Sridhar Babu: Rahul needs no re-launch; scoffs at NRR jibes

- Questions BJP's objection to Rahul's invitation
- Rejects allegations of political motive
- Representatives from nearly 70 countries expected
- Summit to focus on technology & global challenges
- Gen Z issues to figure prominently
- SIR & NEET issues also likely to be discussed



Venkateshwarlu Kolishetty
Hyderabad

IT Minister D Sridhar Babu questioned Telangana BJP unit chief N Ramchandar Rao to tell what was wrong with inviting Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, to the Bharat Summit, scheduled to begin in Hyderabad on November 12. He said the BJP's remark describing the invitation as an attempt to're-launch' Rahul Gandhi reflected a lack of understanding, as he was already a prominent national and international leader.

Responding to criticism over the invitation by the Telangana BJP chief, Sridhar Babu, speaking along with Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka in Hyderabad at the Bharat Summit venue HICC on Wednesday, clarified that the summit was not intended to serve any political purpose. He said discussions would focus on the fundamental challenges facing the country and explore solutions to address them. Anyone interested in sharing views on technology and contemporary issues would be welcome, he added.

Stating that the Congress and BJP followed distinctly different ideologies, Sridhar Babu said the Congress believed in progressive values and that representatives of all parties with progressive ideologies had been invited to participate in the summit.

He said representatives from nearly 70 countries were expected to attend the Bharat Summit, which was envisioned as an economic platform to discuss emerging global trends, technological developments and ways to address contemporary challenges. Issues concerning Gen Z would also figure prominently in the discussions.

Sridhar Babu said, "It is not about politics... our earnest desire is for India, through this summit, to provide solutions to the problems currently facing the world. This is serving the purpose of an Economic Summit".

The Minister further said the Centre's approach towards the Special Investment Region (SIR) would also be discussed, along with measures to address concerns surrounding it. Referring to the NEET issue, he claimed that the Centre acted only after Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi intervened and raised the matter.

CONTEMPT CASE

HC orders DGP to produce HYDRAA chief Ranganath

Legal Correspondent
Hyderabad



THE Telangana High Court on Wednesday directed the Director-General of Police to ensure that HYDRAA Commissioner A V Ranganath appears before it on November 17, for allegedly violating court orders.

Justice C V Bhaskar Reddy directed the Superintendent of Police, Cyberabad, to secure the presence of the Shamshabad tahsildar on the same day.

The judge heard yet another contempt case against the commissioner. He was displeased with what he described as a casual approach to court orders. The court had earlier issued Form-1 notices to both officials, asking them to appear on November 11. Instead of appearing, they filed interim applications seeking exemption. The judge found their reasons unconvincing and passed the order for their appearance on Tuesday.

The contempt case was filed by Mohammed Tajamaluddin Moinuddin Khan of Jahnuma. He alleged that the commissioner and the tahsildar forcibly entered his land and took possession, in violation of court orders. The land measures 43,560 square yards and lies in Survey No. 626/2AA in Shamshabad. He claimed the officials demolished structures and put up fencing with a board declaring it government property. This was done, he said, without giving him any notice.

The dispute goes back to October 23, 2024. On that day, the judge heard writ 29395/2024, filed by the petitioner. He had sought a direction to the government to delete his land from the prohibited list under Section 22-A of the Registration Act, 1908. The judge had then asked him to file an application, along with documents proving his ownership, before the competent authority to seek redress.

The case was adjourned to November 17 for appearance of the commissioner and the tahsildar.

It's anti-Bharat Summit, says NRR

Hans News Service
Hyderabad



BJP Telangana State President N Ramchander Rao on Wednesday alleged that the Bharat Summit planned by Congress at HITEX in Hyderabad is an Anti-Bharat Summit run by anti-national forces. Addressing reporters alongside party leaders Kalyan Naik, Ravi Naik, Solanki Srinivas, Mutyala Tirupati Reddy, and Chakradhar Rao, he stated that while initially projected as an investment conference, recent statements by Salman Khurshid and Sam Pitroda revealed it as a conspiratorial gathering backed by foreign entities. He claimed the platform is being used to project Rahul Gandhi to delegates from 100 countries as a future Prime Minister.

Ramchander Rao alleged that behind the Progressive Alliance are dangerous forces attempting to overthrow democratic governments internationally. Citing investigative reports, he claimed 101 organisations running an Islamic and communist protest ecosystem across nine countries are behind this alliance. He stated that Rahul Gandhi holds a key role in this system, which he alleged backed violent regime-change riots in countries such as France, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh. He demanded financial disclosures regarding who funded those disruptions, pointing out that Sonia Gandhi met Progressive International delegations funded by anti-India entities like George Soros at 10 Janpath, alongside Mallikarjun Kharge at the AICC office.

He warned that the alliance includes representatives from 42 Islamic nations, leftist countries, and dictatorial monarchies targeting Hyderabad to incite continuous chaos until the 2029 general elections. Recalling that Rs 29 crore of public funds was previously spent on the summit, he criticized efforts to misuse state resources again. He demanded that Sonia, Rahul, and Priyanka Gandhi explain their links with the Progressive Alliance. Noting that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy might be unaware of these international conspiracies, Ramchander Rao warned that Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi should enter Telangana only after implementing their six electoral guarantees, warning that BJP workers will protest and block them at every step if promises remain unfulfilled.

