

SHORT  
TAKES

Congress govt failed to address problems of tribals



**HYDERABAD:** BJP State President N Ramchander Rao today demanded the state Congress government immediately address unresolved local issues in tribal regions particularly regarding Podu lands rather than making empty promises only during elections times. He was addressing the gathering after paying floral tribute to Komaram Bheem on his jayanthi celebration held at the BJP state office here. On the occasion Union minister G Kishan Reddy, party MPs, MLAs and other leaders paid tribute chanting slogans in honour of Komaram Bheem and his ideals “ Johar Komaram Bheem and Bharat Mata Ki Jai. Rao said the tribal Gond freedom fighter Komaram Bheem fought against the tyrannical rule of the Nizam under the slogan "Jal, Jungle, Zameen" (Water, Forest, Land) for tribal rights, land, and liberation. He noted how Komaram Bheem's legacy continues to inspire people during Telangana movements and everyday life. BJP chief criticized the Congress government for neglecting the development of agency and tribal areas, pointing out inadequate medical facilities, roads, schools, and issues with the roster system for Scheduled Tribe reservations.

Tenders Issued for Procurement of 7,800 MW of Renewable Energy

- Pre-bid meeting held at Vidyut Soudha
- Around 120 bidders participate online and 70 in person
- Clarifications assured to ensure a transparent tendering process

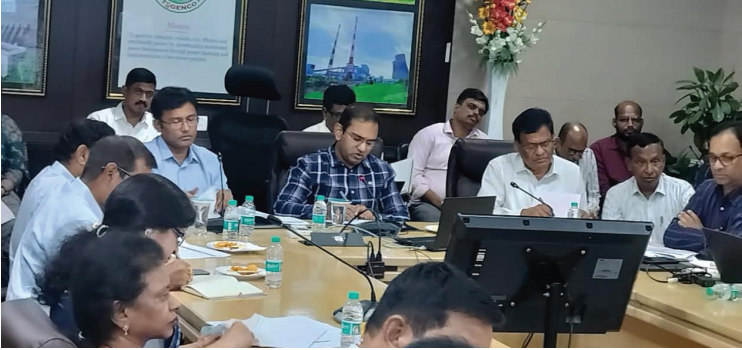
HYDERABAD

In line with the objectives of the Telangana Clean and Green Energy Policy-2025, TGREDCO and TGGENCO have issued tenders for the procurement of a total of 7,800 MW of renewable energy to strengthen the state's renewable energy generation and energy storage capacities.

A pre-bid meeting in connection with these tenders was held on Thursday at Vidyut Soudha, Hyderabad. Around 120 prospective bidders participated online, while 70 attended in person, taking the total participation to approximately 190.

Details of the Tenders

2,000 MW FDRE by TGREDCO: Tenders have been issued for the procurement of Firm and Dispatchable Re-



newable Energy (FDRE) on a round-the-clock (RTC) basis. The minimum bid capacity is 50 MW, while the maximum is 1,000 MW.

- 3,000 MW Solar Power with Battery Storage: TGREDCO has invited bids for the procurement of 3,000 MW of solar power along with an associated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of 1,000 MW capacity and 6,000 MWh storage capacity. The minimum bid capacity is 50 MW.

- 800 MW Wind Power: TGREDCO has invited tenders for the procurement of 800 MW of wind power, with a minimum bid capacity of 50 MW and a maximum of 400 MW.

- 2,000 MW BESS by TGGENCO: TGGENCO has issued tenders for a 2,000 MW Battery Energy Storage System under the FDRE framework, comprising four units equivalent to 500 MW each, capable of storing and supplying electricity for four hours.

Bidders' Queries Discussed

During the pre-bid meeting, several prospective bidders raised queries regarding the tender conditions and technical aspects. The officials discussed the issues raised and provided clarifications wherever possible. They assured the participants that their queries and objections would be ex-

amined and appropriate clarifications provided, with a focus on transparency throughout the tendering process.

Speaking on the occasion, Sri Musharraf Faruqi, IAS, Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Telangana REDCO, stated that the tendering process was being carried out in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations. He noted that the procedures followed by the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) in its successfully concluded tendering processes were being adopted.

Dr. S. Harish, IAS, Chairman and Managing Director of Telangana GENCO, stated that several measures were being taken to ensure adequate power availability in line with the growing electricity demand. He requested prospective bidders to email their queries and suggestions to the authorities and assured them that the issues raised would be examined and appropriate clarifications provided.

The tenders are aimed at expanding Telangana's renewable energy capacity, promoting battery-based energy storage solutions and ensuring the availability of clean energy to meet the state's growing power demand.



Former Minister Harish blames Congress for crop losses, farmers' distress

HYDERABAD

Former Minister and BRS Legislature Party Deputy Floor Leader T. Harish Rao on Thursday visited paddy fields that had withered due to a lack of irrigation water and power supply at Burugupalli village in Gajwel mandal of Siddipet district.

Harish Rao consoled distressed farmers who broke down in tears while showing him their crops that had dried up just before harvest. He assured them of his support before interacting with farmers and addressing the media.

