HC awards six months jail to developer, 3 registration officials for contempt

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LEGAL NOTES



THE Telangana High Court has sentenced the managing director of ADR Estates Pvt Ltd Ch Damodar Rao and three registration officials to six months simple imprisonment for wilfully disobeying an interim order.

The division bench of Justices Kunuru Lakshman and Tukaramji passed the order, while partly allowing the contempt case filed by Chalasani Kalyani Leela. Each contemnor was fined Rs.2,000, payable within four weeks. The jail term was suspended for four weeks.

The case concerns 10 acres in survey no.140 at Bachupally in Medchal-Malkajgiri district. Leela claims the land under a registered sale deed of September 19, 2000. ADR Estates had sought deletion of that deed from the encumbrance certificate, saying earlier civil court judgments had cancelled it. A single judge directed fresh consideration of its representation on December 3, 2021, without hearing Leela. She challenged that order in WA 754 of 2022. On February 2, 2023, a division bench stayed the single judge's order and all consequential steps. She later alleged that registrations continued despite the stay and issued contempt notices in December 2024. ADR Estates argued that the stay was not an injunction against all transactions.

The officials said they were unaware of the order or had acted within their duties, and cited Rule 58 of the Telangana Registration Rules. The bench rejected this; it held that the issue was not whether registering officers could test the validity of documents, but whether they proceeded despite knowing of a subsisting judicial order. It noted that the encumbrance certificate itself recorded the cancellation and the stay and that the respondents did not explain these entries.

A joint sub-registrar received the order on December 6, 2024, yet kept accepting documents. Another sub-registrar, later posted at Quthbullapur, did the same. The bench found the conduct deliberate and wilful. It dismissed the case against the Commissioner and Inspector-General of Registration and Stamps and the district registrar, whose roles were supervisory and who had registered no documents on the property.

CM to address Siddipet public meeting on November 19

Hans News Service
Karimnagar



CHIEF Minister A Revanth Reddy will address a public meeting in Siddipet on November 19, coinciding with former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary.

Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and Labour Minister Vivek Venkataswamy inspected potential venues and reviewed preparations with officials, focusing on parking, traffic management, public amenities and access routes.

Venkataswamy said the meeting would highlight the government's six guarantees and welfare initiatives, including Indiramma housing, family insurance, pensions, fine rice distribution and new ration cards. He said two lakh houses were being constructed across Telangana and breakfast was being provided to 20 lakh students.

Prabhakar said Revanth Reddy would launch the Indiramma Family Insurance Scheme, offering Rs 5 lakh coverage to eligible families, and inaugurate the distribution of Indiramma sarees.

The Chief Minister would also explain welfare measures, agricultural support, women's benefits, recruitment and irrigation projects.

The ministers appealed to Congress workers and people from neighbouring constituencies to attend.

Rural development top priority for Congress government: MLA Revuri

Hans News Service
Warangal



PARKAL MLA Revuri Prakash Reddy said the Congress government was according priority to rural infrastructure, asserting that the State's overall development depended on the progress of villages.

He inaugurated the newly constructed gram panchayat building at Konayamakula village in Geesugonda mandal on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said the government, led by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, was implementing development programmes in phases, focusing on roads, sanitation, drinking water, education and healthcare.

He said the government was identifying people's needs and working to improve basic amenities in every village, with the objective of ensuring balanced development across the State.

Later, Prakash Reddy distributed cheques sanctioned under the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes to eligible beneficiaries from the 15th and 16th divisions of Warangal city and Geesugonda mandal. He said the Congress government was committed to ensuring that welfare schemes reached all eligible sections of society.

Police Commissioner reviews special branch functioning, stresses timely verification



KARIMNAGAR: Police Commissioner Gaush Alam conducted a surprise inspection of the Special Branch (SB) office on Tuesday and reviewed the functioning of various sections. During the visit, he examined official records and held a meeting with officers and staff to assess the progress of their work.

The Commissioner specifically reviewed passport verification, job verification and the issuance of Police Verification Certificates (PVCs). He directed staff to complete all verification procedures accurately within the stipulated time and ensure hassle-free services for applicants.

He also assessed the functioning of the Social Media Wing and Field Officers, stressing timely intelligence gathering and vigilance at the ground level. He instructed personnel to discharge their duties responsibly, avoid unnecessary delays and respond promptly to public applications.

ACP Srinivas, Inspector Anil, DAO Viraj, sub-inspectors and other police personnel attended the meeting.

Sonia Gandhi's book brings political memoirs in focus

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In the memoir, Sonia Gandhi opens up for the first time about the extraordinary twists and turns of a life that has largely unfolded in full public view. It contains moving glimpses of Gandhi's private grief. She writes about the loss of her first child, who died shortly after birth, and the chilling discovery of grenades in a room of their house after Operation Blue Star, the 1984 military operation against Sikh separatists at the Golden Temple in Amritsar. She also provides a ringside view of several turbulent chapters in Indian politics, not least the violent assassinations of her mother-in-law, Indira Gandhi, in 1984 and her husband, Rajiv, in 1991.

