

Minister leads 'Operation Clean Sweep' sanitation drive in Dharmavaram

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DHARMAVARAM

HEALTH Minister and Dharmavaram MLA Y Sathya Kumar Yadav actively participated in the State government's 'Operation Clean Sweep' sanitation drive on Saturday near Pothukunta Shiva Temple in Dharmavaram town.

Accompanied by Jana Sena Party State General Secretary Chilikam Madhusudhan Reddy, the Minister personally removed weeds along the roadside, cleaned the surroundings, and joined municipal workers and local residents in various sanitation activities. He also interacted with the public to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining public hygiene.

In his address, Sathya Kumar Yadav said the NDA coalition government, under Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief



Minister Y Sathya Kumar Yadav participating in 'Operation Clean Sweep' sanitation drive near Pothukunta Shiva Temple in Dharmavaram on Saturday

Minister Pawan Kalyan, is committed to building a clean and developed Andhra Pradesh through widespread public participation. He highlighted that large-scale cleanliness drives are being conducted every third Saturday under 'Swachandhra - Swarna Andhra' initiative.

He informed that Operation Clean Sweep is being implemented from May 22 to June 20 to intensify sanitation efforts across the State. The programme follows a structured approach: identification and clearance of red and yellow garbage spots in the first week, cleaning of

drains and canals in the second week, residential area drives in the third week, and commercial area focus in the fourth week. The initiative covers all 123 urban local bodies across the State.

Quoting Mahatma Gandhi's famous words, 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness,'

Sathya Kumar Yadav stressed that cleanliness is closely linked to public health, economic progress, and social responsibility. He praised the transformative impact of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swachh Bharat Mission, launched on October 2, 2014, which led to the construction of nearly 12 crore household toilets and helped protect women's dignity.

Citing World Bank estimates, the Minister noted that poor sanitation causes nearly 6% loss to the country's GDP. He added that developing Open Defecation Free (ODF) areas has significantly improved public health and saved lives. He urged citizens to cooperate with municipal authorities and sanitation workers. He warned against dumping garbage and plastic waste into drains, which causes blockages and flooding during monsoons.



Minister TG Bharath Gupta along with Panyam MLA Gowru Cheritha Reddy and others at the foundation stone laying ceremony at Kurnool GGH on Saturday

Foundation laid for Vishram Sadan at Kurnool GGH

The facility being constructed at Rs 14.67 crore by Power Grid Corporation of India will provide accommodation for patients' attendants

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KURNOOL

INDUSTRIES, Commerce and Food Processing Minister TG Bharath Gupta on Saturday laid foundation stone for a 150-bed 'Vishram Sadan' at Kurnool Government General Hospital (GGH), to be constructed at a cost of Rs 14.67 crore through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds from Power Grid Corporation of India.

The facility is being developed to provide accommodation for attendants and family members of patients visiting the hospital. Power Grid Corporation Chairman and Managing Director Vamsi Rama Mohan Burra, Panyam MLA Gowru Cheritha Reddy and senior officials participated in the bhoomi puja ceremony held at the hospital premises.

Minister Bharath said the government was committed to transforming Kurnool Government General Hospital into the leading health-care institution in the State by providing corporate-level medical infrastructure and patient facilities. He urged the National Buildings Construction Corporation to complete Vishram Sadan within ten months, as all required approvals had already been obtained. He also appealed to Power Grid Corporation to continue extending support for the hospital's future development needs.

Power Grid Corporation CMD Vamsi Rama Mohan Burra said the company had so far spent nearly Rs 100 crore on various CSR initiatives across the State. He recalled that the corporation had earlier funded CT scan facilities at Kurnool Govern-

ment Hospital.

Panyam MLA Gowru Charitha appreciated the contribution of Power Grid Corporation and stressed the need to complete the building at the earliest so that people from seven districts, along with patients from Telangana and Karnataka, could benefit from the facility.

Hospital Superintendent Dr Venkateswarlu noted that the lack of accommodation for attendants had long been a concern, hence allocated 60 cents of land for Vishram Sadan project.

