

**STATE**  
 'Desperate Cong resorting to attacks' **page 3**

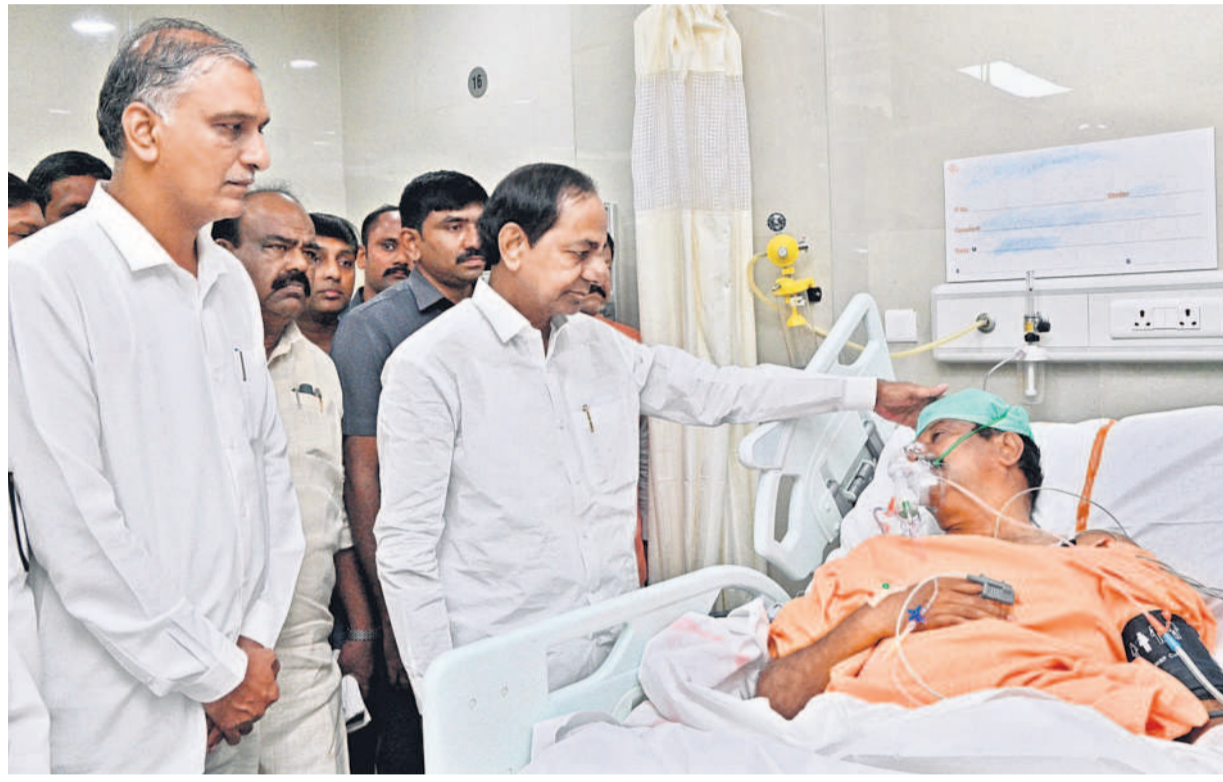


**NATION**  
 Delhi Excise Policy: ED summons Kejriwal on November 2 **page 7**

**BUSINESS**  
 Nano car plant: WB told to pay Rs 765 crore to Tata Motors **page 8**

## BRS MP stabbed, Congress man held

KCR questions party's ethics, expresses concern over violence & murder as means of pursuing political goals



Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao and Finance Minister T Harish Rao with BRS MP Kotha Prabhakar Reddy at Yashoda Hospitals in Secunderabad on Monday.

**STATE BUREAU**  
 HYDERABAD

The hitherto peaceful election campaign in Telangana took a violent turn on Monday with BRS MP and Dubbak Assembly constituency candidate Kotha Prabhakar Reddy being stabbed while campaigning in Surampally of Doulathabad mandal in Dubbak.

The assailant, who was nabbed, thrashed and handed over to police by the public, was alleged to be a Congress supporter. The incident set the election atmosphere in the State on fire, with BRS president and Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao holding the Congress responsible for the attack and stating that he considered the stabbing an

attack on himself. The Congress was resorting to cheap politics by attacking Prabhakar Reddy, he said, also stating that the attack was against the principles that the BRS stood for.

