

# Durga temple hundis fetch Rs 3.08 cr income

- Temple authorities opened the hundis at the Mallikarjuna Maha Mandapam
- Devotees also offered gold and silver ornaments to Goddess Kanaka Durga through the hundis

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

THE Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam atop Indrakeeladri in Vijayawada has earned Rs 3.08 crore through hundi collections during the past 15 days. The average daily hundi collection stood at Rs 19.30 lakh.

Temple authorities opened the hundis at the Mallikarjuna Maha Mandapam on Wednesday in the presence of temple trust board chairman Borra Radhakrishna (Gandhi) and Executive Officer and Special Grade Deputy Collector VK Seena Naik. Apart from cash,



Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam EO VK Seena Naik supervising the counting of hundi collections at the Mallikarjuna Maha Mandapam atop Indrakeeladri in Vijayawada on Wednesday

devotees offered gold and silver ornaments to Goddess Kanaka Durga through the hundis. According to temple officials, devotees donated 301 grams of gold and 3,010 kg of silver during the 15-day period.

As several NRI devotees visit the temple, foreign currency was also found in the hundis. The offerings included 1,840 US dollars, 7 Malaysian ringgit, 870 UAE dirhams, 6 Singapore dollars, 215 euros, 170 British

pounds, 610 Turkish Lira, 0.50 Kuwaiti dinar, 91 Qatari riyals, 300 Omani baisa, 190 Canadian dollars, 100 New Zealand dollars and 380 Australian dollars.

Temple officials stated that the hundi collections demonstrated the ongoing influx of devotees to the renowned shrine.

The Special Protection Force (SPF) and One Town police ensured security during the counting of hundi collections.

# RISE initiative earns national recognition

- NTR district collector Dr G Lakshmisha participates in the Skill Manthan webinar
- The webinar focused on creating sustainable livelihoods for women and developing their skills
- Says efforts are underway to expand the programme further and develop NTR dist as a model dist in women's empowerment and skill development

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THE Rural Incubation, Skilling and Entrepreneurship (RISE) initiative being implemented in NTR district to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities to rural women and equip them with skills for self-employment and entrepreneurship has



Collector Dr G Lakshmisha, along with other district officials, participating in the Skill Manthan webinar through video conference from the Collectorate in Vijayawada on Wednesday

received national-level recognition. NTR district collector Dr G Lakshmisha said the recognition was a matter of pride and attributed the achievement to the collective efforts of the district administration, self-help group women and partner organisations.

The collector, along with officials, participated in the Skill Manthan

webinar organised by the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through video conference from the district Collectorate in Vijayawada on Wednesday.

The webinar focused on creating sustainable livelihoods for women and developing their skills, while encouraging them to take up self-employment

and entrepreneurship. Skill Manthan was conceived as a platform for sharing innovative initiatives and best practices being implemented by districts across the country in the areas of skill development, employment and entrepreneurship.

During the webinar, innovative programmes aimed at improving

livelihoods and skill development among women in different parts of the country were showcased. The RISE programme of NTR district was prominently highlighted as one of the notable initiatives.

Speaking after the webinar, Dr Lakshmisha said the RISE centre at Guntupalli was working towards equipping women with skills and converting their capabilities into sustainable sources of income, in line with the vision of the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister and the concept of "one family-one entrepreneur."

He said the district administration, with the support of NITI Aayog, SERP and other departments, was taking measures to create self-employment opportunities for women through the RISE initiative. The Collector said efforts were underway to expand the programme further and develop NTR district as a model district in women's empowerment and skill development. DRDA Project Director ANV Nanchar Rao and other officials participated in the programme.

# ‘Indian students among most intelligent in the world’

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BHIMAVARAM

INDIAN students are among the most intelligent and talented youth in the world, said Dr KVSG Murali Krishna, former Vice-Chancellor of JNTU Kakinada, senior professor of Civil Engineering and environmental expert.

He was addressing an orientation programme, "Vignana Deeksha," organised for first-year engineering students at Sagi Ramakrishnam Raju Engineering College (SRKR Engineering College), Bhimavaram. College Principal Dr KV Murali Krishnam Raju presided over the programme.

Dr Murali Krishna said he had travelled to around 25 countries and observed that Indian youth, particularly students, were widely recognised for their intelligence and academic capabilities. He urged engineering students to pursue research and



Prof Dr KVSG Murali Krishna, former JNTUK Vice-Chancellor being felicitated at SRKR Engineering College in Bhimavaram on Wednesday

strive to produce results that would contribute to the progress and welfare of society.

College Secretary and Correspondent Sagi Ramakrishna Nishanth Varma, Director Dr M Jagapathi Raju and Principal Dr KV Murali Krishnam Raju said the institution was providing students with exposure

to emerging technologies, contributing to its strong placement record in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Vice-President SV Rangaraju, Head of Foundation Dr M Shiva Kishan, heads of various departments, deans, first-year students and their parents attended the programme.

