

## KTR announces padayatra, hints at return to TRS name

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Mancherial

ANNOUNCING that he would undertake a State-wide padayatra in 2027 with the focus being on pressing public issues, BRS working president K T Rama Rao on Sunday also hinted that the pink party may revert to its original name, Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS).

In an informal interaction with reporters in Kyathanpalli, Mancherial district, Rama Rao admitted that during the BRS 10-year rule, the gap between the people and the party had widened to some extent. He said the padayatra would be part of the efforts to bridge this gap.

Stating that public trust in Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy was waning, Rama Rao dismissed the notion that one becomes chief minister only after going to jail. "Such a political culture did not exist 40 years ago. We (BRS leaders) are not so unscrupulous as to commit murders or illegal acts and end up in jail," he said.

Rama Rao said he would adopt best practices from the TDP, the ruling party in Andhra Pradesh, to strengthen the BRS.

"We will launch a membership drive in May or June. We will conduct special training classes for party workers. The party would be strengthened in the erstwhile Karimnagar district following the joining of senior leader T Jeevan Reddy. But the party leadership should directly connect with grassroots workers. There is such a good tradition in other parties, including TDP. We will adopt those best practices," he said.

He asserted that there was no power struggle within the party and that all leaders were functioning under the leadership of BRS supreme K Chandrababoo Naidu.

Rama Rao indicated that the party may consider reverting to its original name, TRS. Referring indirectly to Telangana Jagruthi president K Kavitha, who had hinted at launching a party with a new ideology and old name (TRS), he said the emergence of more parties was welcome. "If you are unable to give happiness to your parents, never cause them pain," he remarked.

Rama Rao admitted that there was no system within the BRS for leaders to directly engage with workers, which he said contributed to the party's defeat in the Assembly elections.



To strengthen BRS party, we will launch a membership drive in May or June & conduct special training classes for party workers. We will adopt best practices from the TDP

KTR, BRS working president

"I am an all-round-er. I got all the important posts at a young age. I have no further aspirations. Like a soldier, I will discharge whatever responsibility is given by KCR. I am the working president of the party, and I will follow whatever KCR says," he said.

Rama Rao ruled out any electoral alliance in the next Assembly elections, including with the BJP, stating that the party would contest on its own. He added that increasing the number of MLAs in the Godavari belt would make it easier for the party to return to power.

The BRS working president admitted that mistakes were made while in power, citing a lack of coordination among party workers, sarpanches, MP/MLAs and mandal leaders.

He said that despite a large number of people from Karimnagar, Nizamabad and Adilabad districts working in the Gulf, the government had failed to bring a Gulf migrants policy. He added that while priority was given to development.

Rama Rao alleged that despite objections from Maharashtra government to Pranahita-Chevella project, funds allocated for it in Budget.

## Redesigned KLIS to be ready by 2028: Uttam

Says TG govt is determined to bring Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages of KLIS back into operation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Hyderabad

IRRIGATION Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday said the redesigned Kaleshwaram project would be operationalised by 2028. He held a review with officials and constituted a steering committee to oversee the repair works.

At the review, the minister confirmed that AFRY India had been finalised as the design consultant and would work as a joint venture with IIT Mumbai. He instructed the design team to work round the clock, seven days a week.

"We need the design as early as possible," Uttam said, adding that the rehabilitation designs would be sent to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for approval.

He asked the consultants to remain in constant touch with Irrigation Secretary Parikshit Mehra and to bring any issues directly to his notice.

The design process will be backed by comprehensive geophysical, geotechnical, soil and hydraulic modelling studies. The minister directed that all required tests and data collection be completed on priority.

He said the State government was determined to bring the Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme back into operation at the earliest. He called for fast-tracking of rehabilitation works under a time-bound programme.

Uttam said the next two working seasons — 2027 and 2028 — would be crucial for completing



KLIS repairs. He expressed hope that Annaram and Sundilla could be completed within the timeline, while Medigadda could be made at least partially operational.

The Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune, has been asked to treat the rehabilitation as a priority and submit its study reports. Uttam asked government adviser Adityanath Das to coordinate with the CWC to secure

approvals from the Union government. CWPRS personnel would be stationed at the sites continuously until the 45-day testing window was completed, the minister said.

A high-powered steering committee has been constituted with immediate effect, with Col Parikshit Mehra as convenor, to implement the rehabilitation works.

The committee will meet twice a week with the minister to review progress, while a dedicated officer will monitor work on a daily basis.

Executing agencies, including L&T, were directed to reactivate camps, mess facilities and logistics to ensure engineers, technicians and rig operators face no accommodation or food issues. Sand removal, geophysical tests and site preparation

will be carried out with full agency support.

