

# WAKE UP TELANGANA

The Voice of the Voiceless

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## 17,000 ICICI Credit Cards Blocked



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The ICICI Bank blocked over 17,000 credit cards at once stating that there had been some technical glitch. It was learnt that the cards got aligned with other digital platforms by mistake. However, the bank made it clear that it had rectified the mistake. The bank authorities also said that there was no information that data was misused through the cards so far. Further, it assured the customers that it would pay the compensation if any of them suffered loss economically due to the use of their bank's credit card. According to sources, when the bank officials checked online, they found that the new credit cards got aligned with customers' accounts in a wrong manner, which means the existing customers could see the details of the new cards designed for others. Once the customer logged into the online banking portal, they got details of the new cards even when they had not applied for it. This news became public on Wednesday evening and was on social media within a few minutes. The

## Telangana Congress 'Chargesheet' Against BJP

New delhi  
wake up telangana

Ahead of the May 13 Lok Sabha polls in Telangana, the Congress on Thursday released a 'chargesheet' on the BJP-led government at the Centre for failing to support the state. The chargesheet highlights "injustice done to Telangana" in the allotment of funds, water allocation in river Krishna, non-allocation of medical colleges, IIM, IIIT etc. TPCC president and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy released the chargesheet in the presence of ministers and senior party leaders at Gandhi Bhavan. The chargesheet, "10 years of deceit, 100 years of destruction" points out the BJP's failures with regard to bringing back black money stashed in Swiss banks, crediting



Rs 15 lakh in each Jan Dhan account of the poor, and providing 20 crore jobs at the rate of two crore jobs per year. It highlighted Telangana state receiving 43 paise from the Centre on every rupee it contributed to the Centre in the form of taxes, one lakh farmers committing suicide across the country, not sanctioning major educational institution to Telangana, allocating higher share to Andhra Pradesh in the Krishna water, failure to set up Bayyaram steel factory,

Kazipet railway coach factory and according 'national status' to Palamuru-Rangareddy lift irrigation project. The chargesheet took a dig at the BJP government for increasing debt burden on the country from Rs 55 lakh crore in 2014 to Rs 183 lakh crore in 2024, for increasing domestic LPG price to Rs 1,200, petrol, diesel prices to over Rs 100 per litre, rise in prices of essential commodities such as tur dal to Rs 180 per kg and edible oil to Rs 180 per kg.

## Election is country's pride, voters must participate in large numbers: CEC

New delhi  
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Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar has said that adequate arrangements have been made for smooth polling in the second phase of Lok Sabha polls and urged voters to participate in the festival of democracy in maximum numbers. In an interview with ANI, Kumar said various amenities have been provided to voters in polling booths and adequate security measures have been taken. "We have made complete preparations for today's elections. Polling booths have been decorated. There is no possibility of any kind of violence at any booth nor has any such report been received," he said. He said voters must participate in large numbers in the voting festival. "Voters



should come to vote without any worry. The festival of democracy is the pride of the country and voters have to participate in it," Kumar said. He said there are facilities such as drinking water and toilets in the booths. "All that is needed is that voters have to vote in maximum numbers. There are complete security arrangements. Everyone must come to vote today," he said. The CEC also referred to the meeting of the poll panel with officials of the India Me-

teorological Department, National Disaster Management Authority and Health Ministry ahead of the second phase of Lok Sabha polls. "Before the second round of voting, we had called a meeting of the National Disaster Management Authority, Meteorological Department, and health officials. We also spoke to Chief Electoral Officers to assess the weather conditions," he said IMD has forecast normal weather for phase two Lok Sabha polls. He said recent rains

have also lessened the impact of heat. Kumar said voters are like ambassadors of the Election Commission when they fulfil their duty to vote. "Our request and appeal to the voters is to come out of their homes in large numbers and vote. Women, youth, elders, and all should come out of their homes and vote," he emphasized, expressing hope for high voter turnout. The voting for 88 seats across 13 states and UTs will be held in the second phase on April 26. The first phase of voting in 102 constituencies across 21 states/UTs was held on April 19. Five seats in Assam and Bihar, three in Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, 14 in Karnataka, 20 in Kerala, seven in Madhya Pradesh, eight in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, 13 in Rajasthan and one each in Manipur,

## Do not get swayed by any diversionary tactics and lies: Kharge to voters

New delhi  
wake up telangana

Amid polling for the second phase of the Lok Sabha elections, Congress national president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday urged voters not to fall for any 'diversionary tactics' of the ruling

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), adding that it is an election to "protect democracy from the clutches of dictatorship". Taking to his official X handle, Kharge posted, "We, the people of India - this soul of the Constitution of India, should reverberate in your hearts and minds



before you push the voting button. Do not forget that

this is not an ordinary election. It is an election to protect Democracy from the clutches of Dictatorship. To all my dear citizens, from 89 Constituencies in 13 States and UTs, do not get swayed by any diversionary tactics and lies. Always make your vote count." Reminding

people of the party's salient promises in its manifesto or 'Nyay Patra', the Congress national president also called on the people to come out in record numbers and exercise their democratic right. "For it may change the lives of 140 Crore Indians by bringing the paradigm of

YUVA NYAY NAARI NYAY KISAAN NYAY SHRAMIK NYAY HISSEDARI NYAY Imagine a future where Justice, Freedom, Equality and Liberty are guaranteed. A future where rapid inclusive growth and transformative policies are guaranteed. My dear first-time voters,

cut the clutter and distance the din, for you are the real changemakers and I welcome each one of you in this movement for Democracy. Everyone, please come out and VOTE in large numbers. BADLEGA BHARAT, JEETEGA INDIA," Kharge posted on X.

