



Delhi HC Dismisses PIL on Visakhapatnam Airport Services

Delhi, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

The Delhi High Court has dismissed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) challenging the suspension of commercial flight services from the old Visakhapatnam airport, directing the petitioner to approach the Andhra Pradesh High Court for relief. A division bench comprising Chief Justice Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia heard the petition filed by Visakhapatnam resident Kosaraju Gopalakrishna. The petitioner sought restoration of commercial flight operations from the old airport, arguing that passengers were facing difficulties following the commencement of operations at the new Bhogapuram airport. Gopalakrishna told the court that the Bhogapuram airport was located around 60 km from Visakhapatnam city and that inadequate connectivity was causing considerable inconvenience to passengers. He argued that continuing flight services from the old airport would help address the difficulties faced by residents and travellers. The petitioner also pointed out that the Visakhapatnam airport had served the city for nearly three decades and that the Airports Authority of India had spent more than Rs 250 crore on its development and infrastructure. He said the construction of the Bhogapuram airport as a "state-of-the-art" facility was welcome and would strengthen the region's aviation infrastructure. However, he argued that the availability of the new airport did not by itself justify discontinuing commercial services from the old airport, which had been serving passengers for several decades. After hearing the submissions, the Delhi High Court declined to entertain the PIL and advised the petitioner to approach the Andhra Pradesh High Court, which has jurisdiction over the matter. The court's decision leaves the question of resuming commercial services from the old Visakhapatnam airport to be considered by the state's high court.

Pawan Kalyan Hails Polavaram Left Canal as Lifeline for North Andhra

Amaravati, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan described the Polavaram Left Canal as a lifeline for the future of North Andhra, welcoming the flow of Godavari water through the canal to strengthen irrigation and drinking water security in the region. In a post on X, Pawan Kalyan congratulated all those who contributed to the project and said the canal would help fulfil the long-standing aspirations of the people of North Andhra. He said the coalition government, under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's leadership, was committed to making optimum use of every available drop of water amid climate changes such as El Niño. Pawan Kalyan said construction of the nearly 213-km canal, launched about two decades ago, had faced several delays and obstacles. He said the coalition government had accorded priority to the neglected project and completed it within 26 months, enabling the release of 5,000 cusecs of Godavari water for drinking and irrigation needs. The canal crosses the Yeleru, Pampa, Tandava and Varaha rivers and will benefit agricultural areas in Kakinada and Anakapalli districts besides strengthening drinking water security for Visakhapatnam. He said the government would further strengthen the system to ensure permanent water security for North Andhra after completion of the Polavaram project. Pawan Kalyan also thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Centre for its support and congratulated Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, farmers and people who would benefit from the project.

Pawan Kalyan Condoles Jana Sena Worker's Death

Amalapuram, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party president Pawan Kalyan expressed deep grief over the death of Jana Sena activist Rolla Prem Kumar, who died after accidentally suffering an electric shock while putting up flex banners in Amalapuram. Pawan Kalyan said the incident



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CM Welcomes Godavari Waters to Anakapalli

Anakapalli, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday welcomed the arrival of Godavari waters at the Payakaraopeta cross regulator in Anakapalli district, performing Jala Harathi and describing the development as a major milestone for North Andhra. After sprinkling the sacred water on his head, Naidu unveiled a commemorative plaque and offered a Sashtanga Namaskaram as the waters moved forward through the canal. Farmers, women and large numbers of local residents gathered along the canal banks, showering flowers and performing traditional Harathi to welcome the Godavari waters. The Chief Minister said the water released through the Polavaram Left Canal would provide irrigation to 2.87 lakh acres and drinking water to 9.23 lakh people across East Godavari, Kakinada, Kona seema and Anakapalli districts. The government has spent Rs.4,192 crore on the Left Canal so far, with another Rs.800 crore planned for the remaining works. Siphons and



aqueducts have been constructed across the Yeleru Canal and the Pampa, Tandava and Varaha rivers. Naidu said Godavari water would help stabilise irrigation across 1.48 lakh acres under the Pushkara ayacut, 80,000 acres under Yeleru, 12,000 acres under Pampa and 46,620 acres under the Tandava,

Varaha and Mamidigedda ayacuts. Addressing a public meeting later, Naidu said the arrival of Godavari waters would transform barren lands into fertile agricultural fields and usher in prosperity across North Andhra. He said the government planned to take the waters to Simhachalam next year and subsequently

towards Arasavalli and the Vamsadhara region. He announced that 12 major projects in North Andhra would be completed and dedicated at a cost of Rs.3,200 crore, while 36 projects worth Rs.35,000 crore would be completed over the next three years. The government, he said, had spent Rs.25,000 crore