The minister said all tests must be jointly witnessed by the designer, CWPRS, department engineers and agency representatives, and properly documented.

Uttam recalled that the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) and the Vigilance Commission had flagged serious defects in the foundations, design, planning and execution of all three barrages, adding that the problems were similar across the structures.

Irrigation Secretary E Sridhar, Col Parikshit Mehra, Irrigation Adviser Adityanath Das, ENC (General) Ramesh Babu, Joint Secretary K Srinivas, ENC (Admin) T Srinivas and CWPRS Additional Director Selva Balan were present.

## India has made giant leaps since Aryabhata: Shubhanshu Shukla

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Bengaluru

INDIAN Space Research Organisation (ISRO) astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla on Sunday said that India is a nation that has made immense progress since the launch of the Aryabhata satellite to the current preparations for the Gaganyaan mission.

Shukla, who along with ISRO chairman V Narayanan, released a pair of commemorative postage stamps conceived by India Post to celebrate India's human spaceflight programme, said, "How far we have come in the past decades tells us where we want to go."

Shukla highly lauded ISRO for its contributions, adding that it had always been a symbol of aspiration for the entire country.

"Even before 2019, when I had not joined ISRO yet, it was a shining beacon guiding us with the hope that everything is possible. Hopefully, very soon, we will be able to launch our own astronauts on our own rockets, on our own launch vehicles, into space," he said.



ISRO Chairman V Narayanan unveils the commemorative postage stamp with Shubhanshu Shukla on India's Human Space Programme | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

While orbiting Earth during the Axiom-04 mission, Shukla spoke to children in India on the ground, answering their questions.

Likewise, many schoolchildren from Bengaluru were present at the inauguration to ask him questions about his journey, to which he obliged. He elaborated on how different a capsule pilot is from an aircraft pilot (having been both).

Moon remains at the centre of India's focus at the moment, especially with the upcoming Gaganyaan mission, he said.

Narayanan spoke about ISRO and India Post's growth parallelly as two institutions that have symbolised post-independence India.

He also thanked India Post for platforming India's space journey through the released stamps.

## Centre did not halt paddy incentives to TN, says Sitharaman

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Chennai

UNION Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunday rejected allegations by Chief Minister MK Stalin that the centre had directed Tamil Nadu to stop incentives for paddy cultivation, asserting that no such instruction was issued.

Responding to Stalin's remarks made during an election campaign in Thanjavur, Sitharaman said the claims are "factually baseless, politically motivated, and a deliberate distortion aimed at misleading farmers."

In a statement, the Union Finance Ministry also clarified that the January 9, 2026 communication from the Department of Expenditure to State chief secretaries was only an advisory and not a directive to withdraw incentives for paddy cultivation. Sitharaman said the centre had merely suggested that States align bonus poli-

cies with broader national priorities such as promoting pulses, oilseeds and millets to improve nutritional security and achieve self-reliance.

"Centre's suggestion to States is rooted in a forward-looking vision to encourage crop diversification and help farmers tap better price realisation where domestic demand far outstrips supply," she said.

She reiterated that announcing bonuses over and above the Minimum Support Price (MSP) remains entirely within the prerogative of State governments. "No one has taken that power away," the minister added.

Accusing Stalin of creating diversions for "narrow, self-serving political interests," she said, "When the nation seeks solutions, the DMK manufactures controversies." She added that farmers in TN deserve policies that support their prosperity rather than "weaponising anxieties for votes."

## Churches use money for public services, says Priest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kochi

THE Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment (FCRA) Bill continues to spark controversy in the State.

In the latest instance, a priest of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, Fr Paul Thelakat, ignited a war of words when he stated that Christian churches do not hoard money, unlike temples.

In a recent interview to a media outlet, he said Christian churches use their money for public service, and contended that the religious movements of Sai Baba and Mata Amritanandamayi embody a similar spirit of public service.

"Look at the amount of gold that temples hoard. This gold needs to be used for the betterment of the people, and not kept in vaults, locked away," he said.

Clarifying his statement, Fr Thelakat told *TNIE*, "I have raised a thoughtful point about the role of religious institutions in society. What I have highlighted is the contrast between wealth accumulation in certain temples and the service-oriented mission of many Christian institutions."

He questioned the thought behind the FCRA Bill. "What kind of treason are NGOs that get foreign

funds committing? The funds come through proper government channels," the former spokesperson of the church said.

"Historically, churches around the world have indeed invested heavily in education, healthcare and social upliftment not just for Christians, but for people of all faiths. That's why many schools in India run Christian organisations have a diverse base."

