Mega DSC teachers hit streets, reject irregularity allegations

- Newly recruited teachers in Kurnool hold 'Atma Gaurava Rally', defend selection process as merit-based
- Protest allegations of wrongdoing, urge critics to show evidence instead of political claims
- Back Chandrababu Naidu govt and Lokesh, say appointments followed all rules and procedures

Teachers participate in the mega rally at Kondareddy Buruju on Saturday

Hans News Service
Kurnool

THE political controversy between the ruling alliance and the YSRCP over the Mega DSC-2025 recruitment has taken a new turn, with a large number of newly-recruited teachers taking to the streets in Kurnool on Saturday to reject allegations of irregularities in the selection process.

The teachers asserted that their appointments were made strictly as per rules and purely on merit, without any political interference. Teachers from the erstwhile Kurnool, Kadapa and Ananthapur districts participated in the 'Atma Gaurava Rally', which began at Kondareddy Buruju and culminated at the Zilla Parishad office.

Carrying placards, they appealed to political parties not to drag their appointments into political controversies and raised slogans condemning what they termed as false propaganda and baseless allegations against the Mega DSC.

The newly-appointed teachers said they had appeared for the DSC examination and secured their jobs through a competitive selection process based on merit. They expressed anguish that political allegations, without proper understanding of the recruitment procedure, were creating unnecessary doubts about their careers and hard-earned jobs.

They demanded that anyone questioning the recruitment process should come forward with evidence instead of making political statements.

The teachers also raised slogans such as "DSC means Chandrababu, Chandrababu means DSC" and expressed support for the government and education minister Nara Lokesh. They maintained that their appointments were the result of their hard work and merit and should not be turned into a political issue. The teachers recalled that the coalition government had fulfilled its promise to unemployed youth by issuing the DSC notification within six months of assuming office. After conducting the examination, the government completed the recruitment process and provided employment to thousands of candidates.

The teachers credited education minister Nara Lokesh with playing a key role in expediting the Mega DSC process and said the jobs they secured were the outcome of their preparation and performance. Meanwhile, the government has repeatedly maintained that there was no scope for irregularities in the recruitment and that the examination, merit list, reservations and roster were processed in accordance with the rules specified in the notification.

The Kurnool rally has effectively added a new dimension to the ongoing political battle over the Mega DSC. While the YSRCP has been staging protests and alleging irregularities in the appointments, the newly recruited teachers themselves have come forward to defend the recruitment process and their selections.

They alleged that attempts to question their appointments for political gains were causing unnecessary apprehension among thousands of successful candidates.

The ruling side has also accused the YSRCP of politicising the issue for political mileage, while Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh have maintained that the recruitment was transparent. With the beneficiaries of the Mega DSC now publicly defending their appointments, the 'Atma Gaurava Rally' in Kurnool is being seen as a direct response from the newly appointed teachers to the controversy surrounding the Mega DSC-2025.

Vijaya Dairy hikes milk prices by Rs 2 per litre from tomorrow

Revised prices to apply to seven varieties, including monthly cardholders

CPM leaders Ch Baburao, Donepudi Kasinaath and others stage a protest at the Vijaya Dairy parlour at Lenin Centre in Vijayawada on Saturday

Hans News Service
Vijayawada

THE Krishna District Milk Producers Mutually Aided Cooperative Union Limited (Krishna Milk Union), popularly known as Vijaya Dairy, has announced an increase of Rs 1 per 500 ml packet, or Rs 2 per litre, across seven varieties of milk with effect from August 10. The revised prices will be applicable to consumers from the invoice date of August 9, including monthly cardholders.

The latest revision comes after Vijaya Dairy increased milk prices by Rs 2 per litre in April following an increase in procurement prices paid to dairy farmers.

In a press on Saturday, Vijaya Dairy managing director Kolli Eswara Rao said the revision had become necessary due to a substantial increase in milk procurement costs, diesel and transportation charges, packing material costs and other operational expenses. He appealed to distributors, retailers and consumers to extend their cooperation to the cooperative dairy.

As per the revised price list, Gold milk will cost Rs 40 per 500 ml packet, up from Rs 39. Full cream milk will be priced at Rs 39, against Rs 38 earlier. Standardised milk will cost Rs 34, compared with Rs 33, while Toned milk will be priced at Rs 32, as against Rs 31. Double Toned will cost Rs 30, up from Rs 29, while Homogenised Full Cream milk and Tea Mate will be priced at Rs 37 each, compared with Rs 36 earlier.

