

DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA
VIJAYAWADA | TUESDAY | 10 NOVEMBER 2020

WEATHER



Max: 30°C
Min: 18°C
RH: 81%
Rainfall: Nil
Forecast: Clear skies.
Max/Min temp.
32/20 °C

NATION | 7

BJP rigged bypolls in UP, alleges Akhilesh



WORLD | 8

Russia, China yet to greet Biden on win

SPORTS | 10

Kohli to go on paternity leave during Oz tour



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Diwali in Delhi



Visitors flout social distancing norms at Sarojini Nagar market ahead of the Diwali festival in New Delhi on Monday. Delhi recorded over 70 fatalities due to Covid taking the toll to 7,060 and registered 5,023 fresh cases.

— PTI

NGT's ban not applicable, Diwali will have fireworks

AP plans to allow green crackers for fest

SAMPAT G. SAMRITAN, T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC VIJAYAWADA, HYDERABAD, NOV. 9

It will be a Diwali with fireworks for the two Telugu-speaking states this year. And the fireworks must be of the less polluting variety.

They have escaped the National Green Tribunal ban on firing crackers in all cities and towns where the air quality during November falls under the “poor” and worse categories. Cities that recorded a ‘moderate’ or better air quality last November can go ahead with the traditional celebrations.

The Pollution Control Boards in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana on Monday

evening said the air quality in the two states in November last year fell in the ‘moderate’ category and met the NGT’s norms.

However, the NGT made it clear that any fireworks that are set off must meet the ‘green crackers’ norms, that emit less smoke and gases compared to the traditional fireworks, and any celebration that involves fireworks must be only held between 8 pm and 10 pm on November 14, the day of Diwali.

There was some concern in Telangana state and Andhra Pradesh over whether some of their largest cities and towns could use fireworks, with the NGT issuing notices to both the states, along with

21 others, seeking their views on whether a ban needs to be put in place on the sale and setting off of fireworks this Diwali, particularly in 122 cities nationwide that did not meet the Central Pollution Control Board’s air quality attainment norms.

The NGT’s pincer came in a case it was hearing about the National Capital Region of Delhi over pollution caused by fireworks and the possibility of an increased spread of Coronavirus because of the aerosol particles emitted when fireworks are set off. In TS, Hyderabad and Ramagundam made the non-attainment list.

■ Page 2: NGT ordered drive against air pollution

YSRHU SETS UP BIO PARK WITH RARE PLANTS

VADREVU SRINIVAS | DC KAKINADA, NOV. 9

YSR Horticulture University is developing a bio-diversity park with 70 varieties of medicinal, aromatic and decorative indigenous plants at its campus in Venkataramannagudem of West Godavari district. These plants are expected to attract butterflies, honey bees, dragon flies and birds, thereby increasing the biodiversity.

The university has procured several indigenous plants like Pagoda, Wild Lemon, Rudraksha, Hill Lotus, Sambrani (Bacopa monnieri), Peacock tree, Rosary Pea (Banda Gurivinda), Black Turmeric, Ashoka (Saraca Indica) Velaga (Feronia Limonia).

■ Page 2: Bio parks will help in research

Cancel inspector's bail, AP tells HC

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 9

In keeping with the state government’s commitment to ensure justice to the bereaved family members of the mass suicide of Abdul Salam his family, the AP Police filed a ‘bail cancellation petition’ in the High Court on Monday.

This followed the two prime accused in the case — CI Somasekhara Reddy and head constable Gangadhar — securing bail from a district court in Kurnool despite the inclusion of non-bailable sections like IPC 306 read with Section 34. The state government responded promptly and filed the petition in the High Court with the intention that justice be delivered and the accused punished.

The police asked for cancellation of bail sanctioned to the two accused on the grounds that if they were released it might result in witnesses turning hostile and they might even intimidate new witnesses. The investigation authorities in the case are already having incriminating evidence against the two accused.

The police apprehend that they could hamper the investigation by either threatening or coercing the witnesses.

The cops had been allegedly targeting the family of Abdus Salam on the charge of a theft in his autorickshaw. Salam denied the charge. Later, Abdul Salam (42), resident of Nandyal, his wife Noor (36), daughter Salma (14), and son Kalandar (10) filmed a suicide video and then ended their life on Tuesday last week.