## Dental student's death: Audio clip alleges insults

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kannur

AN audio clip believed to be of Nithin Raj R.L., 22, a first-year BDS student who died by suicide at Kannur Dental College in Anjarakandy last week, surfaced in the media on Sunday, accusing the private institute's teachers of insulting him and his family and also threatening him with violence.

In the voice note reportedly sent to a friend, Nithin, a resident of Puthukulangara in Thiruvananthapuram who hailed from a Scheduled Caste community, alleged that he was subjected to repeated verbal abuse by teachers, including being called an "idiot". He claimed a teacher threatened him with violence if he stepped outside the college gate.

He accused another teacher of insulting his mother, including making remarks about a surgery she underwent, and deliberately reducing his marks.

The answer sheet was then shown to classmates and he was ridiculed and humiliated on its basis, Nithin alleged in the clip. The contents of the voice note ap-

peared to back the parents' allegations that Nithin was subjected to caste-based discrimination, insulted based on his colour and financial standing, and also ragged by senior students of the college.

"We think the voice clip belongs to Nithin. Further examination will be conducted as the investigation progresses," said Kannur city police commissioner Nidhinraj J. On his directive, a seven-member special investigation team led by Kannur ACP R Hariprasad was formed to probe in detail the reasons that prompted Nithin to take the extreme step.

"We have recorded the statements of Nithin's friends and family and examined his chats as well as voice notes. Detailed statements from his roommates and hostelmates will be recorded," the commissioner said.

Maintaining that all the individuals against whom allegations have been raised were arraigned, the officer said sections related to abetment of suicide and the SC/ST Act have been added to the FIR. Nithin ended his life by jumping off the building.

## Kerala girl's autopsy shows accidental fall

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Chikkamagaluru

THE postmortem of Kerala girl Srinanda, whose body was found on Friday in the forests of Chikkamagaluru, was conducted at the district hospital on Friday evening by a panel of two doctors, deviating from standard procedure.

Given the seriousness of the case, senior police officials arranged for the autopsy to be carried out by doctors Lohith and Jayalakshmi, with the entire process being videographed to ensure transparency and avoid any ambiguity.

Srinanda, a minor from Kerala, had gone missing on Tuesday evening while on a family trip to Manikyadhara Falls. A three-day intensive search by a joint team comprising police, fire and emergency services no results. On the fourth day (Friday), her body was found in a crevice below the falls.

Preliminary findings indicate no evidence of foul play. According to police sources, the initial postmortem report attributes her death to severe head injuries sustained during the fall.



Jharsuguda SP visits the house where a woman killed her two children | EXPRESS

## Woman kills 2 kids, attempts suicide

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Bhubaneswar/Jharsuguda

IN a heart-wrenching incident, a 35-year-old woman allegedly hacked her two minor children to death while they were asleep and later attempted suicide at their house in Jharsuguda district over suspicion that her husband was having an extra-marital affair.

The incident occurred in Tangarpali village within Airport police limits late on Saturday night. The deceased children have been identified as 10-year-old Jigyasha and Bibhansa (5).

The mother Ranjita Oram allegedly attempted to end her life by slitting her throat. Her condition is stated to be stable. As per police, Ranjita and her husband Sitaram Oram (43) having frequent arguments as she suspected him to be in an illicit relationship.

**QuoteExpress**

**IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING**

WINSTON CHURCHILL

**SRI DURGA MALLESWARA SWAMY VARLA DEVASTHANAM**  
INDRAKEELADRI, VIJAYAWADA  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
NIT NO.01/EE-3/2026-27, Dt: 12-04-2026.

**Tenders are invited for the works**

- 1) PROVIDING 2 no's lifts for New Prasadam preparation Building (G+4).
- 2) Providing New HT Service at Jammiddoli Guest House.

**Tender download start date** 14-04-2026, 12.00 PM  
**Tender download end date** 28-04-2026, 11.00 AM  
**Tender submission end date** 28-04-2026, 12.00 PM

For further details login to website "https://tender.apspcmrct.gov.in" and select Endowments Department works and select Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada. For further details contact Ph.0866-2423800.

For Arjithasevas, Parokshasevas visit https://kanakadurgamma.org  
Sd/- V.K.Seena Nalik, M.A  
Sri Borra Radha Krishna  
Chairman and Trust Board Special Grade Deputy Collector & Executive Officer

**STATE BANK OF INDIA**  
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, Administrative Office Campus, Balaji Nagar, Siripuram, Visakhapatnam

Authorised Officer's Details: Name : Mr. Y. Srikanth (Chief Manager), Mobile No. 80994 44378, e-Mail ID : sbi.10077@sbi.co.in. For Property Inspection : 79951 98451

**E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE**

SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 READ WITH PROVISIO RULE 6(2) & 8(6) r/w 9(1) (SALE OF IMMOVABLE & MOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002).

