

# Stone laid for ROB

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
GUNTUR

Union Minister of State for Rural Development and Communications Dr Pemmasani Chandrasekhar said that since assuming office as MP and Union Minister of State, he has been giving priority to resolving traffic-related issues in Guntur and surrounding areas. He noted that seven ROB's have been sanctioned in Guntur district as part of sustained efforts to improve public infrastructure.

He along with MLA B Ramanjaneyulu laid foundation stone for the construction of Chinapalaluru Road Over Bridge (ROB) on Friday. The project, being undertaken between Nallapadu and Bandarupalli railway stations with Central government funding, aims to address long-standing traffic congestion and improve connectivity in the region.

Speaking on this occasion, the Union Minister stated that the coalition government is



Union Minister Dr Pemmasani Chandrasekhar addressing a meeting after laying foundation stone for the construction of Chinapalaluru ROB on Friday. ZP chairperson Henry Christina, MLA B Ramanjaneyulu, GMC Commissioner K Mayur Ashok and Divisional Railway Manager Sudeshna Sen are also seen

committed to accelerating development across Andhra Pradesh and addressing issues concerning roads, employment opportunities, and public welfare.

He highlighted that infrastructure and welfare initiatives are progressing rapidly in the Guntur Parliamentary constituency, including development works in Guntur General Hospital, road and drainage projects in Guntur

Municipal Corporation, and skill development initiatives for youth. He also said the Mangalagiri ROB would soon be taken up.

MLA Ramanjaneyulu said the railway crossing serves as an important transit point for commuters travelling towards Telangana and Rayalaseema regions and often causes inconvenience to residents and students. He credited Chandrasekhar for securing the ROB after identifying

the long-standing issue and pursuing it with the Central government.

Zilla Parishad chairperson Henry Christina, Guntur Municipal Corporation commissioner K Mayur Ashok, Guntur Divisional Railway Manager Sudeshna Sen, APIDC chairman Degala Prabhakar, JSP district president Gade Venkateswara Rao were among those who participated.

# Village-level grievance programme held



Collector CM Sai Kanth Varma addressing a meeting at Tikireddipalem village on Friday. MLA B Ramanjaneyulu, district revenue officer NSK Khaja Vali are also seen

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
GUNTUR

THE first phase of 'One Month - One Constituency - Four Visits' programme commenced on Friday at Tikireddipalem village in Prathipadu mandal of Prathipadu constituency in Guntur district. District collector CM Sai Kanth Varma and Prathipadu MLA Dr Burla Ramanjaneyulu participated in the programme and received petitions from the public. Varma said the

main objective of the programme is to provide quality and satisfactory resolutions to petitions received from citizens. He added that all necessary measures have been taken to implement the programme successfully across the district.

MLA Ramanjaneyulu said the coalition government has provided a golden opportunity through the initiative. He stated that out of 13,000 petitions received in Prathipadu constituency, 9,359 petitions have already

been resolved. Complaints have been received regarding delays in resolving petitions related to the revenue department, he noted. He said the Chief Minister envisions a 'Zero Grievance Society' and advised officials to focus on revenue-related matters such as mutation, inam lands, land purchase disputes, gift deeds, family disputes, and complaints under the Estate Abolition Act.

Programme will be held at Pedanandipadu

next Friday.

The Collector and the MLA stated that residents of Pedanandipadu and Kakumanu mandals can submit their grievances during the programme. Several district officials, including revenue, panchayat, agriculture, animal husbandry, tourism, transport, housing, minority welfare, civil supplies, and other department officers, along with mandal-level officials from Prathipadu constituency, participated in the programme.

# Severe heat scares people



With rising temperatures and intense heat conditions, a main centre in Rajamahendravaram wears a deserted look on Friday

(Photo: M Krishna)

# School bus safety checks begin

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KAKINADA

FOLLOWING the directives of the State Transport Department Commissioner, the district transport authorities have launched a massive, widespread inspection drive targeting both government and private school buses across Kakinada. With student safety as the highest priority, officials are conducting rigorous checks to ensure absolute compliance with safety norms.

Out of the total 1,685 school buses operating across the district, authorities have thoroughly inspected 690 buses so far. During these drives, officials are closely scrutinising the implementation of government mandated safety standards, student security measures, mechanical fitness, and emergency readiness. As part of the guidelines, officials have ordered that functional emergency alarm systems must be installed and working fire extin-



A transport department official checking the safety standards in a school bus in Kakinada on Friday

guishers along with fire safety equipment must be readily available on board. They also emphasised that emergency exit doors must be completely secure and easily operational, while speed governors must be properly fitted to strictly adhere to prescribed speed limits. Furthermore, braking systems, tyre conditions, lighting, and other critical

technical parameters must be in perfect working order.

Fitness certificates are being strictly issued only to those school buses that fully meet all the prescribed safety standards without exception. During the inspections, notices were served to 653 school buses found violating the regulations. Furthermore, authorities immediately

seized several vehicles where severe safety lapses and technical faults were detected.