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en the virus there. The title match promises fireworks ahead of Diwali with explosive players on both sides pointing to a cracker of a contest. While defending champions Mumbai sit pretty with the experience of playing five finals and winning the IPL on four occasions — in 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019 — Delhi are in their maiden big game that could add to nerves.

Their paths to the summit clash too have been contrasting. While Mumbai made it at the first

attempt, Delhi clawed into it via the second Qualifier. Head-to-head, Mumbai are way ahead, having beaten the Capitals comfortably — by five wickets, nine wickets and 57 runs — in the three matches they have

Bihar votes to give first post-Covid verdict today

Bihar might witness rise of new generation of politicians

SREEPARNA CHAKRABORTY and NAYEAR AZAD | DC NEW DELHI/PATNA, NOV. 9

Bihar is looking at a generational change in politics with the exit polls predicting that the Mahagathbandhan led by the RJD’s Tejashwi Yadav is on its way to dethrone old socialist warhorse Nitish Kumar, the Bihar Chief Minister, who leads the JD(U)-BJP combine.

But it remains to be seen whether the “Grand Alliance” of the RJD, the Left parties and the Congress will manage to romp home to power, as most of the exit polls have projected, or will merely emerge as the single largest entity, leaving the field open for post-poll alliances.

In case of a fractured mandate, it will be interesting to see which way the small caste-based parties swing as the process of government formation kicks off. Counting will be taken up at 55 centres in 38 districts across the state on Tuesday morning.

Most exit polls have predicted a rout for the ruling JD(U)-BJP combine and a resounding victory for the



Workers prepare sweets ahead of the counting day for the Bihar Assembly elections in Patna on Monday.

— PTI

Grand Alliance led by Mr Yadav, the son of former CM Lalu Prasad Yadav.

Bihar has 243 Assembly constituencies, and the most keenly watched on Tuesday will obviously be Raghapur in Vaishali district, from where Mr Tejashwi Yadav is seeking election. Mr Yadav is currently a member of the Legislative Council and this is his first Assembly election. Raghapur has in

the past been represented by his parents Lalu Prasad Yadav and Rabri Devi.

A win for the Grand Alliance would be a redemption for Mr Yadav.

A win will also revive the fortunes of the three Left parties — CPI, CPI-M and CPI-ML — part of the “Mahagathbandhan”.

The results will also indicate the political fortunes of Chirag Paswan, the LJP chief, who left the NDA in

Bihar and put up candidates against the JD(U).

The exit polls have projected that the Grand Alliance will get more than 122 seats in the 243-member Assembly.

Election officials and district administrations face the daunting task of restraining supporters of political parties from crowding the counting centres amid the Covid-19 outbreak.

Reverse tenders saved ₹68 cr: Jagan

DC CORRESPONDENT NELLORE, NOV. 9

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy laid the foundation stone through virtual mode for Phase-2 works of Somasila High-Level Canal from his camp office in Amaravati on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, he reiterated that irrigation was a priority sector for the government, which will take up projects for a balanced regional development like the three capital concept. Polavaram would be completed by 2022 kharif, he pointed out.

He said that the Somasila Phase-2 project would

address the irrigation needs of 46,453 acres apart from quenching the thirst of people in uplands of Udayagiri, Atmakur, and other villages in the Prakasam and Nellore districts. Jagan Mohan Reddy said that the previous government proposed to spend ₹527.53 crore on the project.

“After forming the government, by going through reverse tendering about Rs. 68 crore has been saved and we brought down the cost to ₹459 crore and the project works are being gone about on a war-footing.”

■ Page 2: Six projects to be ready in one year: CM

Be generous to help state in supporting flood-hit: CS

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 9

The Andhra Pradesh government has sought “generous help” from a Central government team that visited flood-hit areas of AP on Monday.

The seven-member team, led by Union home ministry joint secretary Saurav Ray, met top brass of the state government at Secretariat on Monday to get first hand information on the extent of loss caused to crops and infrastructure because of floods and the cyclonic storm.

Speaking on the occasion, chief secretary Nilam Sawhney said AP suffered majorly due to heavy rainfall and resultant floods during August, September and October.

She submitted a report to the central team detailing that AP has suffered a loss of ₹6,386 crore. The state needs ₹840 crore for taking up temporary restoration works and ₹4,439 crore for permanent repairs.

The CS asked the central team to relax “Fair Average Quality” norms for purchasing from farmers paddy, which has got discoloured and has moisture beyond permissible limits. She sought a similar favour with regard to damaged groundnut.

