

State’s power demand hits record 19,400 MW

TGSPDCL sets new peak of 12,299 MW as discom gears up for summer

PATAN AFZAL BABU
HYDERABAD

THE electricity demand in the Telangana was growing at an average annual rate of six to seven percent and TG-SPDCL has prepared a comprehensive summer action plan to meet future requirements.

Capacity enhancement of substations, feeder bifurcation, establishment of new substations and strengthening of the distribution network are being taken up, TGSPDCL Chairman and Managing Director Jitesh V Patil said on Thursday.

Patil clarified that there is no delay in releasing agricultural power connections and that only a few applications remain pending due to non-submission of required documents or non-payment of charges by applicants. To ensure timely service delivery, the supply chain for cables, panels, meters and other materials has been streamlined and strengthened.

TGSPDCL recorded its



TGSPDCL CMD Jitesh V Patil is addressing a press conference in Hyderabad on Wednesday
Photo: Adula Krishna

highest-ever peak power demand of 12,299 MW at 4:16 pm on September 30, setting a new milestone in the company's history, the official said that the total power demand in Telangana touched 19,400 MW, of which 12,299 MW was recorded in TG-SPDCL and 6,736 MW in TGNPDCL.

The CMD stated that the successful management of this record demand reflects the strength of Telangana's power infrastructure, ad-

vance planning, network augmentation and the dedicated efforts of engineers and field staff. He reiterated TGSPDCL's commitment to providing reliable, quality and uninterrupted power supply to all consumers.

He also said that the Uniform Service Line Charge mechanism introduced by TGERC was a significant reform aimed at improving transparency, simplicity and timely service delivery in the power sector.

Will meet PM, Union Ministers as many times as needed: Revanth

PATAN AFZAL BABU
HYDERABAD

CHIEF Minister A Revanth Reddy reaffirmed that he would meet the Prime Minister and Union Ministers as many times as necessary to resolve issues concerning the State. The Chief Minister inaugurated a new district Collectorate office in Karimnagar and held the first review meeting there on Wednesday. Speaking on the occasion, he emphasised that the States and the Centre should move forward in a spirit of mutual cooperation. He remarked that there would be no use in constructing projects by spending hundreds of crores of rupees without obtaining the necessary Central approvals.

Revanth Reddy took a dig at the opposition for counting his visits to Delhi whenever he met Union Ministers and others.

"Continuous persuasion with the Centre is already yielding good results. We secured the transfer of 170

- **Centre-State cooperation key to development**
- **170 acres of defence land secured in six months**
- **Centre clears road under Begumpet runway**
- **Revanth hits out at opposition over Delhi visits**
- **CM urges employees to prioritise public service**
- **'Serve people, win their trust'**
- **Employees' issues being resolved one by one**

acres of defence land for State development within just six months. The Centre also granted permission to develop a road passing beneath the Begumpet runway in Hyderabad. We may have

ideological differences, but we should cooperate with each other for the sake of development," the CM said.

During the meeting, he emphasised that employees should play an important role in delivering services to the poor. "Whether it is the Chief Minister or the Prime Minister, earning a good reputation depends on the cooperation of employees," he said, appealing to employees to see their own family members in those who approach government offices in a helpless state.

He said the district office should serve to address people's grievances. "Justice will be served to the poor when employees work hard. We have completed the construction of this office, which had been pending for a long time," he said.

The Chief Minister said the people's government had been resolving employees' issues one by one and urged them to continue providing services, resolve issues and win the people's trust.



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy unveils Telangana Thalli statue at New Karimnagar Collectorate on Wednesday

Bhatti rules out rift with Revanth

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

DEPUTY Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Wednesday dismissed reports of differences with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, asserting that Congress leaders should not be viewed through the lens of caste and that party decisions are taken democratically by the high command.

Responding to queries regarding leadership roles in Kochi, Bhatti emphasized that he does not view party colleagues on a caste basis, affirming that all leaders abide by high command directives. He stated that he is working together 100 per cent with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and cabinet colleagues to implement Congress ideology across Telangana.

Asserting that Congress ideology remains the ultimate safeguard for the nation, Bhatti appealed to former party leaders, including YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, Mamata Banerjee, and Sharad Pawar, to return to the Congress fold. He highlighted that the party possesses the vision to unite diverse societal sections while pursuing holistic development.



Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka speaking at the India Today Conclave in Kochi on Wednesday

The Deputy CM says Congress leaders united in implementing party ideology across Telangana

Recalling his close association with former Chief Minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy, Bhatti shared that participating in an intensive five-day training programme for young legislators strengthened his commitment to party principles.

Addressing federal finance, Bhatti demanded justice for southern states in central resource allocation, pointing out that despite contributing

significantly to national revenue, southern states receive disproportionately lower returns. He noted that under Goods and Services Tax distribution, for every rupee contributed, southern states receive merely 43 paise back, whereas states like Bihar receive up to two rupees, urging equitable financial devolution. Additionally, Bhatti raised serious concerns over voter list deletions and Election Commission operations, warning that public confidence in constitutional bodies is at risk. Demanding that the Centre apologize for alleged misuse of the Election Commission, he called for comprehensive electoral reforms to safeguard democracy and the Constitution.

Flyer nabbed at RGI airport for carrying cocaine worth ₹24.5 cr

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

THE Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Hyderabad zonal unit, has detained a passenger at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) for carrying cocaine. The DRI officials seized 4.9 kg cocaine worth Rs 24.5 crore.

According to DRI officials, they received a tip off that an Indian passenger possessed a huge quantity of drugs and was proceeding to Hyderabad. Acting on the intelligence inputs, a team of officers of DRI intercepted the passenger at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport.

During examination of his cabin baggage, the passenger was found carrying seven Lindt Lindor Assorted Filled Dark Chocolate Selection tubes, each bearing a marked weight of 387 grams. However, as the chocolate tubes appeared



unusually heavier than their marked weight, the officers opened and examined the same which resulted in recovery of 207 numbers of light-yellow coloured oval-shaped capsules, concealed along with the chocolates inside the seven tubes.

Each of the capsules was found to contain white powdery substance suspected to be cocaine. The substance was subjected to testing using a Narcotic Drug Detection Kit, which gave a positive indication for cocaine. A total of 4.9 kgs of cocaine with an estimated value of Rs 24.5 crore in the illicit market was recovered from the passenger.

KTR seeks SC probe into EC ‘credibility crisis’

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

STATING that the Election Commission of India faces a severe credibility crisis, BRS Working President KTR on Wednesday urged the Supreme Court to take suo motu cognisance of the issue and order a comprehensive judicial probe.

Speaking at the India Today Conclave in Kochi, Kerala, KTR firmly ruled out any political alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party, clarifying that both parties hold fundamentally divergent ideologies. He emphasized that BRS has never aligned with the BJP over the past 26 years, having contested the 2014, 2018, and 2023 Assembly elections independently.

KTR strongly opposed the Centre proposed parliamentary delimitation process, warning that population-based seat allocation threatens to penalize southern states that successfully implemented family planning programs. He noted that the southern contribution to national population dropped



from 24 per cent historically to 19 per cent currently.

Questioning why state Assembly seats were increased in Assam and Jammu Kashmir but omitted in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, KTR alleged the BJP ignored Telugu states due to limited local political influence. Discarding assurances offered by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, he insisted BRS will support parliamentary expansion only if Assembly seats increase proportionately. Reacting to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy recent

controversial comments regarding Lord Rama and Lord Shiva, KTR accused national parties of distracting voters from real priorities. He remarked that while the BJP attempts to divide the nation on religious lines, the Congress Chief Minister is dividing citizens based on deities. Expressing deep concern over political discourse, KTR questioned why mainstream national parties refuse to engage in meaningful debate over job creation, electoral guarantees, economic development, and public welfare.

IITH, AIIMS experts brainstorm over technology-driven healthcare solutions

- **Rural, tribal healthcare access on agenda**
- **Institutions eye joint research initiatives**
- **Focus shifts from benchside to bedside**
- **Experts discuss scalable healthcare technologies**
- **IITH, AIIMS Bibinagar plan joint projects**

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

HEADS of Department and faculty at IIT Hyderabad and experts from AIIMS Bibinagar met on Wednesday to explore how to combine technological and clinical expertise to address healthcare challenges in India.