**“ We believe that our victory lies in the hands of the people. We have dedicated ourselves to serving those who are deserving, without resorting to any malicious actions. But if our patience is tested, we will not remain silent — KCR**

A visibly upset Chandrashekhara Rao, who addressed massive gatherings at Jukkal, Banswada and Narayankhed constituencies on Monday, expressed concern over violence and murder as a means of pursuing political goals rather than seeking the people's mandate through elections. He called upon citizens, BRS leaders and party members to remain vigilant against such anti-social elements

during the ongoing elections. Such physical attacks had no place in a democratic society, he said.

Questioning the ethics of such actions in politics, he said the BRS was engaged in a battle of ideas and issues.

However, the Congress had resorted to a violent attack on the Dubbak candidate, who fortunately survived it, though he had a three-inch-deep knife wound. The Opposition appeared to lack the capacity to contest the elections and face the public, he said, warning that any attack on BRS leaders and activists would not be tolerated. “They attack our candidates with knives; they believe brandishing weapons makes them formidable. Can't we get hold of a knife or resort to political vendetta by misusing power? We hold a responsible position and our focus should be on serving the people, but not engaging in such malicious acts. Is this what politics has come to?” he asked. (SEE PAGES 2, 3)

## Prabhakar Reddy attacked while campaigning

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Siddipet

In an incident that will continue to resonate throughout the run-up to the November 30 Assembly elections, Medak MP and BRS Dubbak Assembly constituency candidate Kotha Prabhakar Reddy was stabbed by a man, allegedly associated with the Congress, while the MP was campaigning at Surampally in Doulathabad mandal on Monday.

The MP, who was nominated by Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao as the Dubbak candidate in the first BRS list, suffered a three-inch-deep wound to his abdomen in the attack. Security personnel and party cadre swiftly shifted Prabhakar Reddy into his personal vehicle as he clutched his bleeding stomach with a cloth.

He was first rushed to the Government Hospital in Gajwel and later shifted to Yashoda Hospitals, Secunderabad, where he underwent surgery. Meanwhile, the assailant, identified as 38-year-old Ghatani Raju of Chepyala village in Mirudoddi mandal, was nabbed and thrashed black and blue by BRS cadre, who were accompanying the MP, after which he was handed over to police.

Addressing a press conference at Siddipet later in the day, Commissioner of Police N Swetha said the police registered a case under IPC Section 307 (attempt to murder) and other sections against Raju. Stating that it



BRS MP Kotha Prabhakar Reddy being treated after he was stabbed, in Siddipet district on Monday. — Photo: PTI

### UNDERGOES LIFESAVING SURGERY

**HYDERABAD:** The health condition of Medak MP and BRS candidate from Dubbak Assembly constituency Kotha Prabhakar Reddy is stable after he underwent a lifesaving surgery, which lasted nearly four hours, at Yashoda Hospitals, Secunderabad, on Monday evening. Soon after the surgery, Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao visited the hospital to enquire about his condition. The Chief Minister, along with BRS leader T Harish Rao, interacted with senior hospital officials and took stock of the situation. The surgery turned out to be complicated. (SEE PAGE 2)

was too early to confirm his political affiliations, the Commissioner said she had seen photographs of Raju wearing scarves of different political parties. The police were probing this and also what provoked the attack.

Raju was currently undergoing treatment for his injuries, after the thrashing from the crowd, in a hospital under police custody, she said, adding that once more

details were available from the ongoing investigation, the public would be informed.

Requesting the people not to share misleading posts on social media, the Commissioner assured them of a transparent investigation into the incident. The situation in the constituency was under control, the Commissioner of Police added. (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 3)

## Another survey predicts comfortable win for BRS

SAS says party leading with 42.5% vote share

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

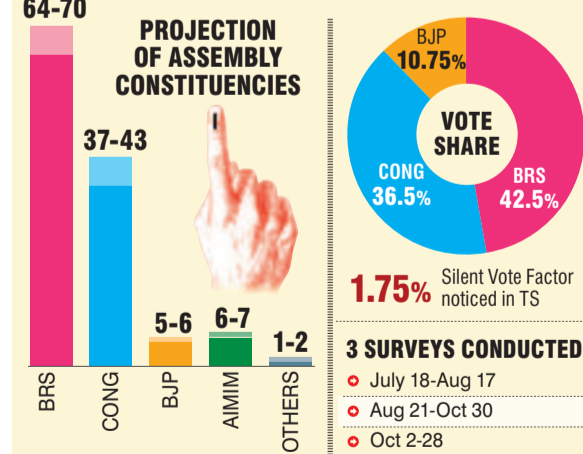
Another opinion poll on the forthcoming Telangana Assembly elections, this time by the Sri Atmasakshi (SAS) Group known for its recent accurate predictions, has said the ruling BRS is all set to secure a comfortable victory. The SAS survey says the BRS is leading with a 42.5 per cent vote share, while the Congress was likely to secure 36.5 per cent and the BJP could get a 10.75 per cent share. This was the ground situation shared by the organisation as on October 28, when the Congress released the second list of 45 candidates.

