



Union Minister G Kishan Reddy presents a bouquet to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu in New Delhi on Thursday. Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu is all smiles

## Joint OLS survey for Adilabad airport to be conducted on April 17

**Adilabad project gains momentum with Centre-State coordination**

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

A final decision on the Adilabad airport project will take off after a joint survey by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Ministry of Defence, and the State Government to conduct an on-site Obstacle Limitation Survey (OLS) on April 17.

Following this survey, a final decision on the runway's orientation will be made, and following that field visit—and after obtaining clearance from the Defence Ministry—approval will be granted for the master plan.

Subsequently, steps will be taken to plan for the foundation-laying ceremony.

These details were disclosed by the Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu following a high-level meeting on the issue of approval for the Adilabad airport in the national capital on Wednesday.

Joined by the Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, they announced the Centre's readiness to give a boost to Telangana's aviation infrastructure with Warangal and Adilabad airports. Kishan Reddy highlighted that Adilabad, which already hosts a defence airstrip, has been

in demand for a civilian airport for years.

He confirmed that discussions with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu have led to a breakthrough, with the Defence Ministry agreeing to construct the airport, while the Airport Authority of India will build a civil terminal for passenger services.

Rammohan Naidu said that Telangana currently has only one airport—Hyderabad and expanding aviation facilities is a priority under the Prime Minister's vision. He announced that the foundation stone for the Warangal airport will be laid within three months, while Adilabad's project will move forward after the completion of the Obstacle Limitation Survey (OLS) on April 17. The Adilabad airport will require an additional 450 acres of land, for which the Telangana Government has responded positively to acquisition requests. Local representatives, including Adilabad MP Nagesh and MLA Payal Shankar, assured that there are no hurdles in land acquisition.

Officials from Civil Aviation, Defence, and the state administration participated in the meeting, which con-

cluded on a highly positive note. The ministers emphasised that Adilabad's strategic location makes it an ideal hub for tourism and commerce, with the potential to evolve into a major commercial centre.

This marks a significant step in decentralising aviation infrastructure in Telangana, ensuring that regions beyond Hyderabad gain access to air connectivity and economic opportunities, he added.

However, in the case of a proposal for an airport in Peddapalli, the State Government has submitted a proposal identifying a specific site and "our feasibility report also indicated favourable conditions for this location."

Naidu said further steps on this project will be taken once we receive a formal written response from the State Government, and that it will require about 600 to 700 acres. Further, "If large-scale airports are to be developed with a view to the future, at least 1,200 acres of land are required," he added.

However, regarding Kothagudem, the land allocated by the State Government is not feasible, and this was conveyed to the State Government, he clarified.

# It would have been better if AICC had directly intervened in Jeevan Reddy's issue: Jagga Reddy

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HYDERABAD

It would have been better if the AICC leadership had directly intervened and resolved the issue regarding T Jeevan Reddy, said TPCC working president T Jagga Reddy.

In a media chat, he responded to Congress senior leader Jeevan Reddy leaving the party, saying "it is unfortunate that a senior Congress leader like Jeevan Reddy has left the party. In his case what was happening internally should have been reviewed at the AICC level. It would have been better if the Delhi leadership had directly stepped in and resolved the issue."

However, Reddy clarified, "this is my personal opinion. MLAs and leaders switching parties is common in present-day politics. The reasons behind

- In a media chat, Jagga Reddy responds to Jeevan Reddy's resignation
- Says it's unfortunate that a senior Cong leader like Jeevan Reddy has left the party
- This is my personal opinion, says Jagga Reddy
- We will discuss his leaving the party internally

Jeevan Reddy changing the party cannot be discussed openly with the media; we will discuss them internally within the party."

He said, "It is indeed unfortunate that Jeevan Reddy, who has been loyal to Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi's family, and the



Congress, has moved away from the party. Jeevan Reddy is a very senior leader in the Congress. He served as an MLA in 2014 and was later made an MLC for four districts. He is a big personality in the

Congress party" The senior party stated that "based on media reports, it appears that Jeevan Reddy has distanced himself from the Congress. In my personal opinion, it would have been better

if the Delhi leadership had intervened in Jeevan Reddy's issue. It would have been good if Jeevan Reddy had been called to Delhi and consulted.

Why Jeevan Reddy changed the party is his personal opinion. In the past, during MLC elections, I had requested the high command to give importance to Jeevan Reddy."

"In any case, the absence of a leader like Jeevan Reddy in the Congress is something to think about. We will discuss his leaving the party internally; we cannot speak about it publicly. Whatever is happening internally should have been reviewed at the AICC level. I cannot comment now on what Jeevan Reddy has said. In my view, the Delhi leadership should have directly stepped in and resolved this issue," he pointed out.

