

# Congress Govt to complete Devadula in two years, fast-tracks all pending irrigation projects: Uttam

Hyderabad  
WUT | May. 4

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt. N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday announced that the Congress government is committed to completing the J. Chokka Rao Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme within the next two years. He said the project would bring permanent irrigation benefits to around six lakh acres in the united Warangal and Bhongir regions, transforming the agricultural landscape of drought-prone districts.

The minister, accompanied by Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and MLAs Kadiyam Srihari, Yashaswini Reddy, and Nayini Ra-



jender Reddy, inspected various works under the Devadula project in Dharmasagar mandal. He slammed the previous BRS regime, alleging that despite spending ₹1.81 lakh crore on irrigation over a decade, it failed to create significant ayacut due to inflated estimates and mismanagement. “The Congress government is now fixing the failures of the past by accelerating all pending works and ensuring that every rupee results in water reaching

farmers’ fields,” he said. Uttam reviewed progress on the 49.06 km-long main tunnel under Phase-III Package-III and visited the Devanapet pump house, where Pump-02 has been commissioned, pumping water to Dharmasagar reservoir for 62 hours. Pumps 01 and 03 are scheduled for commissioning by May 31 and July 31, respectively. To address leakages and avoid interference with Mission Bhagiratha pipelines, 110 large

steel pipes from the Manjeera project are being installed and expected to be completed by month-end. The scheme requires an additional ₹3,312 crore to irrigate 5.57 lakh acres across nine districts. At Rajavaram, the minister inspected the EM-1 tunnel and pump house works, where two 4.3 MW pumps will lift 15.3 cumecs of water. Canal improvement and desilting works under RFMC Phase-II, sanctioned for ₹148.76 crore, are in progress.

Later, Uttam inspected desiltation and flood prevention works at the historic Bhadrakali tank in Warangal. Of the 11.5 lakh cum of silt targeted, 2.7 lakh cum has been removed. The government sanctioned ₹16.11 crore for silt transportation and is implementing a ₹158 crore flood protection project.

In a review meeting at Hanamkonda, the minister stated that Telangana had achieved a record in paddy procurement, buying 28.58 lakh MT worth ₹5,664 crore in the current Rabi season. He also defended the Congress government's free fine rice scheme, calling it a dignified and historic welfare initiative aimed at empowering the poor.

## Sreeja Helping Hands Foundation Provides Relief Amid Intense Heatwave



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As temperatures rise across the city, the Sreeja Helping Hands Foundation has been actively working to provide relief to both humans and animals. Over the past 42 days, the foundation has been distributing free buttermilk to the public, offering respite from the extreme heat. Every day, approximately 4,500 people are served this cooling

drink, with a total of 1.5 lakh liters of buttermilk distributed so far. The initiative, which began in late March, is set to continue until June 1st.

In addition to supporting people, the foundation has also turned its attention to the welfare of animals, distributing 100 water bowls to ensure that stray and outdoor animals can access fresh water during the heatwave. A spokesperson for the foundation shared,

“This initiative is about spreading compassion — not only to people but also to animals — during one of the most challenging times of the year. We are immensely grateful to our volunteers and supporters who make this effort possible each day.” The foundation is also urging local communities to remain hydrated and to be mindful of the needs of animals during this period of intense heat.

## Manakutumbam trailer launched on Saturday May 3 at kharmanghat temple

Hyderabad  
Prashanth reddy  
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Kalakonda Films, banner Producer Smt Kalakonda Hemalatha, on Saturday May 3 Mana kutumbam' movie trailer launched in the presence of lord Hanuman's historic temple in the kharmanghat. Amid the Vedic mantras chanting. She said that it's great family entertainment movie she exuded the confidence it will attracted all sections of people mainly it's mirrorized the middle class people life. And also said that with the huge budget they are producing this film for this Film



Story, and Screenplay Kalakonda Narasimha, film Mana kutumbam' the veteran director earlier directed lot of films and short films serials now comming with innovative concept family entertainment story Mana kutumbam' . He said that

this story conveys family values as well ethics of routine human life. Today on Saturday may 3 film unit launched the trailer. He said that several precautions takes this story development, different than previous family entertainment stories said that starring veteran actor's Suman, Murali Goud sankranti ki vastunaam movie fame actor, Annapurna, Ravi Varma, Lasya, Nima Chaudhary, Music: Bhanu Prasad.J., D.O.P: Jagadish, Madhu, Singers: Vande Mataram Srinivas, Nallagonda, Gaddar, Rohini, Dialogue, Direction: Akula Raghava.

## Senior Journalists Honoured on World Press Freedom Day

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On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, senior journalists Juluri Ramesh and Garige Ramesh were felicitated for their over three decades of outstanding contribution to the field of journalism. The event was organized by the Telangana Intellectuals Forum State Branch on Saturday at Barkatpura. Former High Court Judge and ex-Chairman of the AP Administrative Tribunal, Justice Vaman Rao, who attended as the chief guest, emphasized the vital role of journalists in society. “News-papers and journalists who consistently work to inform and sensitize the public, while impartially highlighting the concerns



of all sections of society, deserve recognition and respect,” he said. Justice Vaman Rao presented the Best Journalist Awards to the two veteran journalists and lauded their unwavering commitment to truthful reporting. He added, “Journalists who selflessly present both the achiev-

ments and failures across economic, political, and social domains play an essential role in safeguarding democracy and social welfare.” Dr. Raj Narayana Mudiraj, President of the Telangana Intellectuals Forum State Branch, presided over the event and

praised the contributions of the awardees. “Juluri Ramesh and Garige Ramesh have penned countless impactful articles over the past 30 years, earning widespread respect among readers and peers alike,” he noted. He also highlighted the global observance of World Press Freedom Day, which aims to raise awareness about the importance of media freedom and its protection.

