

Naidu pushes **AP** for 15% growth after 13.44% rise

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU
AMARAVATI

ANDHRA Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday asked the District Collectors and other officials to set aside their ego and focus on leadership qualities to achieve result-oriented targets as set by the Swarnandhra Vision-2027.

Addressing the 8th two-day District Collectors' Conference here, he said the Collectors should be proactive and develop leadership qualities to achieve the result oriented targets. He said the State achieved a growth rate of 13.44 per cent and called for increasing it to at least 15 per cent.

Stating that "we are in a stage of leadership transition and Collectors should adopt hybrid models in new age governance to win the confidence of people," he said it is not the time for reviews and only time for results.

The Chief Minister said that everyone should work with one state-one vision-one mission- i.e Swarnandhra. He said deep-tech governance can deliver unprecedented results and technology-enabled

COLLECTORS ASKED TO IDENTIFY GROWTH ENGINES

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AP Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at the 8th District Collectors' conference at Amaravati on Thursday

systems such as data lake and AWARE should accelerate decision-making and improve the quality of services.

He said that the State achieved 13.44 per cent growth rate in Q1, which is highest in India and stated that 15 to 20 per cent growth rate should be achieved. Giving highest priority to efficiency in leadership qualities among collectors, the Chief Minister stressed the need for result-oriented leadership to resolve issues of people on the spot unlocking old systems.

He said because of geographical imbalances in the State, some regions face water stress. If rivers such as the Godavari, Cauvery, Mahanadi and Ganga are interlinked and a national water grid is created, India's development will become unstoppable, he added. The Chief Minister called upon Collectors to identify the growth engines of their districts and develop new sources of wealth and income. He said every district should identify its top 25 projects, while 10-15 priority projects

should be identified for every constituency.

Citing example Konaseema is known for coconut and paddy, but it has fallen behind in income due to lack of exploring new avenues of income, he added. At the same time by unlocking new opportunities, Eluru district has emerged as one of the best-performing districts with palm oil plantation. He said Ministers, officials and Collectors should compete in delivering government services and winning the confidence of people.

Suggests structured land bank portal

AMARAVATI: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday directed the Revenue Department officials to develop a structured land bank portal containing details of all available government lands across the State.

Speaking at the 8th District Collectors' Conference, he directed the officials to identify lands lying unused for years and upload their details on the portal.

A comprehensive picture of government lands would emerge once the resurvey is completed, he said.

The Chief Minister told the officials to identify lands lying unused with various government departments for years and bring them under a common land bank portal.

Take up student fee dues issue, BJP chief urges Rahul

Ramchander Rao seeks release of ₹15,000-cr pending reimbursements

HYDERABAD

TELANGANA BJP president N Ramchander Rao (NRR) on Thursday wrote an open letter in Italian to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, urging him to listen to the 'goonj' (echo) of students in the state over pending dues under the tuition fees reimbursement scheme.

"Hunger strikes, protests, lathicharges, arrests, student letters to CM, and yet the Goonj of Telangana's students has neither reached Rahul Gandhi nor his arrogant Congress government. So I decided to write to @RahulGandhi in his mother tongue," Rao said in post on X.

Despite repeated appeals and protests by BJP demanding the release of long-pending fee reimbursement dues, the Congress government has failed to respond



to the students' plight, he alleged in the letter.

During his interactions with students across Telangana, one question has repeatedly emerged: "Why does Rahul Gandhi not hear our Goonj?" he asked.

Rao contended that the future of nearly 40 lakh students, particularly those belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes and economically weaker sections, is in jeopardy because of pending fee reimbursement dues amounting to approximately Rs 15,000 crore.

He pointed out that colleges are not giving certificates to students because the government has "failed" to clear the fee reimbursement scheme dues, making it difficult for students to pursue higher education or get jobs.

With the Congress government not clearing the dues, the academic institutions are struggling to function, with many employees receiving only half of their salaries, he said.

When BJP planned to undertake protests, the Congress government sought to suppress the expression of grievances by carrying out arrests, police cases and lathi charges, he alleged.

Even when he decided to undertake a hunger strike, the government denied permission for the proposed venue, compelling him to hold it at the BJP state office, Rao said.

Fly91 takes off on Tirupati-Vijayawada route



BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU
VIJAYAWADA

AIRPORTS Authority of India (AAI) and Vijayawada International Airpothave on Thursday announced the launch of Fly91 Airlines' flight on the Tirupati-Vijayawada-Tirupati route.

To celebrate the milestone, an inaugural ceremony was held at Vijayawada Airport on Thursday. The event was graced by Yarlagadda Venkata Rao, Gannavaram MLA, who formally presented the first boarding passes to the family who booked the flight's maiden tickets.

Tirupati MLA Arani Srinivasulu was present at the function.

