeing.

The award ceremony was held at the historic Drapers' Hall in London, bringing together leading organisations from across the globe that demonstrate the highest standards of occupational safety and employee wellbeing.

The award was received on behalf of Coromandel by K Jaganathan, Senior AVP & Head - Manufacturing, Kakinada Unit; Ch. Srinivasa

Rao, Vice President & Head - Manufacturing, Vizag Plant; and P. Ganesh, DGM - EHS, Kakinada Unit.

The journey to this global recognition began in June 2023, when the Kakinada unit undertook the British Safety Council's rigorous five-star audit programme. Through strong leadership commitment, active workforce engagement, continuous training and the adoption of global best practices, the plant achieved Five-Star Certification twice in 2024 and once again in 2025—qualifying it for the coveted Sword of Honour.

Coromandel's Kakinada plant is amongst the largest Phosphatic fertiliser facilities in the country and handles complex chemistries. The site boasts of a Birds sanctuary, sheltering over 100 species of migratory birds.

PVR Hospitality to invest ₹225 cr on five star property in Vizag

Ties up with Hyatt, to complete construction in 36 months with MICE facility

SANTOSH PATNAIK VISAKHAPATNAM

VISAKHAPATNAM's hospitality sector is booming with PVR Hospitality set to perform the groundbreaking ceremony for its forthcoming five star hotel Hyatt Centric near Sagarnagar at Yendada on March 21.

The project represents a significant investment in the hospitality sector as part of efforts to transform Visakhapatnam as a tourism and business hub. This will also give a shot in the arm to MICE tourism. PVR Hospitality will invest Rs225.30 crore after a brand partnership with Hyatt.

Luxury hotel and resort projects now at various stages of implementation include Oberoi, Mayfair, ITC Hotels, Taj Varun Bay Sands (reconstruction being done at iconic RK Beach), Hilton Garden Inn, Vivanta - Bhogapuram Airport, Radisson Blu at AMTZ and Rushikonda Beach Resorts (G+32).

The State Government has set an aim to increase tourism sector's GVA contribu-



Projected elevation of the new five star hotel in Visakhapatnam

ted three acres on lease to the promoters for developing the hotel. The property will have 175 to 200 luxury rooms, a 1,000 capacity MICE facility and dedicated hospitality management institute.

The timeline set for completion of the project is 36 months, Rambabu told Bizz Buzz on Tuesday. He said the project will be a major driver for local employment and skill development. It will create jobs for 230 directly and 1,000 indirectly.

The onsite institute will provide professional training for students willing to enter the hospitality sector. Under the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Policy 2024-29, the land was given on a long lease. High-value incentives have been offered to the promoters under the policy, which include 100 per cent SGST reimbursement for 10 years and full stamp duty exemption, industrial electricity rates and duty reimbursements for five years. Financial subsidy of Rs10 crore and favourable long-term land lease terms have been given to the project proponent.

Under the tourism policy, the State Government allotted three acres on lease to the promoters for developing the hotel. The property will have 175 to 200 luxury rooms, a 1,000 capacity MICE facility and dedicated hospitality management institute.

Confident of creating 20L jobs in five years in AP: MSME Minister

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU MANGALAGIRI

MICRO, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), SERP and NRI Minister Kondapalli Srinivas on Tuesday said that they will certainly achieve the target of generating 20 lakh jobs in the next five years.

He was speaking at the inauguration of the new office of Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) here along with IT, Electronics and Com-

munications Minister Nara Lokesh.

On this occasion, Minister Srinivas said that the role of APEDB is crucial in reaching the target of 20 lakh jobs set by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu. He reminded that all the officers are responsible for the successful accomplishment of this big goal.

It is a matter of pride to be part of the process of making Andhra Pradesh the best address for international investment under the dynamic



Ministers Nara Lokesh and Kondapalli Srinivas at the inauguration of the new office of AP Economic Development Board at Mangalagiri on Tuesday

leadership of Minister Nara Lokesh.

There are enormous opportunities for job creation in the State, the Minister said adding "we will not only reach the target in the next five years as promised, but also record more achievements in the subsequent period. To achieve this goal, all the departments should be coordinated along with the District Collectors."

Srinivas said they want to create awareness about MSME at the lower level.

For this purpose they want to strengthen the MSME by taking the cooperation of all the departments along with the Collectors. The Minister said that the coalition government in the State is providing full support to the investors. Srinivas said that this is something a matter of pride for everyone.

Senior IAS officers MT Krishnababu, N Yuvraj, Guntur Collector Tamim Ansaria and officials of the departments concerned participated.

