

Hyderabad's Garbage Collectors Demand Social Security and Dignity

(Capital Information)
Hyderabad, Nov 6 : In a remarkable display of unity and determination, over five hundred garbage collectors employed with Swachh Auto Tippers in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) gathered at the City Convention of Hyderabad Garbage Collectors' Collective (HyGCC). Organized by Montfort Social Institute, India Network for Basic Income Foundation, and WorkFREE, the convention took place at the Montfort Social Institute (MSI) in Ramanthapur, Hyderabad. At this important step towards collectivizing themselves, the garbage collectors shed light on their pressing demands and the lack of their basic rights and entitlements as they work in keeping the city clean and healthy protecting the city's environment.

Bro. Varghese Theckanath, Director of MSI in his welcome note shared that the garbage collectors are often excluded from significant events, such as the World Environment Day celebrations or when the city receives awards for cleanliness, despite their vital role in maintaining the city's cleanliness. He said collectivisation is a very important way to claim the



rights and put forth the demands. Justice B. Chandra Kumar, retired judge of High Court, addressed the concerning trend of privatization in garbage collection. He highlighted the government's shift in responsibility, outsourcing waste management to corporate entities like Ramky. This shift, he argued, raised questions about accountability and workers' livelihood rights.

Memorandum of Demands
 Announcing the formulation of a comprehensive memorandum encompassing the demands voiced at the con-

vention, Dr. Sarath Davala, from INBI Foundation said that the memorandum, representing the collective aspirations of the garbage collectors, will be presented to the Chief Minister of Telangana. The memorandum includes formal recognition of garbage collectors as essential workers by the government, enumeration of their numbers by GHMC and the labor department of the Telangana government, registration of their names, provision of identity cards, and the establishment of a helpline app to address workplace ha-

ssment grievances. The convention also called for stricter implementation of household-level garbage segregation to reduce the challenges faced by collectors during manual segregation. Asking for 2BHK House, the challenges of a lack of parking space, house owners refusing to give houses for rent for garbage collectors and the conditions of the slums they live in were highlighted. With huge part of their income going towards health expenditure, they demanded that ESI be extended to them along-

side government providing Health, Life and Accident Insurance. Without any salary, social security or protections provided by GHMC, the garbage collectors only rely on the money given by householders for their income. While most houses pay Rs. 100 per house per month, several houses delay payments. With rising fuel prices and maintenance costs, the collective demanded that the fee per household must be revised to Rs. 250 per month from the households and an annual vehicular maintenance grant of Rs. 25,000

and vehicle insurance from the government. The convention was enriched by the experiences shared by Samuel Anil from Alliance of Indian Waste Pickers and Durga Devi from Hasiru Dala. They spoke about their efforts in organizing waste pickers in other cities, highlighting the importance of solidarity and collective action. Their stories served as a source of inspiration, showcasing the impact of organized efforts in improving the lives and working conditions of waste pickers across the country.

Addressing the con-

vention, eminent civil society activists, Professor Haragopal expressed his deep gratitude to garbage collectors for their exceptional service, especially during the challenging times of the COVID-19 lockdowns. He lauded their bravery, underscoring that while the world stayed indoors, these unsung heroes ventured out, risking their lives to maintain cleanliness and sanitation. He hailed them as social warriors, acting as the first line of defense against diseases and infections in society. Professor Padmaja Shah and Dr. Vanamala, high-

lighted how women's role in the movement is crucial as they form a large part of garbage collection community. Prof. Shah shared that in certain cities garbage collectors reject to take garbage if it is not segregated. Several garbage collectors including Madhavi, Yadagiri, Salamma, Krishnaveni, Mallesh shared touching but powerful experiences of discrimination, challenges and concerns they face as they collect garbage every day. As the children of garbage collectors performed a skit displaying the indignity and discrimination faced at work, their was unison in the demand for dignity for garbage collectors. One most important demand was that they be called by their names and not 'Chetha Ammayi' or 'Chetha Abbayi'.

The event served as a significant platform to amplify the voices of these essential workers, demanding social security, dignity, and fair treatment. As Hyderabad's unsung heroes continue their struggle for recognition and respect, their determination remains unshakable, inspiring the community to acknowledge their invaluable contributions and work towards a more just and equitable society.

Farmers should take advantage of grain purchase centers : Collector VP Gautham

(Capital Information)
Khammam, Nov 6 : District Collector VP Gautham said that the farmers should take advantage of the Grain Purchase Centres Collector inaugurated 2023-24 Kharif grain purchase centers set up by primary agricultural cooperative societies at Tallada mandal center and Kallur agricultural market committees on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that 236 grain purchase centers have been set up across the district. He said that buying centers have been set up in accordance with the election rules like every year so that the farmers do not face any difficulties. He said that it is estimated that 3.50 lakh metric tons of grain will come to the centers in the district, accordingly, grain bags, weighing and moisture testing machines have been prepared, arrangements have been made for storage and transporters



and mills have been tied up. The millers want to transport the grain to centers as per the FAQ rules, after checking the moisture content, without any chance of harvesting, and without tal. He said that basic facilities

such as shamiana, chairs, drinking water etc. for shade have been provided in each centre. He said that tractor mounted fans will be made available for paddy cleaners in all centres. For any grade of grain Rs. 2203,

C grade grain at Rs. 2183 said that there is a minimum support price, bring quality grain and get the minimum support price. Agricultural extension officers should be appointed at the inter-state check posts to ensure that grains from other states are not sold here.