Meanwhile, CPM leaders and cadres staged a protest and dharna at Lenin Centre here on Saturday, opposing the latest price hike.

Addressing the gathering, CPM state secretariat member Ch Baburao alleged that the state government was undermining the Krishna Milk Union to benefit Heritage and other private dairies. He questioned the need for another price hike within four months and said it would impose an additional financial burden on consumers.

YSRCP spreading lies on Mega DSC, alleges Bonda Uma

Vijayawada Central MLA asks opposition leaders not to mislead unemployed youth

Government whip and Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao addressing a press conference on the Mega DSC issue at his office in Vijayawada on Saturday

Hans News Service
Vijayawada

GOVERNMENT whip and Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao accused YSRCP leaders of spreading misinformation over the Mega DSC recruitment and attempting to mislead unemployed youth for political gains.

Addressing a media conference at his office in Singh Nagar in the city on Saturday, Bonda Uma said education minister Nara Lokesh had offered to hold an open debate on the Mega DSC, but YSRCP leaders were not coming forward for the discussion. He said the government had already given official and written clarification on all issues related to the recruitment.

Uma criticised opposition leaders for creating confusion over the bridge course, which, he said, was part of the Central government's policy. He alleged that the previous YSRCP government had created several legal disputes and failed to conduct a Mega DSC, thereby affecting the future of unemployed youth.

Referring to recent incidents in Mutyalampadu, he warned against attempts to disturb peace in Vijayawada Central constituency. He said the TDP believed in democratic protests and would not encourage violence.

He also urged YSRCP leaders to avoid caste-based and personal attacks and said peaceful protests would not be opposed as long as they did not disturb public order.

Vijayawada Central constituency coordinator Navaneetham Sambasiva Rao and other party leaders attended the meeting.

Police produce the arrested person before media in Tirupati on Saturday

Rapido driver held for supplying MDMA

Hans News Service
Tirupati

ACTING on directives from district SP L Subba Rayudu, Renigunta Urban police arrested a fourth accused in an MDMA trafficking case.

The police team conducted the operation after receiving leads from three earlier arrestees including Guna Sekhar (A-1), S Ashwin Kumar (A-2) and Rahul Yadav (A-3).

Police detained Godugu Chinta Vinod Kumar (33) near Ramana Villas Circle on Srikalahasti Road. During preliminary questioning, Vinod reportedly said he works in Bengaluru as a Rapido driver and procured MDMA at low cost from a contact in Bengaluru alleged to be of Nigerian origin through WhatsApp. He admitted supplying the consignments to Tirupati and selling them to acquaintance Guna Shekhar at higher prices.

Special investigation teams have been formed to trace the supply chain, identify intermediaries and coordinate with agencies in Bengaluru to probe cross-state links.

YSRCP alleges bid to weaken Vijaya Dairy to benefit Heritage

Perni Nani, Kaile Anil Kumar accuse TDP leaders of interfering in farmers' cooperative; allege pressure on chairman to resign

Hans News Service
Amaravati

THE YSRCP on Saturday accused the TDP-led coalition government of attempting to weaken the farmer-owned Vijaya Dairy to benefit Heritage Dairy, alleging that its chairman, Chalasani Anjaneyulu, was forced to resign under pressure from ministers.

Former minister Perni Venkatramaiah (Nani), speaking to the media, questioned the government's alleged interference in the affairs of Vijaya Dairy, saying the institution functions under the Mutually Aided Cooperative Societies (MACS) Act and its representatives are elected by farmers.

"What does the government have to do with the affairs of Vijaya Dairy?" Nani said, alleging that ministers Kolusu Parthasarathy and Kollu Ravindra acted on the direction of Nara Lokesh and pressured Anjaneyulu to quit.

Nani alleged that within an hour of Anjaneyulu's election as chairman, threats were made against him and his family, including his daughter and son living in the US.

He claimed the pressure caused Anjaneyulu to suffer a heart attack and be admitted to an ICU, where, he alleged, ministers subsequently went and forced him to resign.