AP CM Naidu reviews LPG crisis, asks officials to explore all options

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU AMARAVATI

ANDHRA Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday reviewed the LPG supply position across the State on Real-Time Governance System (RTGS) and asked the officials to explore various options to ensure uninterrupted supply.

Senior officials of various departments including Chief Secretary G Sai Prasad attended. Representatives of petroleum companies,



GAIL and ONGC officials participated. The Chief Minister said at present there are 14,000 metric tonnes of LPG gas reserves in the State and stated that a few more metric tonnes of gas is about to be available.

Stating that there is no need for panic over LPG supply, he said there is no problem in LPG supply in the State. He said steps should be taken to ensure that the supply should not be disrupted to hospitals, hostels and tem-

ples. Naidu said alternatives that are readily available to the public should be studied. Necessary gas reserves for another 15 days are available. Without diversion of gas cylinders through EKYC, OTPs, people should take action without panic.

The Chief Minister said availability of stocks of induction stoves should be increased in the State. He asked gas companies to ensure short term increase in production and better distribution.

C-DAC powers India's tech future: Leaders call for self-reliance push

HYDERABAD: THE Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) marked its 39th Foundation Day with strong endorsements from top policymakers and scientists, highlighting its pivotal role in India's digital and space ambitions.

Addressing the event virtually, S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), lauded its pivotal role in advancing India's capabilities in high-performance computing, cybersecurity, semiconductor technologies, and emerging digital domains. Highlight-

ing C-DAC's contributions to key national initiatives such as the National Supercomputing Mission, National Semiconductor Mission, and National Quantum Mission, he said the organisation continues to strengthen India's scientific and digital ecosystem through cutting-edge research and infrastructure.

He emphasised the need to focus on emerging areas including quantum computing, RISC-V, blockchain, and IoT, while calling for greater self-reliance in core technologies such as operating systems and databases.

IN BRIEF

Revanth hails Sahitya Akademi Award winner

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has expressed profound delight over the Telangana popular poet and writer Nandini Sidha Reddy receiving the Sahitya Akademi Award for 2025. Extending best wishes to Sidha Reddy, the Chief Minister said the renowned Telangana writer is a great humanist who illustrated plight of mankind and the fragmentation of relationships during the Covid pandemic in the book "Animesha" - compilation of poems. In a statement here on Tuesday, Revanth Reddy praised Sidha Reddy for the latter's invaluable contribution through his writings during the Telangana movement by spreading the spirit of the struggle. He also noted that Sidha Reddy stands at the forefront among the litterateurs who enriched modern Telangana literature through numerous poetry collections and writings.



Vizag Customs House screens awareness film

VISAKHAPATNAM: A film produced by Visakhapatnam Customs officers on the theme of World Customs Organisation (WCO) 'Customs Delivering on its Commitment to Efficiency, Security and Prosperity' was screened at Varun Inox here. The film named 'Right Turn' was shot to create awareness among the people. A meeting conducted in connection with the screening of the film was chaired by Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs and Central Tax Sanjay Rathi. Principal Commissioner of Visakhapatnam Customs N Sridhar, was present. The film was submitted as an entry to the 10th Indian World Film Festival, held in Hyderabad on March 7, where it won the Jury Mention Award among 417 entries from across the world. The festival fostered the growth of independent filmmakers and has now completed its 10th edition. Visakhapatnam Customs, with its jurisdiction covering Visakhapatnam and Gangavaram Ports and airport, plays an important role in facilitating legitimate international trade while safeguarding the nation's economic interests. The zone actively works towards trade facilitation, transparency, and stakeholder engagement through various initiatives and outreach programmes.

Malabar Gold opens new showroom in Chittoor



CHITTOOR: Malabar Gold & Diamonds inaugurated its new showroom in Chittoor on Tuesday, further strengthening its presence across Andhra Pradesh. The showroom has been designed to offer customers a spacious and well-structured jewellery retail environment aligned with Malabar's service and quality standards. Spread across a total area of 5,000 square feet plus, the showroom features a thoughtfully planned layout with 73 seating arrangements to support a comfortable and personalised shopping experience. Organised across two levels, the space allows customers to explore collections in a relaxed and well-managed setting. The showroom was inaugurated by Gurajala Jagan Mohan, MLA, Chittoor, in the presence of senior leadership from Malabar Gold & Diamonds. Commenting on the launch, M P Ahammaid, Chairman, Malabar Group, said, "In markets like Chittoor, jewellery buying remains closely linked to family occasions, trust, and long-term relationships. Customers value choice, but they also value clarity and confidence in what they buy. With this showroom, our effort is to bring a more spacious format, wider collections, and a service experience that feels dependable at every stage of purchase."