Nilam Sawhney said loss of lives could be avoided with the state government evacuating people from low-lying areas. She said the government has also extended input subsidy to affected farmers, so that they can raise crops again.

As per details provided by CS to the Central team, paddy crop over 2.12 lakh hectares was damaged, causing a monetary loss of ₹903 crore. Similarly, horticulture crops suffered a loss over 24,516 hectares amounting to ₹483 crore. Damage to infrastructure like roads, buildings and irrigation works ran into hundreds of rupees.

Revenue (disaster management) principal secretary V. Usha Rani said heavy rains and floods affected 3,310 villages in the state. 17.74 lakh people were affected and 45 persons died.

Later, the central team split into three groups and went on field visits of affected areas in Guntur, Krishna and Anantapur districts.

TS HC LETS AP PAY AGRIGOLD DEPOSITORS

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 9

The Telangana High Court, which is hearing cases related to the Agri-Gold scam, approved an Andhra Pradesh government proposal to disburse ₹1,150 crore to depositors from the state who have invested ₹20,000 or less in the company.

A division bench headed by Justice M.S. Ramachandra Rao asked the AP government to complete the process before March 31, 2021.

Explaining how it would identify genuine depositors, the AP government told the court that the CID would gather details of the depositors through ward secretariats.

The details would be vetted by the CID DSP and the revenue divisional officer. The secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, the collector and SP would certify the details.

The AP government said that it would deposit the money directly into the bank accounts of eligible depositors.

On a request of the AP government to transfer AgriGold related cases to the AP High Court, the bench said that the Chief Justice of the Telangana HC had been vested with the power to transfer the case. The court said it would hear regularly all cases related to AgriGold which were filed by depositors, bankers, bidders for the auction of the company’s property so that they can be paid.

COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+44,158)	(+469)
85,85,331	1,26,994
covid19india.org	
STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS	
(+ 857)	(+4)
TS: 2,51,188	1,381
(+1,392)	(+11)
AP: 8,44,359	6,802

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

5,10,19,347
DEATHS
12,66,074
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES
216
worldometers.info/coronavirus

The all-new i20 has arrived.

Turn to Centre Spread HYUNDAI

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Dakshinayana
Tithi: Nija Ashwayuja Bahula Dasami till 3.20 am (Wednesday)
Star: Magha till 7.53 am
Variyam: 3.24 pm to 4.54 pm
Durmuhurtam: 8.37 am to 9.22 am; 10.43 pm to 11.34 pm
Rahukalam: 3 pm to 4.30 pm

HIJRI CALENDAR
Rabbi-ul Awwal 23, 1442 AH

PRAYERS
Fajar: 5.40 am
Zohar: 1.30 pm
Asar: 4.30 pm
Maghrib: 5.45 pm
Isha: 8.15 pm
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.09 AM
SUNSET TODAY 5.33 PM
MOONRISE TODAY 1.01 AM
MOONSET TOMORROW 2.43 PM

COUNTER POINT



I will not accept defeat even if I lose!

SHORT TAKE

COVID VACCINE 90% EFFECTIVE, SAYS PFIZER

New York: Pfizer says an early peek at its vaccine data suggests the shots may be 90 per cent effective at preventing Covid-19, indicating the company is on track later this month to file an emergency use application with US regulators. Monday’s announcement doesn’t mean a vaccine is imminent. This interim analysis looked at 94 infections recorded so far in a study that has enrolled nearly 44,000 people in the US and five other countries. Pfizer Inc did not provide any more details about those cases, and cautioned the initial protection rate might change by the time the study ends. Even revealing such early data is highly unusual. “We’re in a position potentially to be able to offer some hope,” Dr. Bill Gruber, Pfizer’s senior V-P of clinical development, said. — AP

SHORT TAKES

CHIEF JUSTICE TO HEAR SEC CASE ON LOCAL POLLS

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 9

AP High Court bench headed by Chief Justice J.K. Maheswari to hear the case pertaining to conduct of local body polls by the State Election Commission.

As the court heard the petition on Monday on non-conduct of local body polls, the advocate general informed it by saying that the state government filed an application in the Supreme Court on the same issue and it would come up for hearing on November 16. The AG informed the court that it might take up the matter thereafter.

As the SEC filed a counter affidavit following a notice served on it for non-conduct of elections earlier, the SEC's counsel filed an additional affidavit and it was not placed on record.