In a few seats where there could be close contests, the BRS is leading in three seats, the Congress in two and the BJP in one. The Silent Vote Factor (SVF) was noticed to be 1.75 per cent in the State. Generally, 80 per cent of the SVF would support the political party that creates confidence and momentum among the public just before the elections, the SAS Group report said.

The organisation has conducted three surveys so far in different time frames. The first survey was conducted from July 18 to Au-

### How the numbers stack up

HERE'S WHAT SRI ATMASAKSHI GROUP, KNOWN FOR ITS RECENT ACCURATE PREDICTIONS, HAS PREDICTED FOR THE UPCOMING ASSEMBLY POLLS



**METHOD** Survey conducted in 110 Assembly constituencies

**2,65,000** samples collected

**820** enumerators assigned

- On average, 2,400 samples collected from each constituency
- 2 methods used: Random and Selective Sampling

gust 17, followed by the second survey between August 21 and October 30. The third survey was conducted from October 2-28.

The survey was conducted in 110 Assembly constituencies by collecting 2,65,000 samples with 820 enumerators assigned to collect the samples. On average, 2,400 samples were collected from each constituency. The samples were collected in two methods — including Random and Selective Sampling. The Random and Selective Samples were taken in the ratio of 60:40 respectively. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Maratha quota: Violence, arson spreads

CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR

Violence gripped the agitation seeking quota for the Marathas as pro-quota protesters on Monday set on fire the residence of NCP MLA Prakash Solanke, torched a municipal council building and vandalised the office of another legislator in Maharashtra. As activist Manoj Jarange continued his indefinite fast, in a related incident, agitators vandalised the office of BJP MLA Prashant Bamb. Also, State bus services were suspended. (REPORTS PAGE 7)

## Who is accused Gatani Raju

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad



**Gatani Raju Gatani Raju**  
 2.4K friends  
 Jai Congress mirdoddi Mandal

Posts Photos

Details

Facebook profile picture of accused Gatani Raju wearing a Congress scarf.

For whatever reason he resorted to stabbing Medak MP Kotha Prabhakar Reddy, Gatani Raju's profile on social networking site Facebook left no ambiguity over his political leanings.

His profile picture shows him sporting a Congress scarf, while his cover photo is a collage of his pictures with that of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. His bio reads 'Jai Congress Mirdoddi Mandal', while more information shows his hometown as Siddipet and that he studied at Alphores Junior

College, Karimnagar. The pages he liked include 'Anumula Revanth Reddy'.

Though there were reports that Raju earlier worked as a reporter for a local news app and is now with a local YouTube channel, these are yet to be confirmed. His claims to be a journalist were also questioned by local BRS leaders, who said they had never seen him with other journalists in the region for any event. But what is clear is that Raju was planning the attack, since he was seen near Prabhakar Reddy's campaign vehicle on Sunday evening. (REPORTS PAGE 3)

## Rayagada Passenger crew at fault?

NEW DELHI

A preliminary railway probe into the Sunday evening accident in Andhra Pradesh has held the driver and the assistant driver of Rayagada Passenger train responsible for the collision as it passed two defective auto signals violating norms. Both crew members were killed in the accident.

The toll rose to 14 and the number of injured stood at 50 in the collision involving two passenger trains on the Howrah-Chennai line.

The report said seven experts, who have signed it, carefully examined the accident site, available evidence,



A search and rescue operation underway in Vizianagaram on Monday. — Photo: ANI (REPORTS PAGE 7)

statements of officials concerned, data logger report and the speedometer chart. It concluded that the Raya-

gada Passenger (08504) hit the Visakhapatnam Palasa passenger train (08532), which was running at a re-

stricted speed, from the rear due to the crew of the former passing two defective auto signals. PTI

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 HYDERABAD | PAGE 02

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ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 12

Wishes pour in

Ananya turns a year older, celebs wish her



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