



Minister Narayana's Gujarat Tour Focuses on Amaravati Statue Plans

TPN Correspondent | Gujarat

Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Dr. P. Narayana, who arrived in Ahmedabad on Saturday morning, was given a grand welcome by Gujarat state protocol officials. The minister is on a key tour to Gujarat to study monumental construction techniques and designs as part of the planning process for Amaravati's development. After his arrival, Minister Narayana and his team traveled by bus from Ahmedabad to Ekta Nagar, where they visited the iconic Statue of Unity—India's tallest monument built in honor of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The minister, along with CRDA Commissioner Kannababu, ADC Chairperson Lakshmi Parthasarathy, and Greening Corporation MD Srinivasulu, closely inspected the colossal structure and surrounding developments. Gujarat state officials and representatives from the construction company briefed the Andhra Pradesh delegation on the advanced technologies, engineering techniques, materials, and planning that went into the construction of the statue. Apart from the main statue, the team also reviewed the other tourism and infrastructure projects developed around the site, assessing their poten-



tial as models for similar ventures in Amaravati. Minister Narayana's visit is part of the Andhra Pradesh government's initiative to build iconic structures and monuments in Amaravati. The team is drawing inspiration from the Statue of Unity project to implement similar

large-scale, visually impactful works that can symbolize the state's cultural and historical pride. The study tour is expected to provide valuable insights into world-class monument construction and help shape the architectural future of Amaravati as a global city.

Health is a Right, not a Commodity

Continued from page 1

He also exposed malpractice in corporate hospitals, where patients are forced to undergo expensive scans and tests. He argued that the government's over-reliance on insurance schemes only shifts the burden to private insurers, instead of strengthening the public health system. Dr. David Sudhakar presented comparative data, showing India's public health spending is under 1.9% of GDP—far below the WHO-recommended 6%. AP's health budget hasn't crossed 1.3% of its GDP over the past 8 years. He also revealed alarming staff shortages: five district hospitals lack ICUs, while there's a 52% shortage in Community Health Centers and over 140 vacant faculty posts in government medical colleges. Dr. M.V. Ramanayya slammed G.O.s 107 and 108, which permit self-financing medical seats, calling them anti-poor. He criticized the current government for failing to repeal them, despite electoral promises. IMA State President Dr. V. Ramprasad called for urgent improvements in government medical infrastructure and staffing. Senior physician Dr. G. Samaram warned that the government's commercial approach would worsen access for the poor. Advocate Tagore Yadav denounced the halving of reservations under the PPP model, branding it unconstitutional and discriminatory. Prominent medical professionals Dr. A. Poornanand and Dr. Makineni Kiran attended as chief guests. Other participants included Vijay Prakash, Jana Vignana Vedika's Kurra Ramarao, and Makineni Basava Punnayya Vignana Kendram Secretary T. Kranti Kiran.

If proven guilty, I'll quit politics: MLA Adinarayana Reddy

Continued from page 1

Adinarayana Reddy said he will soon take the issue directly to Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and demand an inquiry by authorities from the district level to the Chief Minister's Office (CMO). "Let there be a thorough investigation. If I am wrong, file cases against me and my people. But if I'm not, take strict action against the factory owners," he demanded. He ended his speech with a fiery remark: "We chased away the British too. Don't think we will spare those who exploit the people." BJP District President Venkata Subba Reddy and other senior party leaders were also present during the press meet.

Dr. Anduri Sreenivasulu named Honorary Director of ICES

TPN Correspondent | Krishna

Dr. Anduri Sreenivasulu, a seasoned academician and researcher in the field of Civil Engineering, has been appointed as the Honorary Council Director of the Innovative Civil Engineers Society by the Association of Indian Private Universities (AIPU). This prestigious appointment stands as recognition of his extensive contribution to academia, research, and professional development in civil engineering. Dr. Sreenivasulu is currently serving as a Professor in the Civil Engineering Department at Seshadri Rao Gudlavalleru Engineering College, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, a position he has held since June 2019. With a remarkable teaching experience of 25 years, he earned his Ph.D. from Andhra University, Visakhapatnam in 2018. Over the years, he has demonstrated academic excellence and commitment to research, evidenced by his publication of 36 research papers in reputed SCI, Scopus, and UGC-recognized journals and the presentation of 19 papers at national and international conferences. His accolades include the "Young Researcher Award 2023" from the Institute of Scholars (InSC) and the "Global Faculty Award 2023" presented by AKS Education Society. Dr. Sreenivasulu has also made significant contributions to research mentoring. He has successfully guided one Ph.D. scholar from Bir Tikendrajit University, Imphal, and is currently supervising two more research scholars registered at JNTU Kakinada. Among his notable achievements, he completed a UGC-sponsored Minor Research Project worth ₹3 lakhs and has registered a patent titled "Fiber Glass Based System for Reinforcing Concrete Panels", published under The Patents Act, 1970. Additionally, he holds a granted patent for "A Self-Sharpening Cone - Roller Drill Bit and Method of Sharpening the same", as published in The Patent Office Journal in 2023.