P3

YSR Remembered on 17th Death Anniversary



Idupulapaya/Tadepalli, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

Former Chief Minister and YSRCP president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy paid floral tributes to his father and former Chief Minister Dr YS Rajasekhara Reddy at YSR Ghat in Idupulapaya on Wednesday, marking his 17th death anniversary. Jagan Mohan Reddy, along with family members, participated in special prayers and remembered YSR's contribution to the people of Andhra Pradesh. YS Vijayamma, YS Bharathi and other family members were also present during the commemorative programme. The anniversary was also observed at the YSRCP central office in Tadepalli with several programmes. Water brought from the Gundlakamma, Pulichintala and Veligonda irrigation projects was used for an abhishekam to YSR's statue. Paddy cultivated in the command areas of the projects was also offered as a symbolic tribute. A blood donation camp, distribution of clothes to the poor, interfaith prayers and Anna Prasadam were organised as part of the commemorations. YSRCP State

Coordinator Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy said YSR had transformed the state through a combination of welfare and development initiatives. He highlighted programmes such as Jalayagnam, free power to farmers, Aarogyasri and fee reimbursement, stating that they had benefited millions of people. Sajjala said YSR had taken up 86 irrigation projects and left a lasting legacy in irrigation development across the Telugu states. MLC Lella Appi Reddy alleged that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu was attempting to take credit for projects developed during the tenures of YSR and YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. He accused the coalition government of "credit theft" over development initiatives. YSRCP leaders said Jagan Mohan Reddy had continued his father's welfare-oriented approach through various programmes aimed at farmers and weaker sections. They appealed to people to support Jagan Mohan Reddy and asserted that his return as Chief Minister would be the "true tribute" to YSR and his enduring legacy.

AP Literacy Rate Rises to 82.1%, Says Nara Lokesh



Amaravati, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh's literacy rate has increased from 72.6 per cent in 2024 to 82.1 per cent in 2026, marking a rise of nearly 10 percentage points in two years, Education and Human Resources Deve

lopment Minister Nara Lokesh said on Wednesday. Lokesh described the improvement as a "truly historic" transformation and congratulated officials, teachers and others involved in the Akshara Andhra mission. He said Andhra Pradesh had one of

P3



Pawan Kalyan, Nara Lokesh Respond to Gollaguppa Tragedy

Rajamahendravaram, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh on Wednesday expressed concern over the death of a seven-year-old girl and illness reported among 53 people after malaria prevention tablets were distributed in Gollaguppa village of Etapaka mandal in Polavaram district. Madivi Jamuna, a second-grade student, reportedly developed vomiting and other health complications after taking chloroquine tablets distributed during a malaria prevention programme. She was rushed to a hospital but was declared dead. The incident has prompted authorities to launch an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death and illness of others. Health personnel had distributed malaria prevention tablets to 71 people in the village. Subsequently, 53 people, including 46 children and seven adults, reportedly fell ill and were shifted to Bhadrachalam Area Hospital for treatment. Lokesh expressed deep shock over the girl's death and conveyed his condolences to her family. He said the government would extend all possible support to the bereaved family and prayed for the speedy recovery of those undergoing treatment. The minister directed the district administration to ensure that all affected persons receive the best possible medical care and that their health is monitored until they make a complete recovery. He also instructed Education Department officials to submit a detailed report on the circumstances surrounding the girl's death. Pawan Kalyan separately sought a detailed report from the Polavaram District Collector. The Collector informed him that the health condition of the remaining affected persons was stable and that a special medical team had been deployed to continuously monitor the situation in the village. The Deputy Chief Minister directed officials to conduct comprehensive health examinations of all villagers as a precautionary measure. He also ordered that the malaria medicines distributed in the village be sent to a laboratory for scientific testing to determine whether they were linked to the illness.