The BRS leader alleged that nearly 12 lakh acres of crops had dried up during the ongoing vanakalam (kharif) season due to the Congress government's failure to take preventive measures, leaving farmers in distress while the government remained indifferent to their plight. He accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of behaving like someone "playing the fiddle while Rome burned".

"This is not a drought caused by nature; it is entire-

ly a drought brought upon the State by the Congress government," Harish Rao alleged.

He said scientists and agriculture officials had warned the government 10 months ago about the possibility of drought conditions due to the El Niño effect. However, the government had failed to take precautionary measures, he charged.

Harish Rao said cotton farmers in Adilabad, Nalgonda, Medak, Karimnagar, Mahabubnagar, Khammam and other districts had suffered severe losses, with many unable to recover even their initial investments. Cotton yields, which should normally be around 10 quintals per acre, had dropped to just two or three quintals or even less, he said.

In contrast, the Maharashtra government had announced immediate assistance of Rs. 5,000 per acre to farmers, while the Andhra Pradesh government had declared drought-affected mandals. Some other States had also released funds to district collectors to make alternative arrangements for drinking water, he said.

Grand Birthday Celebrations Held for Dr. B. Sunil Kumar

SURYAPET

The birthday celebrations of Dr. B. Sunil Kumar, a doctor at Jyothi Multispecialty Hospital in the district headquarters, were held grandly on Thursday under the aegis of the hospital staff.

On the occasion, the staff cut a birthday cake, felicitated Dr. Sunil Kumar with shawls, and extended their heartfelt birthday wishes. They expressed their wishes for Dr. Sunil Kumar, a people's doctor who has been providing numerous medical

services to the poor and common people through his profession, to enjoy a long life filled with good health and happiness. They also prayed that God would bless him with the strength to continue serving the public for many more years.

Later, Dr. Sunil Kumar expressed his special thanks to everyone who conveyed birthday wishes to him. He stated that, with their love, affection, and blessings, he would strive to undertake more service activities in the coming days.

Gugulothu Linga Naik, Jatothu



Suresh Kumar, Deputy Sarpanch Jatothu Bhanu Naik, Lavudya Chandrashekhar, Jatothu Naveen, Jatothu

Vinod, Sapavath Malsur, Dharavath Vinay, and others participated in the programme.

Work together to win Graduate MLC polls, says Minister Ponnam

HYDERABAD

Hyderabad-Rangareddy-Mahabubnagar district in-charge Minister Ponnam Prabhakar has called upon Congress leaders and party workers to work in coordination to ensure the victory of party candidate Sama Rammohan Reddy in the upcoming Graduate MLC elections.

A preparatory meeting for the elections was held at Red Rose Garden in Nampally, with Ponnam Prabhakar attending as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, he said the Graduate MLC elections in Hyderabad were politically significant for the Congress and that victory would help the party demonstrate its strength ahead of future elections in the city.

He said Sama Rammohan Reddy, the Congress party spokesperson, had been finalised as the party's candidate based on the advice and suggestions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, PCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud and senior party lead-



ers. He urged every party leader and worker to discharge their responsibilities effectively to ensure the candidate's victory.

The minister stressed that the registration of all eligible graduate voters must be completed by November 6. In view of the ongoing festival season, he asked party workers to launch intensive field-level activities from the following day.

He directed booth presidents, block presidents, leaders of affiliated organisations and booth-level agents to coordinate their efforts across the constituencies in Hyderabad. He

called for special attention to identifying eligible graduates, including employees of government and private schools and colleges, staff of various organisations, teachers and lawyers, and ensuring their registration as voters. Ponnam Prabhakar instructed senior leaders to effectively coordinate the election-related activities across Hyderabad, Rangareddy and Mahabubnagar districts. He asked them to monitor voter registration daily in coordination with PCC leaders. He said that he, Minister Azharuddin and other leaders would periodically review field-level activities.

Highlighting the Congress government's achievements since coming to power in Telangana, Ponnam Prabhakar said thousands of government jobs had been provided to unemployed youth. He added that steps had also been taken to address the problems of employees in various departments. He urged party leaders to explain the government's achievements to the public while listening to

people's grievances and building support for the party.

The minister further said the government was spending thousands of crores of rupees on Hyderabad's comprehensive development and called upon party leaders to take development initiatives to the people. He announced that he would tour Jubilee Hills and other constituencies with party leaders over the next four to five days to accelerate graduate voter registration. Minister Azharuddin, Government Advisor V. Hanumantha Rao, MP Mallu Ravi, Rajya Sabha member Anil Kumar Yadav, Congress MLC candidate Sama Rammohan Reddy, MLAs Naveen Yadav and Sri Ganesh, MLC Balamuri Venkat, Congress presidents of Khairatabad, Secunderabad and Hyderabad districts, corporation chairpersons, in-charges of 15 Assembly constituencies, PCC coordinators, leaders of frontal organisations and affiliated associations, and other party leaders attended the meeting.