The discussions covered medicine, engineering, Artificial Intelligence, biomedical sciences and digital healthcare, focusing on identifying complementary capabilities



Prof BS Murty, Director, IIT Hyderabad; Prof Amita Aggarwal, Executive Director, AIIMS Bibinagar; Prof G Narahari Sastry, Dean of Sponsored Research and Consultancy, IIT Hyderabad; and Prof Rahul Narang, Dean of Research, AIIMS Bibinagar, met on Wednesday to explore collaborations combining technological and clinical expertise to address healthcare challenges in India

to develop clinically relevant technologies.

The broader vision emerging from the meeting was to bring together experts in technology and medicine to develop robust and scalable solutions for country's healthcare challenges. IIT Hyderabad has expertise in Artificial Intelligence, drug discovery, molecular biology, advanced materials, biomedical engineering, medical devices, imaging, sensors, nanotechnology and

digital technologies. AIIMS Bibinagar brings expertise in infectious diseases, oncology, orthodontics, orthopaedics and healthcare delivery.

Potential areas of collaboration discussed include AI-enabled healthcare, digital health and telemedicine, medical devices and advanced implants, disease research, and technologies to improve healthcare access. Representatives from both institutions also discussed plans to work with Sam-

akka Sarakka Central Tribal University, Mulugu, on initiatives to improve healthcare access for rural and tribal communities.

The discussions are being pursued under the leadership of Prof BS Murty, Director, IIT Hyderabad, and Prof Amita Aggarwal, Executive Director, AIIMS Bibinagar. Prof G Narahari Sastry, Dean of Sponsored Research and Consultancy at IIT Hyderabad, facilitated the meeting. Prof Rahul Narang, Dean

of Research at AIIMS Bibinagar, led the delegation from their institute. This meeting is part of Prof. Murty's ongoing efforts to engage with clinicians and healthcare professionals and explore how to apply the IITH's developed state-of-the-art technology to healthcare.

The two institutions have decided to continue to identify specific areas and projects for collaboration, aiming to develop joint research and technology-development initiatives and create pathways to translate research into healthcare applications.

Prof. G. Narahari Sastry, Dean, School of Research and Consultancy, IIT Hyderabad, said, "Our collaboration needs to expand from individual partnerships to large programmes that bring IIT Hyderabad and AIIMS Bibinagar together as institutions." "Our goal is to go from benchside to bedside, translating scientific discoveries made in the laboratory into practical medical care," said Dr Maheshwar Lakireddy, Professor and Head of Orthopaedics, AIIMS Bibinagar.

Water crisis result of state’s negligence: TG BJP chief

VRC PHANIHARAN
NAGARJUNSAGAR

DRYING groundwater, withering crops and reduced power supply are hurting farmers across the state due to the government's negligence, alleged BJP Telangana State unit president N Ramchander Rao.

After visiting the Nagarjuna Sagar project and Kanagal and Nalgonda rural mandals during his Nalgonda district tour on Wednesday, he said cultivation across thousands of acres depended entirely on borewells. Though the Congress government claimed to be supplying power for 12 to 15 hours, farmers were receiving only about five hours, leaving crops to wither.

He said people and children in villages were suffering due to the heat and mosquito menace as fans could not run. He alleged that the State government was blaming the Centre for the power shortage by citing coal scarcity instead of improving coordination between Genco and Discoms and effectively utilising thermal, hydel, solar and Chhattisgarh power.

Ramachander Rao also criticised Congress leaders



BJP State unit President N Ramchander Rao, along with the party cadre, visits Nagarjuna Sagar dam site in Nalgonda district on Wednesday

Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi for promising a crop insurance scheme better than the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana at the Warangal Rythu Declaration meeting, but allegedly failing to provide minimum insurance protection after coming to power.

He demanded that the government seek immediate release of water from upstream Almati and Narayanpur reservoirs to meet Hyderabad's drinking water needs.

Criticising the previous KCR government for agreeing to a 299 TMC Krishna

water allocation, he said both the BRS and Congress had neglected Telangana's interests. He demanded that the State present a strong case before the KRMB and Apex Council.

He said the crisis could have been mitigated by constructing reservoir tanks at Jurala to store surplus floodwater. He also pointed to the RDS project, whose 15 TMC capacity has reportedly been reduced to five TMC due to lack of desilting, and alleged that governments had neglected smaller projects while spending heavily on mega projects.