However, the court directed the registry to place the additional affidavit filed by the SEC on record.

NGT ORDERED DRIVE AGAINST AIR POLLUTION

FROM PAGE 1

In AP, the non-attainment list included Srikakulam, Pydi Bhimavaram, Vizianagaram, Bobbili, Visakhapatnam, Kakinada, Rajahmahendravaram, Eluru, Vijayawada, Velagapudi, Guntur, Ongole, Nellore, Chittoor, Tirupati, Tirumala, Kadapa, Yerrangunta, Anantapur and Kurnool.

In Hyderabad, Neetu Kumari Prasad, Telangana State Pollution Control Board member, told *Deccan Chronicle*: "People in Hyderabad can go on to celebrate the festival with crackers, but only in the stipulated time period of 8 pm to 10 pm. We have taken this decision because the ambient air quality of the city falls in the 'moderate' category."

In Vijayawada, authorities said that the decision to permit use of fireworks was taken based on air quality monitoring data from November 2019 which showed that the average ambient air quality values were good, satisfactory and moderate.

A senior AP Pollution Control Board official said: "Though we intended to recommend to the state government to impose a total ban on firing of crackers, following NGT order and verification of AQI values of last November, we intend to recommend to allow only green crackers in a stipulated period for Diwali."

The NGT, in its order, also directed all states and Union Territories to initiate special drives to check air pollution from all sources in view of its potential to aggravate Covid-19 infections.

BIO PARKS WILL HELP IN RESEARCH

FROM PAGE 1

The park will also have Maredu (Aegle marmelos), Taanikaya (Terminalia Bellerica), Telamaddi (Terminalia Bellerica), Kadamba (Anthocephalus cadamba), Medi (Ficus racemosa) and Neredu (Syzygium cumini).

Four plants belonging to each of these varieties are being planted. They will help students understand the value of indigenous trees, whose populations in the country are falling due to urbanisation.

Scientists at the university say these plants have a long life and release high levels of oxygen. University vice-chancellor T. Janakiram said many youths of the present generation do not even know about these trees. The university developing a biodiversity park for them will help protect such varieties of plants. The VC said many people in cities are showing interest in growing these decorative and aromatic plants, as they are environment-friendly and add to beauty.

A scientist at the university said such botanical parks will help students research on the varieties of insects that depend on the trees and how both compliment each others' growth.



Telugu Academy chairperson Nandamuri Lakshmi Parvathi goes through a book during the National Book festival celebrations organised by Visalandhra book house in Vijayawada on Monday. — C. NARAYANA RAO

ACB RAIDS APSP ASSISTANT COMMANDANT

DC CORRESPONDENT
TIRUPATI, NOV. 9

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) sleuths on Monday have simultaneously conducted raids on Assistant commandant of APSP's 3rd battalion in Kakinada, Panthula Sankar, 58, and his suspected benamies at 13 different locations across the state.

According to the ACB, following the complaints that the accused officer was possessing huge amount of assets, which are disproportionate to his income sources, the ACB sleuths conducted raids at multiple locations including Tirupati and Palamaner of Chittoor district, Rajampet and Nandalur of Kadapa district and Tadipatri in Anantapur district.



Central committee members Saurav Arora watch the damaged crop at the Kanchikacherla area in Krishna district on Monday. — DECCAN CHRONICLE

State lost ₹1,200cr groundnut: Report

DC CORRESPONDENT
ANANTAPUR, NOV. 9

Anantapur district administration submitted to the Inter Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) a report that at least ₹1,200 crore worth of groundnut crop has been damaged over 4.76 lakh acres in the district due to incessant rains during the Kharif season.

Members of the IMCT inspected Vajrakarur and Guntakal mandals on Monday to assess the damage due to heavy rains. The team comprised R.B. Kowl, consultant, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, and Dr Ponnuswamy, Joint Director of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. Accompanied by state Agriculture Commissioner Aruna Kumar, the team landed by helicopter at the Vajrakarur High School Grounds.

The central team inspected groundnut fields in Vajrakarur mandal. Farmers Mahabub Bhasha and Shafulla told the team that they had invested ₹4.5 lakh towards the groundnut crop on 15 acres of land. Bhasha informed the team that normally there would be 30-40 nuts per plant during normal

TTD to enhance usage of solar power energy

SVBC will design Bhagavad Gita parayanam programme

AVINASH P. SUBRAMANYAM | DC
TIRUPATI, NOV. 9

In a bid to reduce its carbon footprint as well as to meet its energy requirements, Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has decided to enhance the usage of non-conventional solar power energy by setting up solar rooftop panels atop all its buildings in Tirumala and Tirupati.