A battery-operated transport vehicle worth Rs 6.35 lakh was also inaugurated, donated by Sneha Sri Welfare Society for cancer patients. Senior medical officials, Power Grid executives and members of the hospital development committee attended the event.

District officials travel in bus to promote fuel conservation

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NANDYAL

To promote fuel conservation, district officials in Nandyal collectively travelled in buses as part of the State government's 'One Month - Four Visit' programme. The initiative was implemented during the public grievance redressal programme held in Allagadda Assembly constituency on Saturday.

District Collector G Raja Kumari, Joint Collector Suraj Dhanunjay and several district-level officers departed from PGRS premises at Nandyal Collectorate in specially arranged buses to at-

tend the programme. Instead of using their individual official vehicles, the officers travelled together in three buses.

Speaking on the occasion, Collector Raja Kumari said the initiative was undertaken in line with the directions of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to create awareness among public about the need for fuel conservation. She observed that officials must lead by example before advising the public and stressed that collective travel by government departments could significantly reduce unnecessary fuel expenditure. The Collector explained that a special

plan had been prepared to ensure district, divisional, constituency, and mandal-level officers travel together for official visits under 'One Month - Four Visit' programme. She further stated that the same practice would continue during future inspections, meetings, and official tours across the district.

Raja Kumari appealed to public to avoid unnecessary travel, especially in view of the prevailing high temperatures and heatwave conditions. She advised citizens to limit vehicle usage during holidays and adopt fuel-saving practices in their daily lives.



Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar distributing appointment letters to selected candidates during Rozgar Mela programme in Guntakal on Saturday

120 youth secure central government jobs

Union Minister Bandi Sanjay distributes appointment letters at Guntakal Rozgar Mela

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GUNTAKAL
(ANANTAPUR DISTRICT)

UNION Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar distributed appointment letters to 120 selected candidates during Rozgar Mela held at Railway Prabhat Club in Guntakal on Saturday.

The event was part of a nationwide Rozgar Mela conducted simultaneously at 47 locations across India, where over 51,000 young people received appointment letters for various Central government departments. The programme began with the traditional lighting of the lamp, followed by a virtual address from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the newly recruited candidates.

Senior railway officials, including Guntakal Divisional Railway Manager Chandrasekhar Gupta, Additional Divisional Railway Manager BS Shivaprasad, and Divisional Personnel Officer HLN Prasad, were present.

Addressing the gathering, Bandi Sanjay described Rozgar Mela as one of the

largest employment drives initiated by the Central government under PM Modi's leadership. The initiative aims to fill 10 lakh Central government positions, with nearly 12 lakh appointments already made in previous phases. In this latest round, more than 51,000 candidates received offer letters in a single day. The Minister urged the new appointees to work with dedication, integrity, and a spirit of public service. He advised the recruits to upgrade their skills through the iGOT Karmayogi online platform and actively contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Bandi Sanjay also assured continued Central support for infrastructure and welfare projects in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, including the Polavaram project and Amaravati development.

Of the 120 appointments in Guntakal, 93 candidates were selected as Assistant Loco Pilots, 13 received compassionate appointments in Railways, nine joined the Department of Posts, four were appointed in Bank of Baroda, and one joined Civil Aviation department.

'Operation Clean Sweep' launched to make Anantapur city clean

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ANANTAPUR

URBAN MLA Daggupati Prasad and district Collector O Anand launched 'Operation Clean Sweep' at Surya Nagar Road, the Fifth Circle Muster Point and the Gooty Road Bus Stop area in the city on Saturday. As part of the drive, the MLA and the Collector participated in sanitation activities at locations identified for open urination and inspected the action plan prepared for improving urban cleanliness across the city.

Addressing the media, MLA Daggupati Prasad said Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu had initiated the 'Operation Clean Sweep' programme to strengthen sanitation measures under Swamandhra-Swachh Andhra initiative. He said the programme would be implemented over 30 days with a four-week special plan focus-

ing on cleaning roads, drains and market areas.

The MLA stated that the Collector had prepared a detailed action plan under which residents would be informed in advance about garbage collection timings and the staff responsible for waste collection in their respective areas. Public awareness programmes would also be conducted to ensure that residents hand over waste only during the designated collection hours. He said municipal staff, secretariat employees and local leaders would actively participate in the campaign, while sanitation activities across the city would be monitored through CCTV surveillance.