Ponguleti unveils revised SOP with clear guidelines for land re-survey

Venkateshwarlu Kolishetty
Hyderabad



MINSTER Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has directed District Collectors to continuously monitor the ongoing comprehensive land resurvey and take proactive measures at the field level to create awareness among farmers and resolve land-related disputes.

The minister said the government had already issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for conducting the re-survey. However, while it was being implemented effectively in some areas, officials in other regions were adopting different approaches based on local conditions.

Taking into account the feedback and suggestions of field-level officials, the government would introduce necessary amendments and additions to the SOP to provide clearer guidelines and practical solutions to challenges encountered during the survey, while accommodating local circumstances.

During a video conference with District Collectors, Additional Collectors, RDOs and Survey Department officials at the Secretariat on Wednesday, the minister stressed the need for coordinated and transparent implementation of the re-survey to provide permanent solutions to land-related issues.

He instructed officials to clearly explain to farmers the procedure for submitting objections after completion of the survey. Following the issuance of notices, public announcements through traditional methods such as chatimpu must be made in villages every 15 days. Collectors should also visit the villages regularly to address farmers' concerns.

Officials were directed to inform landowners about the extent of their land recorded in revenue documents and the extent identified during the re-survey, ensuring clarity on discrepancies. The minister announced that Palair constituency would be taken up as a pilot project, covering all 141 revenue villages. Currently, two survey teams and two rovers have been allocated to each mandal. A total of 708 rovers are being used for the statewide exercise, and another 400 will be deployed within a week.

He said the government would amend and supplement the existing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) based on feedback and suggestions from field-level officials. The revised guidelines would address practical difficulties and ensure uniform implementation while taking local conditions into account.

TG to replace Intermediate system with 10+2 structure

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Reviewing the progress of the 'Young India Integrated Residential Schools' (YIIRS) project, Revanth Reddy ordered the engineering officials to expedite the construction work and ensure that the projects are completed as per timelines. The officials were directed to select top-tier agencies for landscaping, interior design, procurement of digital equipment, sports gear, and kitchen facilities without compromising on quality.

The Chief Minister directed officials to accelerate the process of recruitment for filling Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, and other faculty positions in universities. The Chief Minister emphasized that the regulations governing the recruitment process must be strictly followed and urged the Chairman of the Telangana State Council of Higher Education as well as the vice-chancellors of the universities to pay special attention to this matter.

Anthropic CEO claims cancer will be history in 10 years

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Pharmaceutical leaders emphasise that speeding up initial molecule discovery does not bypass clinical trials, regulatory reviews, or biological testing in animal and human models-a phase that makes up the vast majority of the 10-to-12-year drug development pipeline.

Finding a molecule that looks promising on a computer screen is only the beginning. It still has to be tested in laboratories, animal models and eventually human clinical trials to establish whether it is safe and actually works. AI may speed up the search for potential treatments, but it cannot simply make these steps disappear.

Critics such as cognitive scientist Gary Marcus, and cardiologist and digital medicine expert Eric Topol point out that current AI models lack the deep causal and biological understanding required to reliably yield breakthrough cures, and as of 2026, no AI-designed drug has achieved full clinical adoption.

Rahul Gandhi to visit US for fireside chats at Columbia varsity

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Indian Overseas Congress chairman Sam Pitroda said the visit is built around academic conversations and not diaspora rallies. "He is required here at Columbia University on the 17th and Chicago on 18th November," Pitroda said. "He is here for a fireside chat at Columbia University." He added that Gandhi will then travel to Chicago.

Pitroda said the first chat at Columbia will focus on the global student movement and the implications of that on overall global politics. Gandhi will be in conversation with Robert Pape, a political science professor at the University of Chicago, on international affairs and geopolitics. Pitroda called both events very important and timely.

REVANTH SAYS BRS WILL JOIN HANDS WITH BJP

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Therefore, the government was providing avenues for skill development to create more blue collar jobs that cannot be performed by AI even in the future.

The government was prioritising the development of skills and sports. "We have already established the Young India Skills University and a Sports University," Revanth Reddy said, while appealing to Muslims to provide education to their children. " It is my responsibility to understand your challenges and resolve them," he observed. Education alone had the power to transform lives; so, children should receive education and acquire skills, he underlined.

The Chief Minister highlighted the political empowerment of Muslims through posts and felicitations of talented sportspersons. Famous cricketer Azharuddin was inducted in the state Cabinet and Shabbir Ali was appointed as an advisor. The state government has honoured minority athletes, Nikhat and Siraj, who brought prestige to the nation in sports with both cash rewards and government jobs. Parents should encourage children to excel in sports like Nikhat Zareen and Sirajuddin, he suggested.