During the first senior officers meeting here on Monday, TTD EO Dr K.S. Jawahar Reddy directed engineering officials to arrange solar panels on the top of all buildings in Tirumala and Tirupati. "Enhancing the usage of

● TTD EO Dr K.S. Jawahar Reddy directed engineering officials to arrange solar panels on the top of all buildings in Tirumala and Tirupati

non-conventional solar energy will not only reduce energy costs but also protect the environment.

This project will be executed on a war-footing and all TTD buildings will become part of it," the EO said.

Further, Reddy instructed forest and garden wing officials to develop special and unique gardens in

Tirumala hills with the plant species as mentioned in ancient texts, vedas and puranas. "The flowers grown in these gardens should be used to deck up Lord Venkateshwara", he added.

He said that all the Vedic schools, being run by them, would be brought under the umbrella of S.V. Vedic University and the Sanskrit College at Secunderabad would be duly developed. As many sankertanas of Annamayya, Vengamamba and Purandhara Dasa are yet to see light of the day, he instructed scholars to work on them. "All the activities of

Hindu Dharma Prachara Parishad (HDPP) should be planned in such a way that they would be telecast on SVBC. The channel will design Bhagavad Gita parayanam programme exclusively for children. Some publications will be printed in simple language", the EO said.

Later, he urged vigilance officials to watch out for fake websites and ensure that devotees are not cheated while booking darshan, accommodation and seva tickets. Additional EO A.V. Dharma Reddy, JEOs P. Basanth Kumar and Sada Bhargavi, CVSO Gopinath Jatti and other senior officers were also present.

Govt junior college in every mandal: Jagan

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 9

Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has directed officials to ensure that there is at least one government junior college in every mandal of the state.

Reviewing the Nadu-Nadu (Mana Badi) programme with officials at his Camp Office here on Monday, the CM said 159 mandals of the state do not have a government junior college. He instructed officials to scout around and set up a state-owned junior college in such mandals.

On progress of ongoing works at government school buildings under Nadu-Nedu Phase-I, Jagan Mohan Reddy said all tasks must be completed by February end. However, he said there should be no compromise



on quality of works. On Phase-II of Nadu-Nedu, he ordered that hostel buildings, along with amenities like cots, mattresses, bed sheets, blankets and almirahs, be completed by Sankranti 2022.

The Chief Minister expressed concern over students in tribal areas

attending nature's call outside, as bathrooms do not have running water. Referring to the software application that keeps tab on compliance with the menu being served to students in hostels, he asked officials to also come up with a software application for proper maintenance of bathrooms.

On Jagananna Vidya Kanuka, the CM asked officials to ensure that the quality of kits being supplied to students is good. He said in case schools reopen from June 12 during the next academic year, all students must be given their kits by June 1.

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DROUGHT | MITIGATION Somasila-Kandaluru doubling works will be initiated soon

Six projects to be ready in one year: CM

FROM PAGE 1

According to the Chief Minister, the state government has prioritised the irrigation sector and has been taking up projects in all the three regions. Aiming at addressing the drought issue in Rayalaseema, the government initiated Rayalaseema Drought Mitigation Project at a cost of ₹40,000 crore.

It has also initiated the North Andhra Sujala Sravanthi project with ₹15,000 crore, for which tenders for the ₹3,500 crore first phase will be called soon and YSR Palanadu Karuvu Nivaranam project along with Chintalapudi lift

irrigation and two other projects on lower Krishna and one on the upper Krishna River are being taken up. Polavaram project would be completed by kharif of 2022 and will be dedicated to the nation.

Besides safeguarding the interests of farmers by saving every drop of water, they have prioritised development of the backward regions in Rayalaseema and North Andhra districts, he said.

The Chief Minister said that six irrigation projects Vamsadhara phase 2, Vamsadhara-Nagavali interlinking, Veligonda reservoir, Owk tunnel, Sangam barrage, and Nellore barrage works would be completed next

year. The Sangam barrage and Nellore barrage works would be completed and be dedicated to the people of Nellore district within two months.

