

Dy CM Bhatti assures phased clearance of contractors' dues

- Relief for small contractors
- Govt promises to clear pending payments
- Contractors get govt assurance
- Bills to be settled in phases
- Chalo Hyderabad put off

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HYDERABAD

DEPUTY Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka stated that the people's government was responding to the issues of small civil contractors in the state with utmost empathy and will always stand by them. On Tuesday, representatives of the Builders Association of India and civil contractors met the Deputy Chief Minister at Praja Bhavan as a courtesy call. During the meeting,



A delegation of civil contractors and representatives of the Builders Association of India meets Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka at Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad on Tuesday, seeking clearance of pending bills

they requested the release of their pending dues, to which the Deputy Chief Minister responded positively.

On this occasion, Bhatti Vikramarka reminded them that the Finance Department has been ensuring continuous monthly payments, keeping in mind the difficulties faced by small contractors. He explained that the government is mov-

ing forward with a clear plan to clear pending dues and assured that all pending bills of small contractors in the state will be settled in a phased manner.

Earlier in the day, the contractors' representatives had held discussions with Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy. Later, they reached Praja Bhavan and briefed

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on the outcome of those discussions. Meanwhile, Ravinder Reddy, State Chairman of the Builders Association of India, announced that they are satisfied with the positive assurance given by the Deputy Chief Minister regarding the clearance of pending bills.

He stated that the proposed Chalo Hyderabad

program scheduled for the 18th of this month has been postponed. On behalf of the association, he expressed special thanks to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, and Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy for their supportive and positive response toward resolving their issues.

ACB unearths ₹150-cr assets of survey officials Narahari

Raids his house, arrests him in disproportionate assets case

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HYDERABAD

THE Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday unearthed assets worth Rs 150 crore when it raided residential premises of Sunkari Narahari Rao, Deputy Director, Multi Zone-II, Survey & Land Records Department, Hyderabad. It has registered a disproportionate assets case against him and arrest him.

According to the ACB, the total value of assets detected so far is Rs 13.05 crore. However, the actual market value of the total assets could be around Rs 150 crore.

ACB officials conducted searches on Tuesday at the officer's residence and nine other locations linked to his relatives, benamis and associates. The accused allegedly acquired assets beyond his known sources of income through corrupt and illegal means during his service.

During the searches, officials found documents



relating to five open plots in Ranga Reddy district and 1.24 acres of agricultural land at Maheshwaram. They also detected a 2,500-square-foot residential flat at Puppulaguda, two 1,860-square-foot flats at Narsingi, and a 1,377-square-foot flat at Rajendranagar. In addition, officials identified a G+3 building in TNGOs Colony, Gachibowli, and a G+2 residential building at Chatrinaka.

The searches also led to the recovery of around Rs 1.54 crore cash, bank balances of Rs 2.29 crore,

fixed deposits worth Rs 5.04 crore, and about 1.3 kg of gold ornaments and eight kg of silver were found in the house. Officials also found two lockers in the name of the accused officer's wife, which will be opened during the investigation. A Kia Carens luxury car was also found in the searches.

Further verification of additional assets is in progress and the case is under investigation. The accused officer was produced before the Principal Special Judge for SPE and ACB Cases at Nampally for judicial remand.

CLP accuses BRS-BJP of having truck ahead of GHMC elections

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GOVERNMENT Whip Vemula Veeresham on Tuesday alleged that the Bharat Rashtira Samithi and Bharatiya Janata Party were moving towards an alliance ahead of the upcoming Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections. Addressing the media at the CLP Media Centre, Veeresham claimed the BRS had indirectly helped the BJP win eight Lok Sabha seats in the recent parliamentary elections and was now preparing to join hands with the saffron party for the GHMC polls. He challenged BRS Working President KTR to publicly clarify whether there was

an understanding between the parties, whilst firmly denying any allegations of a secret pact involving Congress.

Veeresham alleged that Union Minister G Kishan Reddy and KTR were in regular contact, accusing both parties of working against local interests and shielding each other politically while creating hurdles for development initiatives. Referring to the Hyderabad Metro Rail project, Veeresham said Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy had taken decisive steps to bring the Metro, valued at around Rs 30,000 crore, under government control.

He stated that the state government successfully secured a loan of Rs 13,000

crore at a low interest rate to facilitate the takeover and ensure long-term viability.

The Congress leader alleged that the Centre had deliberately obstructed the loan process due to the positive response the state government was receiving for the Metro initiative. He questioned why KTR was not holding the Central Government or Kishan Reddy accountable for delays in the second phase of the Metro expansion. Describing Hyderabad Metro as the city's lifeline, Veeresham said the state government remains committed to expanding the network for public convenience, urging people to reject anti-development politics.