The District Transport Department has issued a stern warning to school management, emphasising that any negligence or compromise regarding the safety and security of students will face zero tolerance and invite strict legal action.

# Collector reviews census progress



Collector P Raja Babu holding a meeting with officials on census in Ongole on Friday

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
ONGOLE

DISTRICT Collector P Raja Babu has directed the officials to pay special attention to completing the house-listing census within four days. He held a special meeting with officials concerned at his camp office on Friday.

The Collector enquired about the gap between the projected growth and the actual survey figures compared to previous census data. He made it clear that the survey must be conducted thoroughly without any errors. Stating that good progress had been made in the past week compared to the

beginning and asked officials to speed up the survey further, he directed officials to guide and monitor field staff in this regard. He also held a video conference with census staff working in Ongole Municipality.

Earlier, Special CS Rawat and Census Director Nivas conducted a video conference from the Secretariat in Amaravati with Collectors of all districts. Collector Raja Babu, DRO Sridhar Reddy, OMC Commissioner Venkata Krishnaiah, Deputy Commissioner Rambhupal Reddy, and other officials attended the video conference.

# 19<sup>th</sup> Rozgar Mela to be held at Gambheeram

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VISAKHAPATNAM

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will distribute over 51,000 appointment letters to the newly-appointed youth in various government departments and organisations at the 19th Rozgar Mela scheduled on Saturday (May 23) at 11 am via video conferencing.

In keeping with the Prime Minister's commitment to prioritising employment generation, the Rozgar Mela is a major initiative aimed at translating this vision into reality. Since its inception, around 12 lakh recruitment letters have been issued through 18 Rozgar Melas organised across the country. The 19th Rozgar Mela will be held at 47 locations across the country. The newly recruited candidates, selected from all parts of India, will join various ministries and departments of the Government of India, including the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of Financial Services and Department of Higher Education, among others. In Visakhapatnam, the Rozgar Mela will be held at the Auditorium, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Gambheeram from 1 am.

# Health insurance scheme for home guards launched in Vizag, first in AP

- Home Minister V Anitha distributes insurance documents to 975 Home Guards under Visakhapatnam city police, with Rs 33 lakh coverage
- A special helpline number, 7995093606, has been set up for related assistance and support

VASU POTNURU  
VISAKHAPATNAM

IN a first-of-its-kind endeavour in the country, Visakhapatnam city police introduced a holistic health insurance scheme for the welfare of Home Guards and their families.

Striking a balance between effective policing and staff welfare, City Police Commissioner Shankhabrata Bagchi introduced the ambitious scheme to provide financial and medical security to Home Guards serving in the Commissionerate's purview.

Ever since assuming office in Visakhapatnam, the City Police Commissioner has been launching and implementing several welfare-oriented programmes aimed at improving the well-being of police personnel and sup-



Home Minister V Anitha distributing insurance scheme documents for Home Guards in the presence of City Commissioner of Police Shankhabrata Bagchi in Visakhapatnam

porting them.

Empathising with Home Guards, who face immense pressure, stress and risks while discharging their duties, Shankhabrata Bagchi observed that many personnel and their families suffer severe financial hardships during medical emergencies, often forcing them to borrow large amounts for treatment. Deeply moved by such real-life incidents, the CP initiated a comprehensive

insurance programme to ensure that no Home Guard family is left helpless during times of crisis.

Under the newly introduced scheme, every Home Guard family will receive top-up coverage of Rs 30 lakh and an additional complimentary coverage of Rs 3 lakh, totaling Rs 33 lakh in health insurance coverage. The scheme covers Home Guards working in Visakhapatnam City Police Commissionerate

along with their spouse and two children.

"The annual premium for each family amounts to Rs 10,264 and the premium for the first year has been completely borne by the Police Welfare Fund. This is the first-of-its-kind initiative taken by the police department in the country," Shankhabrata Bagchi told The Hans India.

A total of 975 Home Guards and their families have enrolled under the

scheme, benefiting nearly 3,144 family members. An amount of Rs 87,97,809 has been spent from the Welfare Fund toward implementing the programme. Besides providing financial protection, the initiative is expected to significantly reduce mental stress among Home Guards, boosting their morale and dedication to serving the public.

To ensure smooth implementation and easy access to healthcare services, several special facilities have been arranged under the scheme, including a 24-hour helpline, cashless treatment services, health-card database management and a dedicated coordination with insurance companies and hospitals. A special helpline number, 7995093606, has been set up for related assistance and support.

Appreciating the one-of-its-kind endeavour, Home Minister Vangalapati Anitha handed over the health insurance policy certificates to Home Guards and their family members.

She appreciated the Visakhapatnam City Police leadership for introducing pioneering welfare initiatives, being empathetic towards the personnel and setting an example for others.