Jagan Mohan Reddy stated that both Somasila-Kandaluru and Somasila-Rallapadu doubling works will be initiated with ₹918 crore and ₹632 crore, respectively.

Irrigation minister Anil Kumar Yadav, IT minister Mekapati Goutham Reddy, MPs Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy and Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose, legislators Mekapati Chandrasekhar Reddy and Ramireddy Pratap Reddy and other officials were present on the occasion.

Hurt by MLA's taunts, woman attempts suicide

DC CORRESPONDENT
KAKINADA, NOV. 9

A village-volunteer of Nagaram in Mamidikuduru mandal of Konaseema area, and mother of two, Suvarna Jyothi, attempted to commit suicide by consuming phenol, anguished at Gannavaram MLA Kondeti Chittibabu's reprimand on Monday. She was admitted to the Government Hospital at Razole.

In her suicide note, she mentioned that Chittibabu had reprimanded her in the presence of hundreds of people over a house-site issue, though she was not at fault. As she belonged to a BPL family, she sought the officials for a house-site, but the MLA

scolded her.

Nagaram Sub-Inspector V. Srinivasa Rao said that the volunteer had asked for a house-site during the YSR's Praja Sankalpa Yatra on Monday and the MLA had stated that house-sites could not be allotted to anybody as the issue was pending in the courts. He said that as a volunteer, she should be updated on the prevailing situation and inform the people. After concluding the meeting, the volunteer went to her house and took this extreme step. Nagaram police registered a case.

Meanwhile, Chittibabu visited the hospital and consoled the volunteer. He instructed the medical officials to render better medical treatment to her.

AP soldier martyred in terror operation

DC CORRESPONDENT
TIRUPATI, NOV. 9

A 37-year-old jawan from Chittoor district's Reddyvaripalle in Irala mandal was killed along with three other soldiers and an Army officer in Sunday's encounter between the militants and the security forces along the Line of Control (LoC) in Machil sector of Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district.

There was gloom in Reddyvaripalle following the death of Havildar Praveen Kumar, who was the only son of Chikala Prathap Reddy and Sugunamma. He had married Rajitha 10 years ago and the couple has an eight-year-old daughter and a five-year-old son.

Inspired by many others from his village, Praveen, who completed his graduation, joined the Army about 17 years ago in 18 Madras Regiment. He served in the National Security Guard for almost three years.

According to his relatives from Reddyvaripalle, Praveen's family members were expecting his visit for Sankranti. They recalled his earlier visit to the village and said that he used to spend most of his time with friends and family members.

"Praveen has been an inspiration to many youngsters in the village to join the Army. He constantly encouraged the youth to join the armed forces. It is a terrible loss to both the family and the village. He was a great human being," a relative of Praveen said.

The defence ministry paid tributes to the soldier. His mortal remains would be shifted from Machil sector to New Delhi and from there to his native village. The last rites are likely to be performed at his native place Wednesday evening.

Deputy Chief Minister K. Narayana Swamy, minister Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy, MP Reddeppa, MLA M.S. Babu gave the cheque along with the Chief Minister's letter and consoled the family members.



Praveen Kumar Reddy

CM ANNOUNCES ₹50 LAKH EX GRATIA

DC CORRESPONDENT
TIRUPATI, NOV. 9

The state government on Monday announced an ex gratia of ₹50 lakh to the family of Havildar Ch. Praveen Kumar Reddy, who laid down his life fighting at the Line of Control (LoC) in an encounter on Sunday at Machil sector of North Kashmir's Kupwara district.

AP Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy in his letter to the wife of martyred soldier said that the nation was proud of the bravery of Praveen Kumar. "His sacrifice is priceless and his loss cannot be filled," the Chief Minister wrote.

Reiterating that the state will stand with the family at this hour, The CM released the ex gratia to the family from the CM's Relief Fund. The CM offered his heartfelt condolences to members of the bereaved family and prayed to God to give them strength to overcome their grief.

Dy Chief Minister K. Narayana Swamy, minister Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy, MP Reddeppa, MLA M.S. Babu gave the cheque along with the Chief Minister's letter and consoled the family members.

the family members of the martyred soldier.



Ministers Mekapati Goutham Reddy, Dr Anilkumar Yadav, Udayagiri legislator Mekapati Chandrasekhar Reddy, Kavali legislator Ramireddy Pratap Kumar Reddy during the launch of Phase-2 works of Somasila High Level Lift Canal at Krishnapuram in Nellore district