"Much has been written about my family, but rarely with real insight into who they were, their motivations, their struggles, their very human flaws. I wanted to portray them honestly, as people I knew and loved," the 79-year-old Gandhi wrote said ahead of the release of the memoir.

Her book also revisits some of the darker episodes that have dogged the Gandhi family and the Congress party, including Indira's imposition of the Emergency in June 1975, a 21-month period during which civil liberties were suspended, political opponents were jailed and the press was gagged, which caused fear and dismay across the country. In Gandhi's account, it also caused a rift within the family.

Born Sonia Maino in 1946 in a small Italian village near Vicenza, she met Rajiv Gandhi — the grandson of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru — at a restaurant in the United Kingdom's Cambridge city. The two got married in New Delhi in 1968, when Rajiv's mother and Nehru's daughter Indira Gandhi was serving as India's prime minister.

In her book Sonia Gandhi talks about her 2004 decision to not take up the top job as prime minister of the world's largest democracy. The Nehru-Gandhi family gave India three prime ministers.

In an excerpt from the book, Sonia said her children - and now senior Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi - had then discussed with her, their mother's possible prime ministership. "One of them asked me straight out whether I would accept the post, just in case our party pulled off a victory. 'Absolutely not' I'd said, almost indignantly,' the excerpt read.

"Neither Rahul nor Priyanka felt that I should become prime minister. They'd lived through the trauma of their grandmother's assassination and the brutal murder of their father. In their minds, holding that office was intrinsically linked with heightened danger. They looked relieved and I, too, felt lighter, having said my views out loud on the question for the first time," Sonia wrote in the memoir.

Ultimately, Gandhi's memoir is a vivid record of six decades of India's political transformation from the Congress-dominated secular republic she moved to in 1968 until today. Gandhi's account offers a glimpse of how deep the political polarisation runs in Indian politics today. In one revealing passage, Gandhi writes that she has had "practically no real contact" with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the 12 years he has led the nation. In fact, at times when the two have been in the same room, such as the Speaker's small chamber, Modi "tends to look away, avoiding eye contact", she says. On one occasion, she adds, he has asked briefly about her health after a hospital stay.

After the 2001 terror attack on parliament, Gandhi immediately called then-BJP prime minister AB Vajpayee to enquire about his safety, a gesture he appreciated.

Gandhi sees an increasingly authoritarian style of politics, in which those in power seek to "belittle and torment" opponents. For years, Gandhi's son, Rahul, has been the subject of BJP's ridicule, which calls him Pappu, a derisive term intended to portray him as inexperienced and naive. She adds that similar things are happening elsewhere in the world, an observation that can be read in the context of US President Donald Trump's use of personal insults and ridicule against opponents.

Sends msg to enemies: Hegseth slams bid to impeach him

WASHINGTON: US secretary of war Pete Hegseth on Tuesday described the impeachment efforts against him as sending a message to Washington's adversaries that the US would punish its own military personnel and political leadership for carrying out "lawful operations."

"In the 250 years of our American republic, no secretary of war or secretary of defence has ever been impeached for carrying out lawful military operations," Hegseth told reporters. The briefing came a day after President Donald Trump backed Hegseth, saying that he had led the US to victory in "two wars" — referring to the Iran war and the US military intervention in Venezuela in January, which resulted in the removal of Nicolas Maduro.

The press conference was the Pentagon chief's first in six months and came a day after Republican US Representative Thomas Massie of Kentucky introduced eight articles of impeachment against him.

India to remain only major economy with workforce surplus thru 2030

Continued from P1

Over 40 per cent of India's population is under 25 years of age, while around 68 per cent, or nearly 961 million people, are of working age, the report said.

Global Capability Centres (GCCs) will play a key role in transforming India's position in the global economy. India had 2,117 GCCs in FY26, employing 2.36 million professionals and generating $98.4 billion in revenue, up from $64.6 billion in FY24. GCCs added nearly 2 lakh net employees during FY26, driven by demand for artificial intelligence, machine learning engineers, cloud experts and product developers. The report said that India's projected skilled workforce surplus of 45 million by 2030 could address roughly 53 per cent of the anticipated global talent shortfall. The talent can either work from established hubs such as Hyderabad or Pune for clients abroad, or it can move to Frankfurt, Toronto or Houston on a work visa. Overseas Indians sent home a record $129.4 billion in remittances in 2024, accounting for 14.3 per cent of global remittance flows and the number of Indians working abroad has increased to 18.5 million from 6.6 million in 1990. "Universities and vocational programmes must teach AI, cloud, cybersecurity, healthcare and advanced manufacturing, not only coding. The 2025–26 Union Budget announced a national framework to promote GCCs in tier II cities.

