

Parishad nominations begin amid widespread violence

- **Obstruction, attacks and destruction of nomination papers; 39 ZPTC seats in YSR Kadapa district see no nominations**
- **Clashes reported in Palnadu, Punganur, Chittoor, Kadapa, Kakinada, Nellore and other districts; police impose restrictions and detain leaders**
- **SEC seeks reports on urban polls as Supreme Court stays final nomination lists for 19 ULBs**

K VARAPRASADA RAO
AMARAVATI

THE first day of nominations for the second phase of local body elections in Andhra Pradesh on Wednesday was marked by widespread clashes, allegations of intimidation, destruction of nomination papers and police restrictions across several districts. The violence, reported from Rayalaseema to coastal Andhra, disrupted the nomination process in multiple



TDP activists reportedly obstructing YSRCP leader and former Dy CM K Narayana Swamy's car in Chittoor on Wednesday

constituencies, with the YSRCP alleging that its candidates were prevented from filing their papers. The elections cover 10,488 positions, including more than 9,900 Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituency (MPTC) seats, Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency (ZPTC) seats, 659 mandal parishad president posts and zilla parishad chairperson positions. These are the first elections following the reorganisation into 28 zilla parishads. MPTC and ZPTC elections are being contested on party symbols, with webcasting introduced as part of the Election Commission's directions. Nominations will continue until October 23. The situation was particularly tense in Palnadu district. Former YSRCP MLA Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy staged a protest at Mach-erla, alleging that candi-

dates were being prevented from filing nominations and that papers had been torn up. Several former YSRCP MLAs, including Kasu Mahesh Reddy, Vidadala Rajini and Pindilli Ramakrishna Reddy, were reportedly placed under house arrest. In Rompicherla, former MLA Gopireddy Srinivas Reddy clashed verbally with police while attempting to accompany YSRCP candidates to the nomination centre. He staged a road protest for nearly three hours, demanding that his party's candidates be allowed to file nominations. DSP Hanumantha Rao subsequently assured him that they could file their papers the following day under police protection. In Piduguralla, YSRCP ZPTC candidate Bharati and her husband Lakshma Reddy were allegedly attacked by unidentified persons, leaving Lakshma Reddy seriously injured. Punganur in Annamayya district witnessed some of the most serious violence. TDP and YSRCP supporters exchanged stones and blows near nomination centres, prompting police to resort to a lathi-charge. A vehicle belonging to TDP leader Pavan Kumar Reddy was set on fire, while Mohan of Gopi Shetti Palle sustained critical injuries and was shifted to Madanapalle government hospital. Clashes were also reported in Sadum, where a vehicle was set ablaze. YSR Kadapa district witnessed intense confrontations. YSRCP MP Y S Avinash Reddy and party leader Ravindranath Reddy were intercepted while arriving in a rally at the Zilla Parishad office. Stones were allegedly thrown at the group, triggering retaliation before police brought the situation under control. Avinash Reddy staged a road protest for around six hours, while YSRCP candidates reportedly faced restrictions and could not reach nomination centres. The party claimed that not a single nomination was filed for any of the district's 39 ZPTC seats on the first day. An unidentified group also allegedly set a lorry on fire in Pulivendula. In Kakinada district's

Control prices of essential commodities, CM tells officials

Calls for faster implementation of PM Surya Ghar scheme, uninterrupted power supply

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

CHIEF Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu directed officials to take effective measures to control the prices of essential commodities and ensure that the impact of El Niño-related conditions does not burden consumers across the country. During a review meeting on the performance of various government departments through the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) on Wednesday, the Chief Minister stressed the need for close monitoring of the prices of rice, red gram, onions, cooking oil and sugar to prevent unreasonable increases. Reviewing the sale of rice through Rythu Bazaars, Chandrababu Naidu enquired about the public response to the government's initiative. Officials informed him that the programme had received a good response, with encouraging sales. The Chief Minister directed officials to explore the possibility of making fine-quality rice available at affordable prices through Rythu Bazaars during festivals such as Deepavali and Sankranti. He also instructed them to increase onion supplies to ensure that common people do not face any difficulties.



Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu reviews performance various departments at RTGS at the Secretariat on Wednesday

Emphasising the importance of uninterrupted electricity supply, he directed the officials concerned to take stringent measures to prevent disruptions under all circumstances. The Chief Minister called for accelerating the installation of rooftop solar panels under the PM Surya Ghar scheme. Observing that Andhra Pradesh was currently ranked fourth nationally in implementation, he said efforts should be intensified to improve the State's position. He pointed out that another nine lakh connections needed to be installed to achieve the target and instructed officials to prepare and implement an action plan to complete the installations as quickly as possible. Chandrababu Naidu also directed officials to ensure smooth sand supplies without disruptions. He stressed the need to make full use of technology in governance, identify administrative shortcomings and rectify them immediately. The Chief Minister called for better coordination among various government departments to improve service delivery and ensure the effective implementation of government programmes. Chief secretary G Sai Prasad and senior officials from various departments attended the review meeting.

