



Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle, Madhavi convening a high-level safety review meeting in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday

CRS evaluates safety performance of zone

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COMMISSIONER of Railway Safety (CRS), South Central Circle, Madhavi convened a comprehensive high-level safety review meeting with the General Manager, South Coast Railway (SCoR), at zonal headquarters on Wednesday. The review meet's primary objective was to evaluate overall safety performance across the zone, assess on-going safety enhancement initiatives, review statutory compliance and formulate targeted action plans to ensure accident-free train operations. During the session, the Commissioner of Railway Safety stressed that safety remains the paramount core

value in railway operations. Detailed deliberations were held on various critical facets of operational and infrastructural safety. CRS Madhavi advised for strict adherence to scheduled maintenance routines for track assets, points and crossings, overhead traction equipment, signalling installations and rolling stock (coaches, wagons, and locomotives). She also advised for review of road safety works, construction of road over bridges /road under bridges (RUBs), interlocking of level crossing gates and continuous public awareness drives, precautionary measures during monsoon weather conditions and to expedite installation and regular maintenance of the 'Kavach', digital axle counters, and fire detection systems in coaches. The General Manager of SCoR briefed the Commissioner on the proactive measures undertaken by the zone to eliminate safety hazards and foster a robust safety culture among front-line railway personnel. The meeting was attended by Chief Safety Officer Ch PR Vittal, along with all principal heads of departments, Divisional Railway Managers in a virtual mode, and other senior railway officials, while the principal chief safety officer presented a detailed overview of the safety activities, compliance status of prior statutory recommendations across the jurisdiction.

- Alleges that YSRCP failed in making Visakhapatnam the capital of AP
- The former MP is set to take out a padayatra starting in North Andhra

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FORMER Rajya Sabha member V Vijayasai Reddy emphasised the need to introduce an alternative party to break the rule of family-run political parties such as TDP and YSRCP. Expressing displeasure over the family-run political parties that did nothing concrete for the State at a media conference in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday, Vijayasai Reddy stated that Andhra Pradesh is witnessing only caste-based politics and that



Former MP V Vijayasai Reddy addressing the media in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday

the reins of administration have been largely shared between 'Kamma' and 'Christianity' communities. The former MP asserted this is the very reason that coaxed him to float a party after being inactive in politics for quite a while. "Gen Z is going to play a proactive role in our party. 66 Percent of the posts will be earmarked for the youth, while half of them would be reserved for women," he assured. Announcing that he would soon take up a 'padayatra', the former MP informed that he would start the trek from North Andhra, which is close to his heart,

to highlight the region's long-standing issues and get closure to its people. "Once we come to power, we will certainly block the privatisation of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Also, the capacities of reservoirs will be increased and closed sugar factories will be revived," he asserted. For the sake of gaining berths in the Union cabinet, Vijayasai Reddy pointed out that State interests have been set aside. For now, he remarked that the target for both HRD and IT Minister Nara Lokesh and YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy is to become Chief Minister. "Although, I am not aspiring for the Chief Minister's post by floating the party, Andhra Pradesh, however, needs a Chief Minister who has 'guts' to place development above self-centred interests," the former MP opined. Pointing out the claims made by YSRCP leaders against his alleged amassing of assets, Vijayasai Reddy brushed them aside stating, "Unlike their allegations that I have properties across North Andhra, I own only an apartment block in Visakhapatnam. Other than that, I don't own any other property in Vizag. However, the YSRCP leaders continue to spread false propaganda against me." The former MP lamented that YSRCP failed in making Visakhapatnam the capital of AP and needs to tender an apology to the North Andhra people for deceiving them with unkept promises. "It is strange that the YSRCP is now chanting another unreasonable slogan: 'MAVIGUN', he remarked. Declaring that his party would be floated during Dasara, the former MP maintained that it would not ally with any other party.

Free eye screening camp held

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A two-day comprehensive free eye screening camp was organised on Wednesday at Community Welfare Centre, Aganampudi in Visakhapatnam. Organised as part of the corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative, Pfizer Healthcare India Private Limited in association with Sankar Foundation, Ravi Chandar Katta, site head, Pfizer, inaugurated the camp

in the presence of senior officials including Aravind Jayaraman, EHS head, Vijay Mahajan, manufacturing head, Rajesh Ravuri, finance head, among others. A total of 500 outpatients were screened on the first day and the camp will continue on the second day to enable more beneficiaries to avail the free services. Speaking on the occasion, Ravi Chandar Katta urged residents to use the eye care services offered to help detect and prevent avoidable blindness. In his message, A Krishna Kumar, managing trustee and CEO of the Foundation, commended Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt Ltd for its support in the mission to eliminate avoidable blindness and improve eye health among underserved communities. K Bangar Raju, deputy general manager of the foundation, said the camp witnessed an overwhelming response from Aganampudi and the surrounding villages.