Transport Minister to meet EV makers today

Continued from P1

Furthermore, the Minister will seek suggestions on topics such as the manufacturing of automobiles and electric vehicles, the development of EV charging infrastructure, battery technology, clean mobility, and the integration of advanced technologies within the transport sector. The meeting will also identify key topics for discussion at the dedicated session on automobile and EV sectors at the Global Summit and ways to strengthen coordination between industries and government departments, with the goal of establishing Telangana as a premier investment destination for the automobile and EV sectors.

'Surrender to Iran's 7 conditions'

Continued from P1

Iran's seven conditions include an end to the hostilities on all fronts, lifting the US naval blockade along the Strait of Hormuz, reopening the shipping lanes in the strait immediately and lifting of economic sanctions on Iran. "The war against Iran has torn the US government apart, but Washington is flailing like a desperate gambler - Stop playing. Stop making up news about imaginary negotiations. Do not deny the new order in West Asia -It is time to surrender to Iran's seven conditions," Rezaei told Iranian media. On Monday, Trump engaged in a high-level dialogue with Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani. The US President announced that key Gulf allies have backed an unprecedented joint land-and-sea blockade against Iran under "Operation Iron Gate," declaring that preventing Tehran from acquiring nuclear weapons remains strictly "non-negotiable."

While warning that American forces remain in a high state of combat readiness should regional dynamics deteriorate, Trump projected optimism regarding a potential de-escalation, noting signs of progress toward winding down the hostilities.

'WHITEWASHING'

Sonia trying to justify Emergency in her memoir: BJP

NEW DELHI: The BJP on Tuesday accused former Congress president Sonia Gandhi of trying to justify the Emergency in her memoir and said it should have been named "whitewashing" instead of "Belonging: A Journey of Love". Taking to X, BJP's national spokesperson C R Kesavan said the book appears to be an attempt to "sugar-coat the historical wrongs perpetrated" by the Nehru-Gandhi family, which held power at the Centre for several years.

"Sonia Gandhi could have titled her memoir as 'Whitewashing' instead of 'Belonging', because the motive of this book appears to be sugarcoating the historical wrongs perpetrated by the Nehru-Gandhi family and camouflaging the cardinal sins committed by the Congress party," Kesavan said.

SC seeks WhatsApp's action plan to curb digital arrest scams

Continued from P1

The matter has been listed for further hearing on November 23. During the earlier hearing, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for WhatsApp, informed the bench that the platform had taken preventive measures, including action against 9,400 accounts. He also assured the court that an affidavit detailing the steps taken would be filed. Sibal further submitted that WhatsApp was developing software to identify suspicious accounts and alert users. The latest directions come amid growing concerns over digital arrest scams and other cyber frauds, with the apex court stressing the need for stronger accountability of financial institutions and digital platforms.

Nvidia CEO told me he didn't know Alice was a spy: Trump

Washington

US President Donald Trump took a sympathetic tone towards Jensen Huang on Monday, saying the Nvidia CEO was "suffering greatly" and didn't know a woman he had an affair with was an alleged Chinese spy.

Trump also danced around the question of when he personally was aware of intelligence linking the chip boss to Alice Huang, a Chinese executive who had allegedly been funnelling information to Beijing.

The US leader said he had spoken to Huang earlier on Monday "to see if he's feeling alright," calling the Taiwanese-born tech boss an "amazing guy."

"I asked him that question, 'did you have any idea that she was a spy?' He said, 'I had no idea that she was a spy,' and I really believe him," Trump told reporters at the White House.

He added: "I hope there is no problem. I believe he is suffering greatly... more so because of his family, his wife, who he loves, and his family. But he's definitely suffering."

Jensen Huang sent a message to Nvidia employees on Sunday in which he acknowledged having an affair and apologized to both his family and company staff.

Trump said he was not aware about the allegations when Huang accompanied him to China in May. Huang is a key figure in the AI revolution and close to the US President. "No, I didn't hear about it then. But a lot of people have heard about it," Trump said. Huang has also attended numerous White House events, including a state visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping in September.



Don't exploit your position for personal gain: CM to police

Continued from P1

The Chief minister urged the newly appointed DSPs not to forget the purpose of joining the police force.

The direction in which the future of Telangana will move over the next thirty years lies in the police hands.

Revanth Reddy underscored the need for the police to be first to react when people face a problem. "People trust the police force because the cops have dedicated everything to maintaining law and order.

The police force has earned its standing in society because many senior officers have worked with absolute integrity. You must uphold that legacy," he added.

The Chief Minister slammed Opposition party for creating hurdles in the recruitment of the DSPs. Some forces deliberately leveled numerous allegations against these recruitments including crores of rupees corruption. The state government took the matter of the DSP appointments to the Supreme Court by engaging highly skilled legal counsel and successfully secured the appointments, he explained.

The Chief Minister held the previous BRS government responsible for not conducting Group 1 exams. The TGPSC had effectively turned into a hub for the 'political rehabilitation' of certain individuals during the BRS rule, the CM charged. The Congress government selected individuals with experience in conducting competitive examinations and those with integrity to serve as board members, he claimed.