Nani said the previous Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy government had not interfered in the functioning of dairies during its five-year tenure.

He warned the coalition government against deliberately pushing Vijaya Dairy into financial difficulties to benefit Heritage Dairy.

The allegations were echoed by YSRCP spokesperson and former MLA Kaile Anil Kumar, who said Vijaya Dairy was an autonomous farmers' institution and questioned the authority of ministers to intervene in its functioning.

He alleged that the Naidu government was seeking to push the profitable dairy into debt and eventually facilitate its takeover or benefit Heritage.

He cited Vijaya Dairy's response during the Budameru floods, saying that despite suffering nearly Rs 20 crore in losses, the dairy continued milk supplies through an alternative plant and contributed Rs 25 lakh to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

The YSRCP leaders also accused the government of weakening public institutions, disposing of public assets and failing to address farmers' concerns over irrigation water and fertiliser shortages.

Buggana rejects Naidu's finance White Paper as 'misleading'

Hans News Service
Vijayawada

- YSRCP leader and former finance minister calls document a 'self-promotion' exercise with no mention of revenues
- Questions deficit claims, growth figures and state borrowing data presented by govt
- Defends Jagan regime, alleges coalition failed to fulfil key promises and priorities

YSRCP leader and former finance minister Buggana Rajendranath Reddy speaking to the media in Hyderabad on Saturday

YSRCP has rejected the White Paper presented by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on state finances terming it a document with "no substance" and "misleading", which fits into the pattern of "self-promotion", deriding the previous merits.

Speaking to the media in Hyderabad on Saturday, former finance minister Buggana Rajendranath Reddy said, "The bulky document presented by Chandrababu at no place does it mention revenues and the bluff is called when the claim of high growth rate does not concur with the falling state revenue."

He said that Chief Minister Chandrababu calling deficit "a myth" is "not only ridiculous but highly irresponsible".

"The paradox is in the fact that he who boasted of wealth creation is not talking about revenue in the entire document," he said.

The former minister asserted that the basic "flaw" begins in the fact that the state finances were in ebb only during 2019-24 while it was rosy in 2014-19 and is back to a healthy economy during the past two years.

"The progress need not be self-evaluated, but any stakeholder would give a clear picture. Ask farmers if they are getting MSP, women if they are getting Adabidda Nidhi, pensions, free cylinders, Talliki Vandanam, youth if they are getting unemployment stipend, students if they are getting fee reimbursement and other sections if they are getting their welfare schemes; they will evaluate the governance," Rajendranath said.

"The growing popularity of YS Jagan Mohan Reddy with people thronging to all his meetings are a clear indication that they were better off during the previous government, which is the true progress report and not the fabricated document or the elevation Chandrababu's friendly media is giving, stating that only he is the person who is taking the State from stone age to quantum era," he added.

The YSRCP leader claimed that the Chief Minister made tall claims about the state's borrowings, but the figure shown in his own document was scaled down, and if the outstanding loans were deducted, it would further reduce.

"Time and again we have to come to rubbish his false claims and fudged figures," he said.

Rajendranath Reddy said while Andhra Pradesh has a "negative growth" in terms of revenue, how can the state government claim an 11 per cent GSDP growth rate? He affirmed that the YSRCP government "performed well" in terms of per capita income and revenue deficit as well.

The former finance minister also asserted that none of the TDP's 'Super Six promises' were fulfilled other than the "copycat schemes" which were deflated to suit their agenda.

"The claims of investments and job creation of the coalition government were blown out in Parliament during Question Hour when P. Mithun Reddy was told that of the 10 proposals only two were cleared. On the other hand, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has created 1.35 lakh jobs in village and ward secretariats, has set up village clinics, ports, shipping harbours, fish landing centres besides fulfilling all poll promises and developing schools under Nadu-Nedu," he said.

Rajendranath Reddy claimed that it took two years for the YSRCP government to undo the "damage" done to Polavaram and it was Jagan Mohan Reddy who brought funds for the project.

"Chandrababu, who promised wealth creation, has given away prime land at throwaway prices and has been pumping money into Amaravati, paying contractors exorbitant rates.

He has been privatising ports and medical colleges which are useful for common people and taking steps to benefit the rich," he said.

"The brand image of the State took a fall under his leadership while it had seen better days during YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's term," the YSRCP leader added.