Scholarship applications open for workers' children

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HYDERABAD

THE Government of India's Labour Welfare Organisation has invited online applications for educational scholarships for the children of Beedi, Mine, and Cine workers for the academic year 2026-27. The notification, issued by the Office of the Welfare Commissioner in Hyderabad, applies to students studying in Government and Government-recognised institutions across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The scholarships cover children of Beedi Workers, Limestone and Dolomite Mine Workers, Iron Ore, Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore Mine Workers, Mica Mine Workers, and Cine Workers. Eligible students from Class I to X for Pre-Matric and Class

XI to Professional Degree courses for Post-Matric must apply through the National Scholarship Portal. The last date for Pre-Matric applications is 31 August 2026, whilst Post-Matric applications can be submitted until 31 October 2026.

Applicants may seek technical support through the NSP Helpdesk at 0120-6619540 or helpdesk@nsp.gov.in. For additional details, students may contact the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Labour Welfare Organisation, Room No 54, Kendriya Sadan, Sultan Bazar, Koti, Hyderabad - 500001, Tel 040-29561297, Email wclwohyd@nic.in, or visit the nearest departmental dispensary. The Welfare Commissioner urged all eligible students, parents, and guardians to submit applications well before deadlines.

City admin fully geared up to tackle monsoon flooding

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HYDERABAD

TO review measures aimed at preventing water logging, urban flooding, and traffic disruptions across the Hyderabad City, a high-level coordination meeting was held at Malkam Cheruvu on Tuesday.

The review meeting was chaired by Government Advisor Sudarshan Reddy and attended by DGP CV Anand, Serilingampally MLA Arikepudi Gandhi, GHMC Commissioner RV Karnan, Cyberabad Municipal Commissioner Srujana, HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath, Cyberabad Police Commissioner Dr M Ramesh, senior officials from the Irrigation Depart-

ment, GHMC, HYDRAA, Police and other agencies concerned. The meeting was convened as per the directions of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and focused on both immediate and long-term solutions to recurring flood issues in the city.

Reviewing the preparedness measures, the DGP stressed that public safety and smooth traffic movement must remain the top priorities during the monsoon. He directed departments to identify waterlogging-prone locations in advance, strengthen flood mitigation measures, and ensure alternative traffic arrangements wherever necessary.

The DGP also instructed police personnel to maintain round-the-clock monitoring

in low-lying areas, flood-prone localities, major junctions and busy roads.

Following the meeting, special engineering teams conducted field inspections at Malkam Cheruvu, Khajaguda Lake, Mandikunta, Gurunath Cheruvu, Miyapur, Biodiversity Junction, Kondapur, and other vulnerable locations. The teams examined drainage systems, water flow channels, encroachments, and bottlenecks contributing to flooding and water stagnation.

CV Anand assured officials that the police department would provide all necessary support for flood mitigation works, including assistance in removing obstacles and managing traffic diversions.



Back to school after summer holidays: Helping children make a healthy start



Dr Vittal Kumar

THE summer holidays are over, and schools reopened with fresh energy and excitement. Children are eager to meet their friends, settle into new classrooms, and begin a new academic year. For parents, this is often a busy period filled with shopping for books, uniforms, and school supplies.

However, while preparing children for school, it is equally important to prepare them for a healthy transition from holiday mode to school routine. This year, the reopening of schools coincides with the monsoon season, a time when viral infections, allergies, stomach illnesses, and mosquito-borne diseases are commonly seen among children.

As a pediatrician, I often notice that the first few weeks after schools reopen

are when many children fall sick, largely because of changes in routine, lack of adequate sleep, unhealthy eating habits developed during vacations, and increased exposure to infections. Fortunately, a few simple precautions can help children stay healthy and enjoy the school year.

Returning to a healthy routine

Summer vacations often mean late nights, relaxed mornings, more screen time, and irregular meal schedules. While this break is important for children, getting back into a structured routine can take time.

One of the first things parents should focus on is restoring healthy sleep habits. Children who do not get enough sleep are more likely to feel tired, struggle to concentrate in class, and become more vulnerable to infections. School-going children generally need between eight and ten hours of sleep every night. A fixed bedtime and wake-up schedule can help them adjust more smoothly to school timings.

The importance of a good breakfast

Mornings are often rushed once school starts, but breakfast should never be skipped. It is the first source of energy for the day and plays an im-

portant role in concentration, memory, and overall performance in school.

A healthy breakfast does not have to be elaborate. Traditional home-cooked foods such as idli, dosa, upma, poha, eggs, milk, fruits, or whole-grain preparations can provide the nutrition children need. Lunch boxes should also contain balanced meals with a mix of proteins, vegetables, fruits, and healthy snacks.

Parents should try to limit packaged foods, sugary drinks, and excessive junk food, which can affect both nutrition and immunity.