The undersigned as Authorized Officer of State Bank of India has taken over **Physical Possession** of the following property u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act 2002. Public at large is informed that e-Auction (under SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the charged property mentioned below for realisation of Bank's dues will be held on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" BASIS and on the terms and conditions specified hereunder:

**Borrower(s):** 1) M/s. Eminent Poly Films, Rep by it's Proprietrix: Smt. Janumala Vijaya Sundari, W/o. Pallakonda Kranthi Prakash, Plot No.41 & 42, MIE Block - D, Auto Nagar, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh - 530012. 2) Smt. Janumala Vijaya Sundari, Proprietrix of M/s. Eminent Poly Films, W/o. Pallakonda Kranthi Prakash, D.No.5-25-36, Auto Nagar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam - 530012. 3) Smt. Janumala Vijaya Sundari, W/o. Pallakonda Kranthi Prakash, D.No.5-25-36, Auto Nagar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam - 530012. 4) Shri Pallakonda Kranthi Prakash, S/o. Issac Prakash Kumar, D.No.5-25-36, Auto Nagar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh - 530012.

**Demand Notice Date:** 22-04-2025 **Outstanding Amount as per Demand Notice :** Rs. 3,19,83,043/- as on 22.04.2025 with future interest and expenses thereon from 23.04.2025.

**Present Outstanding Amount :** Rs.3,54,77,450/- as on 07.04.2026 with future interest and expenses thereon from 08.04.2026 (post factoring payments made if any).

**Description of the Immovable Property with Known Encumbrances**  
Land & Industrial Building bearing Survey Number 79 part, Plot Nos.41 and 42, Industrial Park, Auto Nagar, Vadiapudi Village APIIC-IALA, Visakhapatnam measuring 461.72 Sq.yards (or) 386 Sq.mtrs belongs to M/s. Eminent Poly Films, Rep. by Proprietrix Smt. Janumala Vijaya Sundari, W/o. Pallakonda Kranthi Prakash vide Regd. Sale Deed Doc.No.5445 of 2020, dated.05.12.2020 at SRQ, Pedaganayada is **Bounded by: North:** Plot No.40, **South:** 12 Meters Road, **East :** Plot No's 38 and 39, **West :** 12 Meters Road.

**Known Encumbrance : Nil**  
**Reserve Price:Rs.1,60,00,000/- EMD: Rs.16,00,000/- Bid Multiplier Amount: Rs.50,000/-**

**Description of Hypothecated Machinery with Known Encumbrances:** (1) 50 MM Poly Propylene Single die - 1, (2) Side seal Bag Machine SS 600-1, (3) Hopper Loader AT2-MC 0.9 KW-1, (4) 10TR Two Circuits Air Cooled water chiller with built in SS Storage tank - 1.

**Known Encumbrance: Nil**  
**Reserve Price:Rs.13,74,000/- EMD: Rs.1,37,400/- Bid Multiplier Amount: Rs.10,000/-**

**Date of E-auction: 29-04-2026 Time: 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM**  
**Date & Time of Inspection of property: 13-04-2026 to 28-04-2026 From 10.00 A.M to 04.00 P.M.**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE E-AUCTION ARE AS UNDER:**

- 1) For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website [www.sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices](http://www.sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices). For Registration, EMD, Auction Details etc., visit <https://baanknet.com/eauction-psb/x-login> of the service provider: M/s PSB Alliance and M/s. Baanknet, e-Auction Portal: <https://baanknet.com> & Toll free Number : + 91 - 8291220220, Mail ID : support.baanknet@psballiance.com.
- 2) The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/ additional stamp duty/ transfer charges, fee etc. and also all the statutory / non-statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessment charges, fees etc.

**Note:** Interested bidder may deposit Pre-Bid EMD through <https://baanknet.com> website of PSB Alliance on or before E-Auction Date.

**Note -2:** As per Section 194-IA of the Income Tax Act 1961, TDS @ 1% will be applicable on the sale proceeds where the sale consideration is Rs.50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakhs) and above. The successful bidder/purchaser shall deduct the TDS from the sale price / Government guideline value, whichever is higher and deposit the same with the Income Tax Department in Form No. 16-B and submit the original receipt of the TDS Certificate to the Bank. (Applicable for immovable property, other than Agricultural land).

**Date: 07-04-2026, Place: VISAKHAPATNAM Sd/-Authorized Officer, STATE BANK OF INDIA**