The Collector said that everyone who has the right to vote should vote in the upcoming election festival. The officials of the grain buying centers should be trained to know where the vote is and where it is. They want to download the C Whistle app and be aware of the app.

Additional Collector D. Madhusudhan Naik, Training Assistant Collector Mayank Singh, District Agriculture Officer Vijaya Nirmala, DRDO Vidya Chandana, District Civil Supplies Officer Sriatha, District Cooperation Officer Vijaya Kumari, officials and others were participated.



Several arrested for playing poker : CI George

(Capital Information)
Medak, Nov 6 : CI George said that many people who were playing poker were arrested. According to reliable information that they were playing poker in the suburbs of Pocharam village under Regode Mandal, SI Rajaiiah went with his staff and caught six people playing poker and seized Rs 17860/- and poker pieces and registered a case against them.

They said that if poker is played anywhere in the Mandal, they should be informed and the names of the informers will be kept confidential. The program was attended by police personnel.



FOOTBALL PLAYER BHAGYAMMA HAS WON MANY AWARDS : COLLECTOR RAJARSHI SHAH

(Capital Information)
Medak, Nov 6 : Bhagyamma, who won the second position in the national level football competition, was honored by the district collector. Bhagyamma, a footballer from our state, participated in the national level Karnataka Women's Football League competition held in Bangalore from 15th of last month to 2nd of November and showed good performance in it.

The team finished second and was selected for the Indian women's football tournament starting April 1. The collector said that she is the pride of our district. Currently, Bhagyamma trains children in Medak as a football coach. District Youth Sports Department Officer Nagaraju participated in this program.

Tribal Teacher Turned Dist Leader Podem Krishna Prasad Gear Up For Victory Of Bade Nagajyothi



(Capital Information)
Mulugu, Nov 6 : Teacher turned politician Podem Krishna Prasad has been emphasizing poll campaign in Mulugu district for the victory of BRS Party contender Bade Nagajyothi from Mulugu Assembly Constituency ahead of 25 days days of State Assembly polls scheduled to be held on 30 November this month. Podem Krishna Prasad had been the School Asst Teacher for the last 3 decades and tendered his resignation 20 months due for his superrannation and joined BRS Party.

A strong influential Leader in Mulugu Con-

stituency being Adivasi Tribal. He hails from Mangapet mandal in Mulugu Constituency 80 kms away from the Assembly headquarters. He has tendered his resignation and been poll campaign for the last one month for the victory of Bade Nagajyothi it's learnt. In accordance with the voterate in Mulugu Segment there are around 42 thousand Adivasi, Naikpod chenchu, gondu and yerukala voters are there in Mulugu Constituency. And around 34 thousand Banjara voters are there in Mulugu Constituency.

In last Assembly elections Congress Party contestant

Danasari Anasurya Seethakka won her seat against Late Ex Minister Ajmira Chandulal with around 22 thousands majority only with the ST voters support. She had also got around 12 thousand Banjara voters and won But by this time, Congress contender MLA Seethakka facing a split voting from Adivasi and Banjara voterate. Unlike last elections Seethakka' is reportedly going to get sharing votes from tribal voters.

Keeping this in view Krishna Prasad has been roaming around the in Mulugu Constituency and canvassing in favour of Bade

Nagajyothi. Krishna Prasad had been the State Tribal Teachers Association for three consecutive terms and got good association and affinity with the teachers and employees in ITDA Jurisdiction. If tribal voters are going to be shared in between MLA Seethakka and BRS Contestant Bade Nagajyothi, Victory chances are said to be on the auspicious mode. All the eye brows are kept open who is going to be triumphant in ensuing elections.

MLC Pochampally Srinivas Reddy, REDCO Chairman Yeruva Sathish Reddy, BRS Party district President Kakulamari Lakshman

Babu, Election coordinators Sambari Sammarao, Mettu Srinivas, MPP,s Gandrakota Sridevi Sudheer, Srinivas Reddy, Gondi Vanisree, Burra Rajitha Sammaiah, ZPTC 's Bhavani, Valiabee, Gy Rudramadevi Ashok, Library Chairman Govind Naik, prominent leaders Malka Ramesh, Lingala Ramana Reddy, Mandala Sridher Reddy, Kogila Mahesh, Chenna Vijay, Gaddamidi Bhasker, Doddepalli Raghupati Sanikommu Ramesh Reddy, Vemula Bikshapathy, Mptc Gorre Sammaiah, sarpnchas, Mptc,s are relentlessly working hard to get victory.