

Unruly mob of around 2,000 attacked police: Chittoor SP

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Stating that police had permitted TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu's convoy to proceed to Chittoor through Punganur bypass, the SP pointed out that approval was not issued for party activists to enter into Punganur town.

"Chittoor district police had allocated 400 police personnel for bandobust as per the given schedule," he said and explained that the YSRC cadres staged a protest in Punganur, in response to the 'derogatory' statement made by Naidu while addressing a rally at Mulakalacheruvu. In an indirect reference to the local MLA, Naidu had said Thamballapalle was being ruled by a Ravana.

"When one political party leader is taking out a rally, how can you allow another party to come in the same way?" he questioned and accused the SP of working at the behest of minister and local MLA Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy.

Meanwhile, Anantapur range DIG Ammireddy said Punganur constituency TDP in-charge Challa Babu had provoked the cadre, following which they tried to enter into Punganur constituency.

"We are appealing to the political leaders to not make provocative comments during any public meetings," the DIG added.

Punganur violence a conspiracy of TDP chief: Sajjala

Alleges that Naidu wants to perpetrate attacks and then blame gov't to get sympathy; Peddireddy accuses TDP of unleashing violence

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YSRC general secretary Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy alleged that the violence that erupted in Punganur was a conspiracy hatched by TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu. TDP activists came with a premeditated intention to create trouble.

"How can a person who worked as a chief minister for 14 years provoke and hurl abuses at police. It clearly exposes that Naidu will incite violence when he is not in power," the YSRC general secretary said. Sajjala said the Opposition Leader forgot his responsibility of protecting the law and order and made provocative remarks during his visit.



Naidu's evil intentions came to the fore with evidence. "He is not touring the State to interact with people but to create

trouble. He wants to perpetrate attacks and then blame the State government. He wants to gain sympathy that he is being attacked. This has happened at Pulivendula and now in Chittoor," he charged.

Asserting that they would take all possible legal action while dealing with this kind of attacks, Sajjala said they would also take up the issue with the Election Commission of India. "We appeal to the people not to support the TDP and decimate

the party in the next general elections," he said.

Sajjala maintained that the YSRC cadres have been showing restraint in spite of TDP leaders' provocations.

"Naidu and his son Nara Lokesh are hurling abuses at our party cadres at will. TDP cadres are roaming freely with weapons on the streets in Angul and Punganur. This has exposed the mindset of Naidu," he averred.

Meanwhile, Energy Minister

Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy also accused Naidu of instigating violence and orchestrating attacks on YSRC workers and police during his visit.

Responding to the clashes that broke out between the ruling YSRC and opposition TDP workers in Punganur on Friday, Peddireddy said Naidu's provocative statements had incited his rowdy mobs, some even carrying guns in their cars, descended upon Punganur to unleash violence.

Naidu challenges Peddireddy to face TDP cadre sans power

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Asking his party activists to 'chase away' those creating trouble, Naidu underlined that he, too, was the son of the soil and will not be cowed down by such attacks and hooliganism.

"As a leader of the Opposition party, I have undertaken a tour of irrigation projects and even visited Pulivendula. I have every right to visit Annamayya and Chittoor districts. I was born in this very district and will not tolerate such blatant misuse of muscle power and police power against the Opposition parties which is undemocratic by all means," Naidu asserted.

He challenged Peddireddy to face the TDP cadres without using police power. "If you wield a stick, I will also wield one and fight. If you want to wage a war, I will also wage a war against you. But we will not relent until peace is restored in AP," Naidu fumed.

Accusing the police of remaining mute spectators as the YSRC cadres attacked TDP activists, Naidu said, "Some of you are bringing disgrace to the police department by dancing

ing to the tunes of the ruling party. You should shed your uniform and join the YSRC and display your loyalty publicly."

Tension began to brew in Chittoor after a group of TDP activists tried to enter into Punganur through an unscheduled route after learning that the YSRC activists were reportedly staging a protest. When TDP activists were prevented, they clashed with the police, pelted stones at them on the outskirts of Punganur and also set two vehicles on fire. The mob vandalised a VAJRA vehicle, following which the police lobbed tear gas to control the situation.

A furious Naidu reached the outskirts of Punganur and condemned the violent attacks on the TDP activists. Stating that the atrocities of the local MLA have far exceeded the limits, he said he will put an end to the atrocities of the ruling party leaders.

"Peace will prevail in the State only if such people are sent to jail," Naidu remarked. Finding fault with YSRC workers for flashing black flags at his rally, he asserted, "No power on earth can threaten me."

YSRC MLC calls for Chittoor bandh today

YSRC MLC and Chittoor district president KRJ Bharat called for a district-wide bandh on Saturday to protest against the violence in Punganur during TDP chief Nara Chandrababu Naidu's visit and to condemn the attack on police, which he labelled as an attack on democracy. He urged people and YSRC party workers to participate voluntarily in the protest and make the bandh a success

YSRC to move pvt bill on bifurcation issues

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YSRC Parliamentary Party chief whip and Rajahmundry MP Margani Bharat has said the party will move a private member's bill in the Lok Sabha to achieve fulfilment of the promises made to the State in the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014.

Speaking to mediapersons in New Delhi on Friday, Bharat said 10 YSRC MPs would table the AP Reorganisation Amendment Bill, 2023 as the private member's bill. Though YSRC Parliamentary Party leader V Vijayasai

Reddy introduced the private member's bill on bifurcation issues in the Rajya Sabha earlier, it was suggested that the party table it in the Lok Sabha as it contained financial issues.

"Hence, we are moving the private member's bill in the Lok Sabha to pressurise the Centre to fulfil the promises made to the State at the time of bifurcation. We will also raise our voice on the injustice being done to the State during the debate on the no-confidence motion against the

Narendra Modi government," the YSRC MP said.

The bill includes Special Category Status for AP, South Coastal Railway zone along with Waltair Division, funds for backward districts and other unfulfilled bifurcation promises.

On the other hand, YSRC floor leader in the Lok Sabha Peddireddy Mithun Reddy will move another private member's bill seeking approval of the revised cost estimates of ₹55,548 crore of the Polavaram project, he added.

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