BJP MLAs, MPs have become 'ashta grahalu': KTR

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There are eight MLAs and eight MPs of BJP in Telangana but they are doing nothing for the state. They have become 'ashta grahalu'. They (BJP legislators) are not useful for Telangana. The BRS leader slammed the Nirmal MLA. He said, "You ensured victory of BJP MLA here. He has not even done single paisa work in the constituency. He did not talk when the BRS MLAs were arrested near the Assembly. He only supports Revanth Reddy. They are selling CCI (Cement Corporation of India) for scrap. The BJP government has not given national project status to a single project in the state. No medical colleges, no Navodaya schools to the state, whereas we made Nirmal as a district."

Questioning the rally taken out by the BJP in support of the Election Commission of India, KTR said, "When the country is protesting against ECI, why should BJP have a problem? When BJP is protesting on this, this means 'daal me kuch kala hai' (something is fishy)."

KTR called on the people to defeat and ensure political burial of the Congress party in the next elections and to re-elect KCR as the next Chief Minister of the state. KTR lashed out at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy stating that instead of addressing the hardships faced by farmers, he was suggesting that villagers should 'stage plays'. He questioned whether political gain was more important to Revanth Reddy than the lives of farmers. KTR expressed his deep concern over the severe distress faced by agricultural laborers in villages due to a lack of work. He demanded that the government provide financial assistance of Rs. 1,000 per month totalling Rs. 36,000 -covering 36 months - to every agricultural labourer who has lost their livelihood due to the drought. He further demanded the immediate release of the four pending installments of the 'Rythu Bandhu', rescheduling of bank loans taken by farmers in light of the drought and immediate completion of the remaining farm loan waiver process. KTR alleged that under Revanth Reddy's administration, the entire welfare system had been utterly destroyed.

Revanth Reddy has incurred a debt of 4.5 lakh crore rupees in just three years. "Where is all this money going, given that not a single promise has been fulfilled? We brought the Congress, a mere weed, upon ourselves, and now, misfortune has returned to our doorstep. The Congress party came to power by peddling lies and painting a rosy, illusory picture of a 'paradise' that never existed," he said.

Stolen Olympic gold of hockey star recovered

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The suspects broke into Somaya's house in late October while the family was away in Kodagu and were unaware of the significance of the cluster of metallic prizes they picked up as they swept up cash and jewellery worth Rs 3.5 lakh.

Police said the suspects sold a gold medal and a silver medal to a firm in Rajajinagar. "This was one of the most challenging cases for us because we did not have any clues. We finally managed to detect the case and recover the stolen articles. The two accused have been involved in similar crimes earlier. We will ensure that they do not repeat such acts," police commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said, announcing a Rs 1 lakh reward for the police.

Singh said police recovered two medals from the firm, while the other six were found at one suspect's Hoskote house.

Murmu's bodyguard shot over firecracker dispute

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Police said the disagreement soon escalated into violence as Dheeraj allegedly pulled out a country-made pistol and opened fire. The bullet first struck a wall before hitting Saurabh in the head.

The accused also allegedly assaulted Vineet and threatened the family with dire consequences before fleeing. Family members rushed Saurabh to a hospital, where doctors performed surgery and removed the bullet.

His condition is now reported to be stable.

Police registered an FIR against Dheeraj and Monu on charges of attempt to murder. Circle Officer Anshu Jain said, "Efforts are underway to trace and arrest the accused."

Ship carrying 6 Indian seafarers hit in Persian Gulf

NEW DELHI: An oil tanker carrying six Indian seafarers was struck by a projectile while sailing through the Persian Gulf, Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said on Wednesday. The Liberia-flagged VLCC MT FUJAIRAH ENERGY was hit on Tuesday while travelling from Al Ruwais to Dubai. In a post on X, Sonowal said four crew members were injured in the attack, including an Indian national who suffered minor injuries. The injured sailor has been safely taken ashore for further medical examination. The remaining 18 crew members, including the other five Indian seafarers, are safe, the minister said. "We are continuously monitoring the situation and remain in close contact with the ship management company to ensure the ongoing security, medical care and well-being of our seafarers," he added.

Cabinet nod for ₹62,370-cr rabi fertiliser subsidy

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The approval comes against the backdrop of the government's nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) framework, under which phosphatic and potassic fertilisers are supplied to farmers at subsidised prices.

Under the scheme, the Centre fixes subsidy rates for different nutrients for each cropping season, considering prevailing domestic and international prices of fertilisers and their inputs. The subsidy is paid to manufacturers and importers to support the availability of fertilisers at affordable prices. For the preceding rabi season of 2025-26, the government had approved a subsidy requirement of approximately Rs 37,952 crore.

The Cabinet subsequently cleared about Rs 41,534 crore for the kharif 2026 season. The government's fertiliser subsidy programme covers key agricultural inputs used in cultivating crops, including wheat, pulses and oilseeds.

In another decision, the Cabinet approved a Rs 5,000-crore credit guarantee fund under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana. Launched in April 2015, the scheme facilitates institutional credit for small businesses and microenterprises through banks, non-banking financial companies and other eligible lending institutions. The existing Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units, administered by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company, provides protection to eligible lenders against defaults on covered microenterprise loans. The government's credit guarantee mechanism is intended to support collateral-free lending to eligible small borrowers.