TTD Pauses VIP Letters Amid Heavy Rush in Tirumala

3-month halt begins as daily darshan count crosses 78,000

TPN Correspondent | Tirumala

With the onset of summer vacations, Tirumala is witnessing an unprecedented surge in pilgrim turnout. On Saturday alone, 78,821 devotees had darshan of Sri Venkateswara Swamy, and 33,568 devotees offered their tala neelas. TTD officials confirmed that the Srivari Hundi collected a staggering ₹3.36 crore on the same day. To manage the swelling crowds, TTD staff and Srivari Sevakulus have been distributing Anna Prasadam, buttermilk, drinking water, and snacks to devotees in queue lines and compartments. In light of the increasing rush, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Board has taken a significant step by rejecting VIP recommendation letters, including those from

public representatives, IAS, IPS officers, and other government officials. This move, though routine during peak seasons, has caused confusion this year due to the absence of an official public announcement or advance notification from TTD. Generally, TTD suspends the acceptance of recommendation letters annually from April 15 for a period of three months to accommodate the heavy influx of ordinary devotees. However, a small number of VIPs under protocol continue to be granted darshan access. Many devotees who were unaware of this longstanding practice have reportedly faced difficulties after arriving in Tirumala with recommendation letters expecting priority darshan. To better handle the situation, TTD is working to enhance the infrastructure and services at

the Central Reception Office (CRO), where most recommendation letter-based services are processed. Executive Officer J Shyamala Rao and Additional EO CH Venkaiah Chowdhury recently held a review meeting on CRO operations, staff deployment, and existing bottlenecks. During the meeting, officials discussed measures to ease the movement of pilgrims, optimize the limited available space, and upgrade facilities in the CRO and PAC 1 zones. These steps are aimed at improving the overall pilgrim experience during the summer peak and beyond. With no VIP recommendations being entertained and wait times exceeding 18 hours for darshan, devotees are urged to plan accordingly and make use of online booking and general darshan facilities.



Maintain ACs at 24°C to Save Power and Money: BEE

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

With temperatures soaring across India, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under the Ministry of Power, has issued a fresh appeal urging citizens and commercial establishments to set air conditioners at 24°C. This initiative is part of a national energy efficiency campaign aimed at reducing energy consumption, lowering electricity bills, and supporting environmental sustainability. The Bureau estimates that increasing the AC temperature setting by just one degree Celsius can reduce power consumption by up to 6%. By maintaining the default setting at 24°C, the nation could save up to 20 billion units of electricity—resulting in a potential financial saving of ₹10,000 crore annually. Setting air conditioners at 24°C offers multiple benefits, starting with enhanced energy efficiency, as it can reduce electricity consumption by up to 24% compared to a 20°C setting. This leads to significant cost savings for both households and commercial users through lower electricity bills. Environmentally, it contributes to a substantial reduction in carbon emissions, making it a sustainable choice. Moreover, operating ACs at a moderate temperature reduces strain on the compressor, thereby extending the lifespan of the unit. Importantly, 24°C is also within the optimal indoor comfort range for most individuals, ensuring a balance between comfort and conservation. To amplify the impact of this energy-saving measure, BEE has encouraged the use of additional tools such as ceiling or table fans to circulate air, proper insulation to retain cool air indoors, and programmable thermostats to adjust settings based on occupancy and time of day. BEE Secretary Milind Deore emphasized the importance of this practice, especially in commercial spaces like shopping malls, hotels, government offices, and airports. He has requested air conditioner manufacturers to adopt 24°C as the default setting in new AC units and called on State Designated Agencies (SDAs) to initiate mass awareness drives. Special focus has been placed on major cities including Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Mysore, Chennai, Vizag, Vijayawada, and Thiruvananthapuram, where SDAs like AP SECM, TSREDCO, TANGEDCO, KREDL, EMC and UT bodies have been advised to take proactive steps in educating stakeholders and the general public.

Mega DSC Notification...

Continued from page 1

Of the total posts, 14,088 are district-level vacancies while 2,259 are zonal and state-level positions. The application process has begun today (Sunday), with the last date for fee payment and submission being May 15. Candidates are advised to submit their applications via the official portals: <https://cse.ap.gov.in> and <https://apdsc.apcfss.in>. Mock tests will be conducted starting May 20 to help candidates prepare for the examination. Hall tickets will be made available for download from May 30. The examinations themselves will be held between June 6 and July 6. After each test, a preliminary answer key will be released the following day. Objections to the key will be accepted for a week, and the final key will be released a week after that. The merit list will be published subsequently. Applicants must first register by creating a user ID through the website, for which they will receive login credentials via SMS. They must then complete the three-section application form, providing personal, academic, and preference details, including APJET qualification and district selection. Candidates applying for multiple posts must pay a fee of ₹1,500. They can also select their exam center and view subject-wise and district-wise availability of posts while applying. Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized that this notification is a clear sign of the government's commitment to providing employment and strengthening the education sector in Andhra Pradesh.