The ceremony was attended by senior leader of the Arekatika Sangam B. Surya, noted social activist G. Venugopal, representatives from political parties, voluntary organizations, and youth forums, who collectively extended their congratulations to the awardees.

## Telangana May Cross 19,500 MW Power Demand in 2026

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Telangana has already surpassed the Central Electricity Authority's (CEA) projected peak power demand for 2025. Against the estimate of 16,877 MW, the state recorded a peak demand of 17,162 MW. With rapid growth in industrial and other sectors, the actual power demand in 2026 could reach between 19,000 MW and 19,500 MW—well above the CEA's projected 18,135 MW, said principal energy secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania. He di-

rected energy officials to prepare the grid network to meet the rising load.

In a review meeting with TGSPDCL CMD Musharraf Faruqui and other officials, Sultania assessed the southern discom's five-year action plan, including power needs in upcoming industrial zones. He asked officials to increase infrastructure by 40 per cent to meet the projected 20 per cent demand spike in areas like Ibrahim Bagh, Gachibowli, Patancheru, Kandukur and Medchal areas within Greater Hyderabad.

Sultania said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka are committed to ensuring quality power supply across the state and would extend full support to the power sector. Later, he held a meeting with electric charge point operators, urging them to accelerate the setting up of EV charging stations. With electric vehicle adoption rising rapidly, Sultania urged the charging point operators must set up 6,000 public charging stations by 2030.

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A farmer training programme promoting sustainable agriculture was held at Rythu Vedika in Jharasangam, Sangareddy district. Organized by Aranya Agricultural Alternatives, the session focused on innovative methods in cotton cultivation, including the use of biochar and the High-Density Planting System (HDPS). Aranya CEO Padma Koppula highlighted the



importance of biochar, a carbon-rich substance produced from agricultural waste. She explained that biochar enhances soil health by improving water reten-

tion, nutrient availability, and microbial activity. “It reduces the need for chemical fertilizers and sequesters carbon in the soil for centuries, making it an eco-

friendly solution,” she said. Farmers were encouraged to integrate biochar into their composting practices for better crop outcomes and climate benefits.

District Agriculture Officer K. Shiva Prasad introduced HDPS cotton cultivation, which involves planting more cotton seeds per acre at closer spacing. This method, he noted, significantly increases productivity and helps meet the rising national demand for cotton. Officials also acknowl-

edged the efforts of Nuziveedu Seeds, which is supplying biochar to farmers free of cost. A company representative shared that HDPS cotton has seen wide adoption, covering 35,000 acres across 59 districts this season, with yield improvements of 3 to 5 quintals per acre. The programme reflects a growing movement toward sustainable and high-yield agricultural practices in rural India, aiming to benefit both farmers and the environment.

## U17 Telangana State Wrestling Championship Concludes on a High Note

Hyderabad  
Dp srinivas rao  
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The U17 Telangana State Wrestling Championship wrapped up successfully at the Sri Sai Wrestling Academy, drawing 120 talented wrestlers from across the state. Organized by the Ranga Reddy District Wrestling Association, the event featured intense competition across Freestyle, Greco-Roman, and Women's Wrestling categories, underscoring wrestling's rising popular-



ity in Telangana.

The closing ceremony was graced by Sri Shiva Sena Reddy, Chairman of Sports, Telangana, who praised the athletes' dedication and spirit. “Wrestling reflects discipline,

resilience, and our rich tradition. Telangana is clearly nurturing future champions,” he stated, while applauding the efforts of the organizers. In a notable gesture of support, the Telangana

Amateur Wrestling Association (TGAWA) covered one-way travel expenses for all athletes, easing financial burdens and encouraging wider participation. This initiative was well-received by both athletes and their families.

TGAWA President reiterated the Association's commitment to nurturing young talent. “Our goal is not just medals but shaping individuals with values and discipline,” he said, acknowledging the hard work of coaches,

volunteers, and families. The championship not only showcased exceptional wrestling skills but also highlighted Telangana's dedication to developing grassroots sports. The vibrant atmosphere and camaraderie among participants reflected a promising future for wrestling in the state. With events like this, Telangana is paving the way to becoming a hub for wrestling excellence, inspiring the next generation of athletes to reach new heights.

## SFI Telangana committee wants State government to conduct pending degree semester exams

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The Students Federation of India (SFI) Telangana committee demanded the State government immediately initiate measures to conduct the long-pending degree semester examinations in several State universities.

In a representation submitted to TGCHE Chairman Prof V Balakista Reddy on Friday, SFI Telangana president S

Rajnikanth and T Nagaraju expressed concerns over non-conduct of the examinations in Kakatiya, Palamuru, Telangana, Satavahana and Mahatma Gandhi universities.

The examinations were supposed to be completed by the end of April. However, they were not concluded, creating a lot of confusion and chaos among students, the SFI Telangana committee said. The students' body

highlighted that due to delay in release of fee reimbursement arrears by the State government, the private degree colleges refused to cooperate with the universities in holding the semester examinations.

A total of 4.89 lakh students are pursuing degree programmes in five universities and more than one lakh students are in the final year. Delay or not holding the exams will jeopardise career