Martyrs' sacrifices inspire police to serve with dedication: SP



HANS NEWS SERVICE
WARANGAL

THE sacrifices of police personnel who laid down their lives to protect people and property would remain ever-green, Mahabubabad Superintendent of Police Dr Shabarish said on Wednesday. Speaking at the Police Commemoration Day programme

held at the Martyrs' Memorial at the district police office, he and District Collector Sneha Shabarish paid floral tributes to the fallen personnel. Dr Shabarish recalled the sacrifice of 10 policemen killed at Hot Springs in Ladakh on October 21, 1959, while performing national security duties. He said the police played a vital role in maintaining peace, law and order, inter-

NAVARATRI BRAHMOTSAVAMS

TTD distributes 22.60 lakh Anna Prasadam packets

Chairman B R Naidu says a total of 6.46 lakh devotees had Srivari darshan from October 12 to 19

PRADEEP VENNELAKANTI
& DUSI VENKATESWARA RAO
TIRUMALA

TTD distributed 22.60 lakh Anna Prasadam packets and sold 34.34 lakh laddus during the Srivari Navaratri Brahmotsavams, which concluded successfully with sacred Chakrasnanam at Tirumala on Tuesday. Addressing the media along with Executive Officer M Ravichandra and other officials at Annamayya Bhavan TTD chairman B R Naidu said, the mega event was conducted smoothly through the coordinated efforts of various departments. Devotees from across the world witnessed the Moola Virat and Vahana Sevas comfortably. Despite continuous heavy rain on Garuda Seva day, devotees participated in the sacred event with devotion, while officials and



TTD chairman B R Naidu along with EO M Ravichandra and additional EO Ch Venkaiah Chowdary speaking to the media in Tirumala on Tuesday

staff performed their duties wearing raincoats. According to TTD, 6.46 lakh devotees had Srivari darshan between October 12 and 19, while hundi offerings amounted to Rs 25.79 crore. Around 2.44 lakh devotees offered tonsure during the period. The APSRTC operated 13,608 trips from Tirupati to Tirumala, carrying 4.01 lakh devotees, and 13,667 return trips, transporting five lakh devotees. TTD's transport wing deployed 39 electric buses and carried around seven lakh devotees in 6,900 trips over the ten-day period. Naidu said the arrangements made for Garuda Seva received positive feedback from pilgrims. About 6,777 artistes from 252 troupes rep-

resenting 26 states, along with Qatar and Dubai, presented cultural programmes before the Vahana Sevas. On Garuda Seva day, 863 artistes from 31 troupes representing 17 states performed. The TTD EO felicitated four outstanding cultural troupes every day. He added that floral decorations in Tirumala used around 60 tonnes of flowers, five lakh cut flowers and 80,000 seasonal flowers. Electric illuminations in Tirumala and Tirupati attracted devotees, while 36 large digital screens helped pilgrims watch the Vahana Sevas. SVBC telecast the celebrations worldwide in enhanced quality, with commentary by eminent scholars. Around 4,500 Srivari Seva volunteers rendered services during the nine-day festival. Medical arrangements included 75 doctors, 10 Srivari Arogya Seva doctors, 60 para-

medical staff, 20 ambulances and four mobile clinics. Security was provided by 2,800 police personnel and 2,000 vigilance staff, with an additional 1,000 police personnel deployed on Garuda Seva day. The chairman said TTD implemented safety measures for elephants, cows, horses and bulls participating in the Vahana Sevas. Devotees were prohibited from directly seeking blessings from elephants to ensure the safety of both pilgrims and animals. Naidu said that around 600 TTD employees from various departments in Tirupati rendered special services during Garuda Seva. Sectoral and in-charge officers monitored pilgrim facilities round the clock. Additional EO Ch Venkaiah Chowdary, CVSO KV Murali Krishna and other officials were present at the media conference.

KMM DCCB expands credit reach; backs farmers, rural traders: CEO

PV SATYANARAYANA
KHAMMAM

THE Khammam District Cooperative Central Bank (DCCB) is strengthening its role as a key financial institution for rural development by expanding access to agricultural credit, supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs, and offering competitive deposit schemes, while maintaining strong recovery performance and sound asset quality, says its Chief Executive Officer N Venkata Aditya. In an exclusive interview with The Hans India, Aditya said the bank is committed to meeting the diverse financial needs of farmers, traders, entrepreneurs and rural households through a comprehensive portfolio of credit facilities and banking services. With a network of 54 branches across the erstwhile Khammam district, the DCCB is seeking to reinforce the cooperative banking system, promote financial inclusion and stimulate sustainable economic activity at the grassroots level. "Our primary objective is to support farmers, strengthen rural livelihoods and accel-