## KTR invites Jeevan Reddy to join BRS, decision likely soon

**Says experienced leaders key for Telangana's growth; move could boost BRS strength**

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

BRS Working President KT Rama Rao on Thursday visited the residence of veteran Congress leader T Jeevan Reddy in Jagtial to invite him to join the BRS on behalf of party president K Chandrashekar Rao.

Several party leaders and public representatives accompanied him during the visit. Talking to the media, Rama Rao said that Jeevan Reddy responded positively to the invitation. He said that Jeevan Reddy acknowledged his long-standing personal association with KCR and expressed happiness over the visit, adding that he would meet KCR soon and announce his decision within a couple of days. KTR emphasised that for farmers and the poor in the state to regain stability and happiness, KCR must return as Chief Minister. He said experienced leaders like Jeevan Reddy are essential for rebuilding Telangana's growth trajectory. Highlighting Jeevan Red-



BRS Working President KT Rama Rao drapes a shawl over former Congress leader T Jeevan Reddy, inviting him to join the BRS in Jagtial on Thursday.

dy's political journey, KTR noted that he has served the Congress party for over four decades with commitment. He also recalled that KCR had invited him to join BRS even before the 2014 elections, but he continued in Congress at the time due to his loyalty to the party. KTR elaborated on the long-standing personal bond between KCR and Jeevan Reddy, built over four decades of mutual respect.

Recalling that during KCR's first official tour of Karimnagar district as Chief Minister in 2014, development works requested by Jeevan Reddy, despite being in

the opposition, were immediately sanctioned—reflecting statesmanship beyond party lines.

He also highlighted Jeevan Reddy's strong advocacy for farmers in the Assembly and his consistent fight on issues like Nizam Sugars. KTR recalled that KCR had even offered to support the revival of the sugar factory under a co-operative model, inspired by Maharashtra, with financial backing and leadership responsibility to Jeevan Reddy if he wished. KTR thanked the Jagtial district leadership for proactively supporting the initiative and inviting

Jeevan Reddy into the party fold. He appreciated their commitment to strengthening the party and working towards bringing BRS back to power, stating that Jeevan Reddy's entry would significantly strengthen the party.

KTR strongly condemned remarks made by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, stating that such comments were inappropriate and unbecoming of a person holding the highest office in the state. He accused the Chief Minister of using language that insults the dignity of women and goes against Telangana's cultural values.

## HMWSSB tightens tanker monitoring to ensure timely water supply

HYDERABAD: In a move aimed at strengthening water supply management and addressing rising demand, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board has intensified its monitoring of tanker operations across the city. A comprehensive inspection was carried out by Joint Managing Director Mayank Mittal at the O&M Division-6 in SR Nagar, focusing on key filling stations in high-demand areas. During the visit, the JMD inspected stations at Jubilee Hills and Venkata Giri, which cater to areas with significant requirements. He reviewed critical operational parameters, including daily bookings and delivery performance, while assessing pending requests. At the Venkata Giri station, detailed observations were made regarding water flow rates and supply quantities to evaluate whether current infrastructure can effectively meet growing needs. The inspection highlighted the importance of maintaining a consistent supply to avoid disruptions. Emphasising efficiency and accountability, the JMD directed officials to ensure all pending tanker requests are cleared without delay.

## Murmu hails Green India Challenge

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HYDERABAD

PRESIDENT Droupadi Murmu was presented Vriksha Vedam 2.0, a landmark book authored by Green India Challenge founder and former MP J Santosh Kumar in New Delhi on Thursday. In a deeply moving moment, the President described the present era as both a golden age of opportunity and an age of crisis.

She warned that humanity stands on the edge of greed, forgetting the sacred reality of the Pancha Bhutas, the five foundational elements of existence. Quoting the book, she noted that life flourishes only when the Earth is green.

She expressed hope that the Green India Challenge would continue its transformative impact across the nation. Murmu commended the movement for its remarkable journey of planting approximately 19.6 crore saplings across diverse regions over eight years to ensure a sustainable future for all.



President Droupadi Murmu receives Vriksha Vedam 2.0, a landmark book authored by Green India Challenge founder and former MP J Santosh Kumar in New Delhi on Thursday

## RYTHU SANGHAM CALLS FOR STATEWIDE EVENTS TO MARK KISAN SABHA MILESTONE

HYDERABAD: Telangana Rythu Sangham leaders Sagar and Sarampalli unveiled a poster marking the ninetieth anniversary celebrations of the All India Kisan Sabha on Thursday. They called for the observance of this milestone across Telangana, with events planned at district headquarters, mandal centres, and villages on 11 April. The leaders recalled that the Sabha, the largest farmers' organisation in India, was established in 1936 in Lucknow under the leadership of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati. Since its inception, the organisation has played a pivotal role in resisting British imperialism, advocating the abolition of the Zamindari system, securing debt relief, and defending the rights of farmers.

Highlighting contemporary challenges, Sagar and Sarampalli criticised the Central Government for entering into trade agreements that they argued risk handing over the agricultural sector to foreign corporate interests. They warned that such policies could allow American and British imperialist forces to infiltrate the Indian farming landscape and accused the government of failing to deliver on promises.