Jakkidi Shiva Charan Reddy Pays a Courtesy Visit to RSR



HYDERABAD

Telangana Youth Congress President Jakkidi Shiva Charan Reddy paid a courtesy visit to Ramreddy Sarvotham Reddy, Congress party candidate for the Nalgonda-Khammam-Warangal Graduates' MLC elections, at his residence in Hyderabad on Thursday. The two

leaders discussed expediting the graduates' voter registration process with the active participation of Youth Congress workers across the erstwhile Nalgonda, Khammam and Warangal districts.

They called upon Youth Congress cadres to actively participate in the voter registration drive and ensure that every eligible

graduate is registered as a voter.

Suryapet District Youth Congress President Elimineti Abhinay, Youth Congress State General Secretary Yerramalli Ramachandra Reddy, LB Nagar Assembly President Katravath Shiva, Pinapakla Constituency President Yadamakanti Sudhakar, and other leaders were also present.



CCMB scientists discover key protein that triggers antiviral therapies

HYDERABAD

Scientists at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB), Hyderabad, have discovered how a human protein called DZIP3 detects viral RNA and activates the body's immune response, opening up new possibilities for developing broad-spectrum antiviral therapies.

The research, led by Dr. Santosh Chauhan's group, reveals that DZIP3 acts as an early-warning sensor, detecting viral genetic material and activating key immune defence proteins. The findings have been published in "The EMBO Journal".

The study found that upon detecting viral RNA, DZIP3 changes its shape and moves to

the mitochondria, the cell's energy-producing structures. There, it activates immune defence mechanisms that trigger the release of Type I interferons, which help prevent viruses from multiplying.

The team demonstrated that this pathway offers protection against several disease-causing viruses, including SARS-CoV-2, Chikungunya and Japanese Encephalitis. Building on the discovery, the researchers are developing small-molecule drug candidates to enhance DZIP3 activity and strengthen the body's natural antiviral defences.

Dr. Chauhan, Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR-CCMB and lead author, said the discovery deepens understanding of human immunity and could pave the way for broad-spectrum treatments against emerging viral threats.

Palamuru leaders urge Uttam to halt water diversion to Dindi project

HYDERABAD

Representatives from Palamuru district on Thursday urged Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy to stop diverting water from Palamuru to the Dindi project, warning that the move could adversely affect the Palamuru ayacut. Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, MP Mallu Ravi, district MLAs, Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy and former minister K. Jana Reddy, among others, met Uttam Kumar Reddy and held discussions with him for nearly one-and-a-half hours.

They apprised the Minister of the problems associated with the Dindi project and urged him to explore an alternative route to supply water to the project instead of drawing it from Yedula. Clarifying that they were not opposed to supplying water to the Dindi project, the representatives said diverting water from Yedula would affect irrigation in the Palamuru ayacut. Uttam Kumar Reddy assured them that he would discuss the issue with officials and take a decision acceptable to all stakeholders.

BRS accepts Minister Jupally's challenge on Palamuru-Ranga Reddy project



HYDERABAD

Former Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy and former MLA Beeram Harshavardhan Reddy on Thursday inspected the Tundu dam near Kudikilla in Nagarkurnool district. On the occasion, Niranjan Reddy said water had reached the dam and stopped there. He asserted that removing the dam gates would allow the water to flow further and challenged those who had doubts about the number of days the water would flow to obtain an estimate.

He recalled that five reservoirs with a combined capacity of 70

TMC had been constructed during the previous BRS government and that 27,000 acres of land had been acquired.

He said surge pools, pump houses, motors and power lines had been completed at a cost of Rs.35,000 crore. He added that 31 km of twin tunnels had been excavated as part of the project.

Niranjan Reddy asserted that water could be transferred to the reservoirs through the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme. He said that if the Congress government was unable to complete the task, it should hand over the project to the BRS. Declar-

ing his confidence in the scheme, he vowed that if water could not be transferred, he would cut his tongue and never speak about the issue again.

Accepting the challenge posed by State Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, Niranjan Reddy said that, considering the technical aspects, removing the dam to an extent sufficient for the capacity of two pumps would enable water to flow by gravity to the Edula, Wattem and Karvena reservoirs. He advised the minister to avoid making rash remarks and instead focus on ensuring water supply to farmers.

Hyd to host international congress on sickle cell disease

HYDERABAD

Hyderabad will host the fourth Global Action Network for Sickle Cell and Other Inherited Blood Disorders (GANSID) Congress 2026 from October 23 to 25 at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC), Novotel in Madhapur. Lanre Tunji-Ajayi, CEO of GANSID, and Dr. Chandrakant Agrawal, president of the Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Society (TSCS), Hyderabad, announced the event at a press conference at the TSCS premises in Shivarampally.

The international congress is expected to bring together around 700 registered delegates from 27 countries, including medical specialists, researchers, healthcare professionals, policy-makers and patient advocacy groups. Discussions will focus on sickle cell disease, thalassemia and other inherited blood disorders. TSCS, the local partner for the congress, is a non-profit organisation supporting more than 4,800 patients affected by these conditions. The collaboration aims to strengthen international cooperation, raise awareness and promote improved healthcare and support systems for patients and their families. The announcement was attended by TSCS representatives, including Dr. Suman Jain, chief medical research officer and secretary, senior vice-president Ratnavali.