Collector Anand said that although some improvement had been observed in city sanitation over the last three months, a more structured and comprehensive strategy was necessary to maintain cleanli-

ness on a permanent basis. The Collector said display boards would be installed in every colony containing details of garbage collection timings, names of sanitation workers, secretariat secretaries and sanitary inspectors responsible for the area. He also announced that GIS mapping and a dedicated control room system would be introduced to monitor sanitation operations effectively.

He urged residents to cooperate by handing over garbage only when collection vehicles arrive in their areas. In cases where garbage collection staff fail to visit, residents were advised to report the matter to the concerned secretariat secretary or sanitary inspector, and subsequently to the control room if necessary.

Municipal Commissioner Jaswanth Kumar, Swachh Andhra Corporation Director Bhavani Ravikumar, municipal staff, secretariat employees and local leaders participated in the programme.

Revenue officers vital for national security, trade facilitation: Union Minister

HANS NEWS SERVICE
PALASAMUDRAM
(SRI SATHYA SAI DISTRICT)

UNION Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said that indirect tax and customs officials play a crucial role in safeguarding national security and promoting ease of trade in the country.

He addressed the graduation ceremony of 76th batch of Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes) officers held at National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes and Narcotics (NACIN) in Palasamudram on Saturday. A total of 79 IRS (C&IT) officers successfully completed their training as part of the batch.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said services rendered by customs and indirect tax officials signifi-

cantly contribute to India's growth and economic progress. He noted that the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is rapidly transforming into a modern technology-driven institution, with reforms such as faceless assessment, automation, digital compliance and data analytics enhancing transparency and efficiency in governance.

Chaudhary stressed the need for officers to remain vigilant and professionally competent in dealing with emerging challenges, including cyber-enabled financial crimes, illegal trade networks and smuggling activities. He urged the newly inducted officers to uphold the highest standards of integrity and professionalism while discharging their duties.

The Minister observed



Union Minister Pankaj Chaudhary at the passing out parade of the 76th batch of IRS (Customs & Indirect Taxes) officers in Palasamudram on Saturday

that integrity forms the foundation of public service and said the credibility of officers depends on their honesty and impartial conduct. He pointed out that every administrative decision taken by officials directly impacts traders and citizens; therefore, governance should not only be efficient but also sensitive and humane.

Encouraging the officers to adapt to the changing global environment, Chaudhary advised them to continuously update their knowledge and enhance their professional skills to achieve excellence in every responsibility entrusted to them.

Senior NACIN officials, Penukonda Revenue Divisional Officer Anand Kumar, Tahsildar Madhu Naik and other officials attended the programme.

Police conduct mega counselling drive

VANI MALLELA
TIRUPATI

IN a firm demonstration of law-and-order commitment, Tirupati district police organised a large-scale counselling programme for accused persons and petty offenders on Saturday.

The event, held at the police parade ground under the supervision of district Superintendent of Police L Subba Rayudu, saw the participation of around 451 individuals, including those listed in rowdy sheets, drug offenders, theft suspects, and accused in POCOS cases.

Addressing the gathering, SP L Subba Rayudu emphasised zero tolerance towards rowdiness, drug-related crimes, and offences against women and children. "Tirupati is a sacred place. We will not allow anyone to create fear among the public or tarnish its reputation," he said.

He warned that once a rowdy sheet is opened, police will closely monitor every activity. Repeat offenders will face stringent measures, including invocation of the PD Act and city externment. He assured that police would fully support those willing to reform but would deal firmly with anyone disturbing public peace.

Officials also demonstrated a modern urine-testing technique capable of detecting drug consumption within five minutes and tracing usage history up to 30 days. Positive results will be used to trace and dismantle drug supply networks.

So far, the district has registered 257 NDPS cases and 184 POCOS cases. Thirteen rowdy-sheet individuals and 15 drug suppliers have already been booked under the PD Act and sent to jail.

Additional SPs Venkata Rao, Ravi Manoharachi, Srinivas, and Srinivas Rao were present.