## Kavitha credits Jagruthi struggle for women's reservation bill

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HYDERABAD

TELANGANA Jagruthi president Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Thursday asserted that the national momentum for the Women's Reservation Bill was a direct result of the relentless struggle spearheaded by Jagruthi. While acknowledging the introduction of the bill as a milestone, she condemned the current implementation framework of the central government as deceptive and a post-dated cheque that fails to deliver immediate justice.

Kavitha highlighted that the efforts of Jagruthi activists illuminated the path toward legislative progress. She noted that coordinated protests in Delhi united 18 political parties, exerting the pressure necessary to force the bill onto the national agenda. She stated that through strategic coordination, MPs across party lines raised their voices in Parliament, making it impossible for the Centre to ignore the demand any longer.

Despite the passage of the bill, Kavitha expressed grave concerns regarding its ex-



ecution. By linking the legislation to the delimitation process, she argued that the government effectively denied women their rights in recent elections. She strongly condemned the proposal to use 2011 Census data, describing it as a disservice to the current population reality. Kavitha insisted that reservations must only be announced following the completion of the 2027 Census.

Furthermore, she demanded that the upcoming census include specific data on Backward Classes to facilitate a mandatory sub-quota for BC women. This role of Jagruthi remains vital in ensuring that the legislative promise translates into actual representation for all sections of society.

## Harish flays Ponguleti: Calls him arrogant and bombastic

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
WANAPARTHY

FORMER minister and party deputy floor leader T Harish Rao criticised Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, saying that when corruption was exposed, Ponguleti resorted to abusive language, insults, and made-up stories in defence. "Ponguleti himself admitted that the CM and all ministers are corrupt," said Rao, challenging him to accept his mistake and apologise to the public.

Speaking at a press meet in Nagapur village of Revalli mandal on Thursday, he fired at Reddy. "We heard Ponguleti's arrogant words even in the highly sacred Secretariat. Despite being near the Ambedkar statue, Birla Mandir, temple, mosque, and church, he spoke only lies, instead of truth. His frustration is evident."

"Ponguleti has gone into defence mode. He spoke not as a State minister, but like the head of Raghava Constructions. He is trying to protect his son. He thought he could escape by telling fabricated stories. He himself concluded that not only he, but all ministers are corrupt," said Rao. "The CM himself said that corruption in Raghava Constructions was identified by officials and fines were imposed.

## BHATTI DISTRIBUTES BICYCLES TO SCHOOLCHILDREN

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KHAMMAM

EMPHASISING that education is the strongest tool for progress and social transformation, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu said the government is committed to ensuring access to quality education for every child.

Speaking at a bicycle distribution programme organised by the Amma Foundation for students of government schools and colleges at Bonakal and Errupalem mandal headquarters in Madhira constituency of Khammam district on Thursday, he said, "Education is the true weapon for progress. Only through education can we build an equal and ideal society without disparities. Highlighting the government's focus on education, he said recent socio-economic, educational, employment and caste surveys indicate that sustainable development is possible only through strengthening the education sector.

The Deputy Chief Minister announced that the government will soon roll out a breakfast scheme benefiting around 20 lakh students in government schools from June 2, noting that "No child should attend school on an



Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu distributing bicycles to schoolchildren in Madhira on Thursday

empty stomach as it affects their ability to learn." He further said that free mid-day meals will also be extended to intermediate students from the next academic year.

Stressing that the government is investing heavily in education, he said every child in the state should be provided opportunities to study as far as they wish and develop into high-quality human resources. He added that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is giving special emphasis to improving educational infra-

structure and facilities. Outlining key initiatives, Vikramarka said the government aims to ensure universal access to education by removing financial barriers and providing free, high-standard education comparable to corporate institutions.

He said construction of 100 "Young India Integrated Residential Schools" with international standards has been initiated, each with an estimated investment of Rs 100 crore across 20-25 acres, equipped with English-medi-

um instruction, digital learning tools, sports infrastructure and residential facilities for staff.

In addition, the government plans to establish one "Telangana Public School" in each constituency from the upcoming academic year, totalling 119 schools. These semi-residential institutions will offer free transport, breakfast, nutritious supplements such as milk and ragi malt, mid-day meals, digital education, sports facilities and evening drop-offs for students. "These schools will be better than private institutions and help reduce the financial burden on poor and middle-class families," he said.

At Errupalem, the Deputy Chief Minister said the state has allocated about 13.5 per cent of its budget to education, underlining the importance of students as the future of Telangana. He also noted that diet charges for students have been increased by 40 per cent and cosmetic charges by 200 per cent after the present government came to power.

He said the government would not hesitate to invest necessary resources to transform both natural and human capital into productive assets and called upon students to utilise the opportunities provided to excel in their studies.