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Women entrepreneurs' products exhibition in Visakhapatnam

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RATAN Tata Innovation Hub is organising a two-day exhibition showcasing products of women entrepreneurs as part of the 'Vendor Development Programme' at Siripuram on October 2 and 3. According to Ratan Tata Innovation Hub spokesperson Prakash, women entrepreneurs from various sectors have been invited to participate in the exhibition, which will be open to visitors from 1 pm to 8 pm on both the days. More than 30 women entrepreneurs are expected to take part in the event and showcase a wide range of products, including textiles, handmade products, art and crafts, food products, baked items cakes, biscuits and other home-based food items. Special stalls have been arranged to provide women entrepreneurs an opportunity to expand their business and interact directly with potential customers. The organisers informed that the exhibition will facilitate visitors a scope to discover and support locally run women-led businesses. The first day will feature business awareness sessions, networking opportunities and professional workshops aimed at helping entrepreneurs develop their businesses, while the day-two will focus on networking, collaboration opportunities and a variety of engaging activities. According to the organisers, the programme aims to create a platform where women entrepreneurs can showcase their products, build business connections and explore new opportunities.



Srikant Sree Ram, director of Everyday Essentials, Amazon India, addressing the gathering during the new service launch in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday

'Delivery-in-minutes' now in Vizag

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CUSTOMERS across the city can gain access to a wide selection of daily essentials, including fruits and vegetables and frozen food and personal care, as they will be delivered fast through Amazon Now's 'delivery-in-minutes' service in Visakhapatnam, announced Srikant Sree Ram, director of Everyday Essentials, Amazon India. Launching the facility in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday, he stated that customer demand reflects a growing preference for healthier choices alongside everyday needs. The service section has expanded to as many cities in less than 10 weeks, taking delivery-in-minutes

to over 65 Indian cities and towns ahead of the festive season, including tier II and III towns. "As we scale to 100 cities by Diwali, customers in Visakhapatnam can look forward to speed, value, selection and trust, delivered in minutes," he informed.

CPR TRAINING TO COPS

Marking the 'World Heart Day', a hands-on cardiopulmonary resuscitation training programme was organised to 250 police personnel at police barracks by Apollo Hospitals in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday

'Naval Commanders' Conference' brings senior leadership of Indian Navy to deliberate on a stage

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh underscored India's growing strategic responsibilities in the maritime domain
- The three-day conference detailed includes deliberations on operations, materiel, logistics, human resources, etc

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BRINGING together senior leadership of the Indian Navy, including Operational and Area Commanders, for deliberations on operational preparedness, maritime security and future capability development, the second edition of 'Naval Commanders' Conference 2026' commenced in New Delhi. The conference began with an inaugural address by Adm Krishna Swaminathan, Chief of



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Naval Commanders at the second edition of the 'Naval Commanders' Conference 2026' in New Delhi

Naval Staff, who reviewed the prevailing maritime security environment and Indian Navy's operational posture. He emphasised maintaining a high degree of combat readiness, agility and responsiveness while accelerating technology absorption and capability development to address contemporary and emerging challenges across the maritime domain. Addressing Naval Commanders, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh underscored India's growing strategic responsibilities in the maritime domain and Indian Navy's role as a first responder and preferred security partner in Indian Ocean Region. He stressed the need to strengthen maritime surveillance, analytical capability and operational responsiveness. Referring to the situation in West Asia, he highlighted the navy's conduct of Operation 'Urja Suraksha' and its contribution to

safeguarding India's energy security. He also emphasised Aatma Nirbharta, indigenous capability development and technology absorption, underlining that secure seas are integral to a secure nation and a developed nation. Gen NS Raja Subramani, Chief of Defence Staff, acknowledged Indian Navy as a strategic force multiplier and commended its sustained efforts towards technology absorption, Aatma Nirbharta and safeguarding India's energy security. He highlighted the changing character of warfare and emphasised the need for accelerated technology transformation, seamless data sharing, enhanced resilience and sustenance. Interacting with Naval Commanders, Gen Dhiraj Seth, Chief of Army Staff, shared perspectives on the contemporary security environment. The interaction focused on further strengthening tri-service synergy, interoperability and integrated responses to emerging security challenges. The discussions highlighted the need for closer coordination and continued exchange of operational lessons among the Services towards enhancing joint preparedness. The engagements with the CDS and COAS provided an opportunity for the naval leadership to exchange perspectives on the evolving character of warfare, capability development and the increasing importance of integrated operations in addressing emerging security challenges. During the remaining sessions of the three-day conference, which started on September 29th, the naval leadership will deliberate in detail on operations, materiel, logistics, human resources, training, force development and induction of emerging technologies. Measures to optimise force levels, strengthen combat readiness and accelerate capability development will also be reviewed.

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