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Municipal employees urge government to scrap GO 279

VIJAYAWADA: Speakers at the roundtable meeting organised by the AP Municipal Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC) on Monday demanded that the State government scrap GO 279, promulgated by the Department of Municipal Administration, and provide salaries for the employees under GO 151.

Addressing the gathering, CITU joint action committee convener K Umamaheswara Rao said that GO No. 279 would eventually lead to displacement of workers. "The contractors will cut down the manpower and make the limited men to work for saving big bucks.

Also, they will not pay the workers as per the standards. The big corporators will exploit the workers' capabilities," Rao said.

Over 40,000 outsourcing workers are rendering their services in the municipal department. Since last decade, majority of the sanitation workers have played a pivotal role in the cleaning works across the State. No measures were taken by the State government in recruiting and regularising the services of the

workers even after the retirement of permanent employees, he alleged.

AITUC State secretary A Ranganayakulu alleged that Telugu Desam government had issued the GO aimed at terminating the services of DWCRAs groups in local bodies and handing over the sanitation contracts to Telugu Desam leaders.

Majority of the municipal workers are hailing from weaker sections and the GO will affect their job security and hit their livelihood. The government plan to privatise the services of the local bodies has put the municipal workers at risk, he said.

INTUC State leader Venkata Subbaiah came down heavily on the Telugu Desam government for its inefficiency in providing facilities to the employees, such as salary payment through GO 010, regularisation and implementation of Pay Revision Commission.