erate economic development through cooperative banking," he said. **Comprehensive credit support for farmers** Agriculture remains a major focus of the bank's lending operations. Under tripartite arrangements, eligible farmers cultivating oil palm can avail themselves of loans of up to Rs 5 lakh during the initial cultivation stage and up to Rs 38 lakh during the yield stage, subject to applicable terms and conditions. The bank also extends loans against agricultural land to eligible borrowers, helping farmers mobilise funds for productive activities and other permitted financial requirements. Aditya said the agricultural lending initiatives were intended to improve access to institutional finance and provide timely financial support to farmers at different stages of cultivation. **Boost to entrepreneurship and business expansion** Beyond agriculture, the DCCB is extending financial assistance to small traders and established businesses to



promote entrepreneurship, facilitate commercial expansion and support employment generation. Under its cooperative business loan schemes, eligible small traders can obtain loans of up to Rs 5 lakh, while larger businesses can access funding of up to Rs 2 crore under the business development scheme. The bank also supports allied agricultural activities, including dairy farming, poultry, sheep rearing and fish farming. Eligible borrowers can avail themselves of loans for purchasing tractors and harvesters, enabling farmers to mechanise agricultural operations, improve productivity and strengthen their income-generating capacity. **Strong recovery, zero net NPA underscore financial discipline** Despite its extensive focus on rural lending and agricultural credit, the Khammam DCCB has maintained a strong recovery record, with gross non-performing assets (NPA) at just 0.95 per cent and net NPA at zero, Aditya said. He attributed the performance to the bank's operational procedures, loan monitoring and recovery mechanisms, which he said were central to maintaining financial discipline and institutional credibility. The low gross NPA level and zero net NPA, he said, reflected the bank's emphasis on responsible lending, effective credit management and the recovery of outstanding loans. "Our strong recovery performance, with gross NPA at 0.95 per cent and net NPA at zero, exemplifies our operational discipline and is a key factor behind the credibility we have earned," he said. Aditya said the bank would continue to balance its developmental role of extending credit to farmers and rural entrepreneurs with prudent

lending practices and sound financial management. **Housing, vehicle and education loans** The DCCB has diversified its lending portfolio to address household and individual financial needs. Its offerings include housing loans, vehicle loans for two-wheelers and four-wheelers, and finance for eligible private and commercial vehicles. The bank also provides loans against eligible properties and plots, besides education loans subject to prescribed conditions. Gold loans offer another avenue for customers to meet financial requirements by pledging eligible gold jewellery, with loan amounts and interest rates determined by the applicable lending terms. The diversified portfolio is intended to serve customers across different income groups and economic activities, extending the bank's reach beyond agriculture and business finance. **Attractive deposit schemes to promote savings** Alongside its lending operations, the bank is seeking to

mobilise savings through deposit products offering competitive advertised interest rates for specified tenures. The Dhanavarsham scheme offers an advertised interest rate of 7.55 per cent for a tenure of 1,000 days, while Kanakavarsham offers 7.45 per cent for 500 days. The Cooperative Savings Recurring Deposit scheme carries an advertised interest rate of 7.30 per cent. Senior citizens are eligible for an additional 0.5 percentage point in interest, subject to the respective scheme rules and prevailing rates. Aditya said the deposit schemes were designed to encourage disciplined savings while providing customers with competitive returns in accordance with the applicable terms and conditions. **Digital services to improve customer convenience** The bank is also providing digital and supplementary banking services, including National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT), Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS), mobile banking and locker facilities at its branches. These services are intended to make banking transactions

more convenient and accessible, enabling customers to meet their financial requirements through formal banking channels. Aditya urged farmers, entrepreneurs, traders and members of the public to make use of the bank's credit facilities, deposit products and other services according to their financial needs and eligibility. Reiterating the institution's commitment to the cooperative movement, he said the DCCB would continue to focus on agricultural devel-

opment, rural entrepreneurship, savings mobilisation and improved customer service. "Our motto is 'development through cooperation — farmers' welfare is our mission.' We remain committed to promoting savings, supporting productive economic activities and strengthening the cooperative banking sector," he said. On the occasion of Dasara and Deepavali, the CEO reaffirmed the bank's commitment to improving its services and contributing to the region's economic development.

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE	
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems) The Divisional Engineer/Track, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work	
1. Name of work with its location	Reconditioning of Switches/Tongue Rails, SEJ's over Delhi Division under DEN/Track/DLI. (NIT-17-26-27-WC)
2. Approx. Cost of work	(1) Rs. 1,87,19,390.00 /
3. Earnest Money	(1) Rs. 3,74,400.00 /-
4. Date and Starting time for filling e-tender & tender opening time	Starting time for filling e-tender is Date-30/10/2026 at 15:00 hrs. & Tender opening time is Date-13/11/2026 at 15:00 hrs.
5. Website particulars, published e-tender, notice location etc. complete details of tender can be seen and web site where the tender form can be downloaded	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No: 128-W/Sr.DEN-C/NIT-17-26-27-WC Dated: 21.10.2026	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	