The inaugural arrival flight from Tirupati was welcomed

at Vijayawada Airport with a traditional water cannon salute. The route received an overwhelming response from travellers on its first day, with 64 passengers boarding the 68-capacity aircraft out of Vijayawada.

In his address, Venkata Rao said the launch of the new flight will enable passengers to easily access Sriyani Darshan tickets for Lord Balaji at Tirumala. He also emphasised that if international flights to Dubai are operated, it will greatly benefit residents in the catchment areas of the Krishna and Godavari districts, and urged Union Minister of Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu to further expand the international network from Vijayawada Airport.

Hyd fortifies GCC ambitions as FICCI meet maps road to 2035

Over 500 global capability centres are reshaping the city's commercial real estate, residential demand and infrastructure needs, say industry leaders

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU
HYDERABAD

THE Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), in partnership with knowledge partner ANAROCK, hosted the conference "FICCI India Next Growth Frontier: Hyderabad 2035: India's Global Capability Capital" in Hyderabad on Thursday.

Talking about Hyderabad's Real Estate Footprint of GCC Expansion, industry leaders said that the city's rapid emergence as a major hub for GCCs is reshaping its real estate market, talent landscape and urban infrastructure.

VV Rama Raju, Chairman, FICCI Telangana State Council, emphasised the economic multiplier effect that GCCs exert on the region. Highlighting that Hyderabad now hosts over 500 GCCs employing more than 3,00,000 professionals—accounting for 20 per cent of India's GCC workforce—



(L to R) Santhosh Kumar, Group Vice Chairman, Anarock, V V Rama Raju, Chairman, FICCI, Telangana State Council and Founder & MD, Gaja Engineering, SP Reddy, Chairman and MD, Terminus Group and Peush Jain, MD, Anarock at a media briefing in Hyderabad

Rama Raju outlined how incoming global investments directly fuel commercial leasing, residential demand, and retail growth.

Peush Jain, MD, ANAROCK, said: "That the city offers world-class infrastructure spanning over 1.4 billion square feet of development, positioning it among the top global investment destinations."

The conference also saw the release of the knowledge report "Hyderabad – The Rise of a Global Capability Powerhouse," which exam-

ines the city's expanding role as a destination for GCCs, technology-led investment and cross-sector economic growth. Speaking at the event, SP Reddy, Chairman, Terminus Group, said: "Hyderabad recorded 5.2 million sq ft of commercial space absorption during the first half of 2026, with GCCs accounting for an estimated 40-45 per cent of the market. The momentum in the commercial sector has also supported residential demand, with sales rising 12 per cent year-on-year to about 23,700 units."

IN BRIEF

Revanth joins 80s trend on social media

HYDERABAD: Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Thursday jumped on the 1980s nostalgia trend sweeping social media, posting an AI-generated portrait of himself on X and Instagram, captioned "Joining 80s trend."



The image shows Reddy leaning casually against a motorbike, set against a retro backdrop of vintage film posters evoking the old-world charm of the decade. Dressed in an off-white shirt, khaki pants and a brown coat, he is seen smiling, one hand tucked into his pocket and the other resting casually on the bike. The post drew thousands of likes within hours. "80s look... Revanth Anna aura," an Instagram user commented. Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and Kiren Rijiju were among several other prominent personalities who joined the trend, sharing their own AI-generated retro portraits.

High drama in Telangana Council

HYDERABAD: High drama prevailed in the Telangana Legislative Council on Thursday over the dispute concerning prohibited lands listed under Section 22-A. As soon as the House commenced, BRS members moved an adjournment motion seeking an immediate discussion on issues related to 22-A lands. However, Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy rejected the motion and proceeded with the Question Hour. Protesting against the manner in which the House was being conducted, BRS members staged a walkout from the Council. Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council S Madhusudana Chary strongly criticised the conduct of marshals in the Council. Earlier, Legislative Affairs Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu appealed to the members to cooperate by remaining in their seats and allowing the House to function smoothly. However, BRS members continued their protest and subsequently walked out of the House in protest against the proceedings.

Govt hospitals to get MRI machines

HYDERABAD: Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha announced in the Legislative Council that the Telangana government is expanding high-end diagnostic and critical care infrastructure across state-run hospitals. Replying to queries raised by MLCs during the session on Thursday, the Minister stated that the government is procuring nine new state-of-the-art 3-Tesla MRI machines, installing eight CT scanners, and procuring 485 additional ventilators for high-demand facilities. Currently, government hospitals operate nine MRI machines, 50 CT scanners, and 1,770 ventilators. Existing MRI services at major centers—including Gandhi, Osmania General, NIMS, MGM Warangal, RIMS Adilabad, TIMS, and MNJ Cancer Hospital—will soon expand to Government General Hospitals in Nizamabad, Siddipet, Suryapet, Nalgonda, and Mahabubnagar, alongside Niloufer Hospital, he said.