# Renovated UBI branch inaugurated

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KANCHIKACHERLA

THE renovated Kanchikacherla branch of Union Bank of India was inaugurated on Wednesday with upgraded amenities and a customer-friendly environment aimed at enhancing the banking experience for customers.

K Sridhara Babu, Zonal Head, Vijayawada and SLBC Convenor-AP, inaugurated the renovated branch premises in the presence of MV Tilak, Regional Head, Vijayawada; B Ravi Raju, RAH, Vijayawada; and Pavan Kumar TBG,

Branch Head, Kanchikacherla. As part of the inauguration programme, Priority Sector Loan Sanction Letters were handed over to eligible customers.

The renovated branch is equipped to provide modern banking facilities, improved customer service and a more convenient banking environment to people in Kanchikacherla and surrounding areas.

The initiative reflects Union Bank of India's continued focus on strengthening customer service and making banking facilities more accessible and convenient.



The renovated Kanchikacherla branch of Union Bank of India being inaugurated

# Expo on nuclear energy begins at GGU

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

INDIAN culture has the strength to shape great personalities and has produced several eminent people, said Dr H Purushotham, Secretary, Department of Science, Technology and Innovation, Godavari Global University (GGU).

He inaugurated a three-day special exhibition on nuclear energy at GGU, organised by the AP Council of Science and Technology (APCOST) and GGU in collaboration with the Indra Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam, under the Department of Atomic Energy.

Addressing students at the inaugural programme, Dr Purushotham said student life was the most valuable phase and advised them to focus not only on education but also on knowledge, skills



The Exhibition being inaugurated

and personality development. APCOST Member Secretary and CEO Prof Dr K Sarath Kumar said the Central government was working towards increasing the country's nuclear energy capacity to 100 GW by 2047. He said the exhibition was being organised in collaboration with IGCAR to create greater awareness among

students about nuclear energy and its applications. District School Education Officer K Vasudeva Rao, GGU Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr KVB Raju, IGCAR Kalpakkam representative Jalaja Madanmohan, APCOST Projects Director P Srinivasa Babu, GGU Director Dr Muraidhar Reddy and others attended the programme.

# SRR college opens library building

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

GOVERNMENT Whip and Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao on Wednesday inaugurated the newly constructed library building at SRR & CVR Government Degree College in Machavaram, Vijayawada Central constituency. The building was constructed at a cost of around Rs 2.32 crore under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) pilot project. He also unveiled the plaque marking the inauguration.

Speaking on the occasion, Bonda Uma said the government had been taking special measures

under the leadership of Education Minister Nara Lokesh to restore the past glory of government schools and colleges. Providing quality education along with state-of-the-art infrastructure was one of the government's key priorities, he said.

Bonda Uma said the SRR & CVR Government Degree College had a rich history and recalled that eminent personalities, including former Chief Minister Dr Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (NTR), had studied at the institution.

College Principal Dr K Bhagya Lakshmi, former corporator Vallabhaneni Rajeswari, Vallabhaneni Satish, faculty members, alumni and others attended the programme.



MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao unveiling the plaque of the newly constructed library building at SRR College in Vijayawada on Wednesday

# BAMS STUDENT SELECTED FOR CCRAS-SPARK PROGRAMME

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VIJAYAWADA

DEVI Vaishnavi, a second-year BAMS student of Dr NRS Government Ayurvedic College in Vijayawada, has been selected for the prestigious Studentship Programme for Ayurveda Research Ken (SPARK) - Undergraduate (UG) of the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), New Delhi.

Her selection is considered a significant achievement for the institution and reflects the growing interest among undergraduate Ayurveda students in research and evidence-based practices. Devi Vaishnavi is undertaking the programme under the guidance of Dr D Anil



Devi Vaishnavi, second-year BAMS student of Dr NRS Government Ayurvedic College, receiving the Rs 50,000 CCRAS-SPARK (UG) scholarship cheque from Principal Dr T Bullaiah in Vijayawada

Kumar, Professor and Head of the Department, and Dr K Sunitha, Assistant Professor,

Department of Roga Nidana and Vikriti Vignana. College Principal Dr T Bullaiah

appreciated their guidance and encouragement in motivating the student to take

up research. As part of the CCRAS-SPARK (UG) Programme, CCRAS awarded a Rs 50,000 scholarship to Devi Vaishnavi to support her research activities in Ayurveda. The scholarship was presented to her in the form of a cheque. Principal Dr T Bullaiah congratulated Devi Vaishnavi on her selection and expressed happiness over her achievement. The principal also appreciated CCRAS, New Delhi, for providing research opportunities and financial support to undergraduate Ayurveda students through the SPARK (UG) programme. Dr Vijaya Santha Kumari, Vice-Principal (Academic), along with faculty members and staff, congratulated Devi Vaishnavi on her accomplishment.