Monsoon brings more infections

The rainy season is often associated with an increase in viral fevers, coughs, colds, sore throats, and stomach infections. Since children spend several hours together in classrooms and playgrounds, infections can spread quickly.

Simple habits can make a significant difference. Parents should encourage children to wash their hands before eating, after using the washroom, and after outdoor activities. Children should also be taught to cover their mouth while coughing or sneezing and avoid sharing water bottles whenever possible.

Good hygiene remains one of the most effective ways to prevent common infections.

Safe food and water are essential

Stomach infections are another common problem during the monsoon season. Contaminated food and water can lead to vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, and dehydration.

Children should carry clean drinking water from home and consume freshly prepared meals. Lunch boxes and water bottles should be cleaned thoroughly every day. Parents should also ensure that children stay adequately hydrated, even during cooler rainy days when they may not feel thirsty.

Stay alert to dengue

Dengue continues to be a major concern during the monsoon months. The disease is spread by mosquitoes that breed in stagnant water, often found around homes and residential areas.

Parents should regularly check for water accumulation in coolers, buckets, flower pots, and other containers. Children should be encouraged to wear clothing that covers their arms and legs, especially when playing outdoors.

Any persistent fever, severe body pain, unusual tiredness, or headache

should not be ignored and requires medical attention.

Children with allergies need extra care

Many children experience worsening allergies and respiratory problems during the rainy season. Increased humidity, dust, mold, and sudden weather changes can trigger symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, wheezing, and breathing difficulties.

Parents of children with asthma should ensure that prescribed medications are available and taken regularly. Early medical consultation can help prevent complications and avoid emergency situations.

Don't ignore wet shoes and uniforms

A common but often overlooked issue during the monsoon is children remaining in wet clothes or shoes for long periods. Wet socks and footwear can lead to fungal infections and skin problems.

Parents can consider packing an extra pair of socks in the school bag and should encourage children to change into dry clothes as soon as they return home after getting wet in the rain.

Emotional well-being is equally important

The transition back to school is not only physical

but also emotional. While many children are excited to return, others may feel anxious about studies, examinations, new teachers, or adjusting to a new class.

Parents should spend time talking to their children, listening to their concerns, and encouraging them to share their experiences. A supportive environment at home helps children adapt more confidently to the new academic year.

Healthy children learn better

The start of a new school year is an ideal time for families to reinforce healthy habits. Adequate sleep, nutritious food, good hygiene, regular physical activity, and emotional support are all essential for a child's well-being.

Good health and good learning go hand in hand. By paying attention to a few simple measures, parents can help ensure fewer sick days, better attendance, and a happier school experience. A healthy child is better equipped to learn, grow, and make the most of every opportunity the new academic year brings.

By Dr Vittal Kumar Kesireddy, head of Department & Sr Consultant Pediatrician - Pediatrics & Neonatology

Dialysis: A lifeline for patients with kidney failure



Dr Ch Sashidar

KIDNEY diseases are emerging as a major health concern in India, primarily due to the increasing prevalence of diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and unhealthy lifestyles. The kidneys play a vital role in filtering waste products, maintaining fluid balance, regulating blood pressure, and producing essential hormones. When kidney function declines significantly, harmful toxins and excess fluid accumulate in the body, leading to serious health complications.

Dialysis is a life-saving treatment for patients suffering from advanced kidney failure. It performs the essential functions of the kidneys by removing waste products, excess fluids, and maintaining electrolyte balance. While dialysis does not cure kidney disease, it helps patients lead healthier and longer lives until a kidney transplant becomes possible or as a long-term treatment option. There are two main types of dialysis: Hemodialysis and Peritoneal Dialysis. Hemodialysis involves filtering the patient's blood through a specialised machine, whereas

Peritoneal Dialysis uses the lining of the abdomen as a natural filter. The choice of treatment depends on the patient's medical condition, lifestyle, and doctor's recommendation.

Many patients ignore early warning signs of kidney disease such as swelling of the feet, reduced urine output, persistent fatigue, loss of appetite, high blood pressure and uncontrolled diabetes. Early diagnosis and timely treatment can slow the progression of kidney disease and delay the need for dialysis.

Patients undergoing dialysis should follow a balanced diet, take prescribed medications regularly, maintain fluid restrictions as advised, and attend dialysis sessions without interruption. Missing treatments can lead to serious complications, including heart problems and fluid overload.

Regular health check-ups are especially important for individuals with diabetes, hypertension, a family history of kidney disease, or those above 40 years of age. Simple blood and urine tests can help detect kidney disease at an early stage. With advances in nephrology care, modern dialysis services provide safer and more effective treatment options. Awareness, early detection, and proper medical care remain the key to protecting kidney health and improving patient outcomes, says Dr Ch Sashidar, consultant nephrologist, Apollo Hospitals, Secunderabad.