Uppal-Narapally flyover to be ready by June

HYDERABAD: Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Thursday assured the Legislative Council that the long-delayed Uppal-Narapally Elevated Corridor would be completed and thrown open to the public by next June under all circumstances. Responding to queries raised by Leader of the Opposition Sirikonda Madhusudhana Chary and members Teenmar Mallanna and Pingili Sripal Reddy, the Minister admitted that the project—initially launched in 2017-18—had stalled due to severe operational hurdles. However, he emphasised that the Congress government has taken proactive measures to clear the bottlenecks and accelerate construction. Explaining the delay, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy noted that the primary contractor had approached the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). A secondary agency brought in midway to execute the project also failed to deliver.

Cabinet rank given to Naga Babu

AMARAVATI: After the appointment of Konidela Nagendra Rao, MLC, brother of Jana Sena founder and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, as Chairperson of the Executive Committee of AP-GREEN initially for a period of two years, Andhra Pradesh Government issued a GO giving him a Cabinet rank. His pay and allowances are fixed as per GO 3 from the date of assumption of charge as entitled to persons holding posts with the rank of a Cabinet Minister. Nagendra Rao, popularly known as Naga Babu, is a Tollywood actor and producer.

Uniformity in RTI implementation essential: TG Governor

HYDERABAD

CALLING for greater uniformity in the implementation of the Right to Information (RTI) Act across the country, Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Thursday

urged Information Commissions and government departments to strengthen proactive disclosure, leverage technology and ensure faster and more effective access to information for citizens. Inaugurating the two-day national conference

on "RTI: Operational Uniformity in Implementation – Challenges and Solutions" at the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad, the Governor said the effectiveness of the RTI regime should be assessed not merely

by the number of applications and appeals disposed of, but by the extent to which it had enhanced transparency and accountability in governance.

He emphasised the need to give greater importance to proactive disclosure under

Section 4 of the RTI Act, saying government departments should move from a system of providing information only on request to one in which relevant and updated information is routinely placed in the public domain.

Bhogapuram airport sets benchmark in sustainability

Vibrant culture and legacy of Andhra Pradesh are reflected in integrated passenger terminal's unique architectural design

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU
VISAKHAPATNAM

ALLURI Sitarama Raju (ASR) International Airport at Bhogapuram, which was thrown open to commercial flights on August 17, is poised to transform modern aviation infrastructure into a technologically advanced, sustainable, and future-ready entry point.

The project, which is developed and operated by GMR Visakhapatnam International Airport Limited (GVIAL), is seamlessly blended with regional cultural identity with next-generation smart systems, positioning it as a premier next-generation airport in India.

The vibrant culture and legacy of Andhra Pradesh are reflected in the integrated passenger terminal's unique architectural design, which was inspired by the "Parava

Meenu," a flying fish that can be found locally. The terminal, which covers 77,342 square meters, is designed to withstand extreme conditions, including winds of up to 275 kmph. The airport's strong airside infrastructure includes a 55-meter Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower, 18 aircraft stands, and a 3,800-meter Code 4E runway supported by parallel and rapid departure taxiways. The scalable infrastructure is designed to support future development of more than 40 million passengers per annum with an initial capacity of 6 MPPA.

By emphasising digital infrastructure to reduce manual touchpoints and speed up transit from entry to boarding, GVIAL has completely redefined passenger handling. The terminal features automatic self-service bag drops, e-gates, and state-of-



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the-art self-service facilities. The airport uses biometric technologies, such as fingerprint scanning and facial recognition, along with DigiYatra to enable quick and secure identity verification.

The Airport Predictive Operations Center (APOC), a centralized hub that provides real-time visibility and predictive planning across all terminal and airside activities, is at the center of the air-

port's digital ecosystem. The APOC, which is anchored by a giant 14.4-meter video wall, terminal operations, maintenance, social media, and incoming traffic approach monitoring. Landing and takeoff data are automatically recorded in the Airport Operational Database (AOODB) via direct interaction with Air Traffic Control. The Advanced Visual Docking Guidance System (AVDGS) guides aircraft parking on the tarmac, guaranteeing accurate, secure docking with little operator intervention.

Built strictly to Green Building Standards, the project is officially registered with the US Green Building Council (USGBC). The terminal utilizes a Smart Building Management System paired with a highly energy-efficient HVAC system to lower its environmental footprint. To curb airside

emissions, a dedicated fuel hydrant system links the fuel farm directly to the apron. Furthermore, bridge-mounted Ground Power Units (GPU) and Pre-Conditioned Air (PCA) systems drastically minimise aircraft auxiliary power unit usage during turnarounds, ensuring cleaner ground operations.

The airport forecasts traveler flow and traffic trends using advanced artificial intelligence and machine learning models. While real-time weather and traffic updates are provided to the website and social media channels to keep passengers informed, CCTV-based analytics actively monitor essential touchpoints to optimize crowd management and operational planning. Using an AI-enabled system along with an IoT sensor network, terminal hygiene is also automated.