P3



Rs.8.5 Crore Released for Dr Abdul Haq Urdu University Buildings

Bandike Srinivasulu

Kurnool : The Andhra Pradesh coalition government has sanctioned Rs.8.50 crore to complete the long-pending construction works of Dr Abdul Haq Urdu University in Kurnool, which have remained incomplete for nearly a decade. The university was sanctioned for Kurnool by the then Telugu Desam Party government in 2016 with the objective of strengthening higher education infrastructure after the bifurcation of the state. Initially, the university functioned from a rented private building at a monthly rent of Rs.3 lakh, offering undergraduate and postgraduate courses to around 400 students. In 2018, the government allotted 144 acres near Orvakal, along the road leading to the airport, for the university campus. A total of Rs.18.30 crore was sanctioned for eight infrastructure works, including academic buildings, a women's hostel, internal roads, road dividers, footpaths and the main road connecting the university to the airport. The works were divided into two major packages - Rs.11 crore for academic buildings and Rs.7.30 crore for the women's hostel. Construction began in 2018 with a target to complete the project by 2020. However, only works worth around Rs.1.76 crore were completed before the project was stalled following the change in government. The subsequent government ordered a review of development works and directed that projects with less than 25% progress be stopped. As a result, the university construction remained stalled for several years.



Industries Minister T.G. Bharat



Suri mansoor ali khan, AP state Hajj Committee member

After the coalition government assumed office, University Vice-Chancellor P.S. Shavali Khan repeatedly brought the issue to the attention of Industries Minister T.G. Bharat and Minority Welfare Minister N.M. Farooq, urging them to facilitate completion of the campus. Minister T.G. Bharat inspected the stalled works about six months ago and announced Rs.1 crore from his side to help restart construction. Works have since resumed. The latest government sanction of Rs.8.50 crore is expected to provide further momentum to the project. AEngineers of the Andhra Pradesh Education Welfare and Infrastructure Corpora tion are preparing to take up the remaining works with the newly sanctioned funds.(AP State Hajj Committee member Suri Mansoor Ali Khan welcomed the government's decision, stating that the additional funding would help complete the university buildings and make them available to students. He said the coalition government was committed to the welfare and development of the Muslim minority community.

Nara Lokesh Inaugurates New Hostels



Narasaraopet, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh on Wednesday inaugurated three newly constructed hostel buildings at the JNTUK University Engineering College in Kakani village of Narasaraopet mandal in Palnadu district. The hostels, named Gauthami, Krishnaveni and Nagarjuna, have been constructed at a cost of Rs.70 crore to provide modern accommodation facilities for 1,600 students. Lokesh unveiled the commemorative plaque and formally inaugurated the buildings by cutting a ribbon. College management, students and staff accorded a warm welcome to the minister upon his arrival on the campus. Following the inauguration, Lokesh toured the hostel buildings and inspected the facilities provided for students. The new accommodation is expected to improve residential facilities for students

pursuing engineering education at the institution. The buildings have been equipped with modern amenities to meet the requirements of both male and female students. The programme was attended by Palnadu District Collector Kritika Shukla, Joint Collector V. Sanjana Simha, JNTUK Vice-Chancellor CSRK Prasad, Rajia Sabha MP Bhashyam Ramakrishna, Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar, Narasaraopet MP Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu and MLAs Chadalavada Aravind Babu, GV Anjaneyulu, Julakanti Brahma Reddy and Bhashyam Praveen. TDP Zonal Coordinator BT Naidu and former MLC AS Ramakrishna were among others who participated in the programme. The inauguration marks an expansion of residential infrastructure at the engineering college and is aimed at providing students with improved accommodation and campus facilities.

ACB Registers DA Case Against TTD Deputy EO



Tirupati, Sept 2 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has registered a Disproportionate Assets (DA) case against Mendu Lokanatham, Deputy Executive Officer of the TTD Srivari Temple, Tirumala, and launched an investigation into his alleged possession of assets disproportionate to his known sources of income. The case was registered on September 2 under Section 13(2) read with Section 13(1)(b) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, as amended in 2018. The development followed information shared by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) with the ACB regarding the alleged disproportionate assets of certain TTD employees after the CBI completed its investigation into the alleged adulteration of Tirumala laddu and filed a charge sheet. As part of the investigation, the ACB conducted simultaneous searches at four



locations in Tirupati, including the residence of the accused officer and properties linked to his relatives. Officials seized property documents and other material considered relevant to the case. According to the ACB, documents found at the officer's residence indicated the purchase of a house in P.K. Layout, two house plots with a building in Gollavanigunta, and plots in Padiredu Aranyam and Srinivasa Nagar. Some properties were registered in the names of his wife and son. Four fixed deposits in the names of the officer and his son were also found. Searches at the residences of his brothers-in-law reportedly resulted in the seizure of a property document valued at Rs.31.98 lakh, 2 kg

P3