## Your vote is your voice: PM Modi calls for polling in record numbers



Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged people on Friday to cast their votes in record numbers in the second phase of the Lok Sabha polls and said a high voter turnout strengthens democracy. Asserting that their vote is their voice, Modi especially told the young voters and women voters to turn up at the polling booths in great numbers. "Urging everyone in constituencies voting today, in the second phase of the Lok Sabha elections, to participate in record numbers. "A high voter turnout strengthens our democracy. I especially urge our young voters and women voters to turn out in great numbers. Your vote is your voice!" the prime minister said on X. Voting in the second phase of the Lok Sabha polls is underway for 88 seats in 13 states. The Election Commission has been making all-out efforts to boost the voting percentage after a lower turnout in the first phase on April 19 compared to 2019.

## Revanth Alleges BJP in 'Deep-Rooted Conspiracy' to Scrap Reservations

Hyderabad  
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Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy alleged that the BJP had hatched a conspiracy to abolish reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs in tune with the RSS agenda. He further alleged that RSS will complete a centenary next year and BJP wants to abolish reservations



before the milestone's celebrations begin. Reddy said that BJP was pitching for two-third majority in the Lok Sabha elections to change constitutions and scrap reservations. However,

er, the Congress will fight and safeguard the constitution and protect reservations. Addressing a meeting at Gandhi Bhavan on Thursday after releasing a "chargesheet" against the BJP government, Reddy cautioned voters that if the BJP won 400 seats, then it will implement the 'RSS agenda', change the Constitution and

scrap reservations. The Chief Minister termed the upcoming Lok Sabha polls as a 'referendum' on whether reservations should be continued or abolished. "I caution SC, ST and OBC voters. Please understand that if you vote for BJP, it would mean that you are voting against your own reservations," he said.

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## Revanth promises Pharma village for Narayankhed in 2000 acres

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has promised to set up a pharma village in Narayankhed assembly constituency if the Minister Damodara Rajanarasimha, Narayanakhed MLA Patlolla Sanjeeva Reddy helped the administration in acquiring 2,000 acres of land in the area. Addressing a public meeting near Pedda Shanakarampet in Medak district on Friday evening, Revanth Reddy said that he would get big pharmaceutical companies to create employment for locals. Reddy maintained that he would also get an ITI exclusively for women besides building a library for the Narayankhed assem-



bly constituency where many students topped the recently announced intermediate results. Saying that the victory of the Congress candidate Suresh Shetkar would help the area in getting many projects, the Chief Minister said that the Congress government would also complete the Sangameshwara and Basaveswara Lift Irrigation Projects, which were proposed by BRS government as part of the Kaleshwaram project. The former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao had laid

a foundation for these two lift irrigation projects. Accusing the BJP candidate BB Patil of switching loyalties for his business gains, Reddy said that Patil had done nothing for the people during the past ten years. He alleged that BJP and BRS had a secret fact for the victory of Patil which would help BRS free MLC Kavitha from jail. The Chief Minister alleged that the BJP was planning to amend the Constitution by winning the 400 seats. He said that the victory of the BJP would harm the interests of the SCs, STs, and other backward classes because they were aiming to restrict the reservations. Minister Damodara Rajanarasimha, MLAs Patlolla Sanjeeva Reddy, Lakshmananatha Rao, Madanmohan Rao and others were present.

## Foundation day: KCR greets cadre

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao on Friday congratulated the party cadre and the people of the State on the occasion of the 23rd foundation day of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (Telangana Rashtra Samithi). He said the party came into existence on the foundation of sacrifices, pursued the goal of achieving statehood and added that it played a key role in making rapid strides in



development during the 10-year rule. He said the party has achieved a lot in 23 years since inception. The credit of leading the State on the path of progress goes solely to the cadre and its government. Stating that the BRS has a special place in the history of world political parties,

he said the party workers have laid a strong foundation and helped it overcome many hurdles. He called upon the leaders and activists to stand up for the aspirations of the people of Telangana and gain their support on this foundation day. Celebrating the 23rd foundation day, Bharat Rashtra Samithi working president KT Rama Rao called upon the party cadre to hoist the party flag in the party district offices across the State on Saturday. He will hoist the party flag

at the State headquarters in Telangana Bhavan at 9 am on Saturday. As the entire party cadre is engaged in the parliamentary election related activities across the State, it has been proposed that the foundation day festivities be held primarily at the district offices. Rama Rao wanted the party district executive committees, elected representatives and other leaders to actively participate in the foundation day celebrations.

## Resonance Junior Colleges Achieve Remarkable Success in All India JEE Main 2024

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

Resonance Junior Colleges in Hyderabad have etched their names in the annals of educational excellence with an extraordinary performance in the All India JEE Main 2024 examination. Known nationwide for producing top rankers in prestigious exams like IIT, NIT, and NEET, Resonance once again demonstrated its commitment to academic brilliance. Five students from Resonance Junior Colleges, Hyderabad, achieved a perfect score of 100 percentile, while an impressive 336 students scored above the 99 percentile mark in the JEE Main 2024 examination. Sri Purnachandra Rao, Director of Resonance Hyderabad Centres, honored these outstanding achievers along with their parents and teachers at a felicitation ceremony



held at Resonance Junior College, Madhapur. Addressing the gathering, Sri Purnachandra Rao expressed his pride in Resonance Hyderabad's exceptional performance, with 59 students qualifying to write the JEE Advanced exam out of a total of 5912 students from across India. Notably, 750 students from Hyderabad alone are eligible for the Advanced exam, with 59 students scoring above the 99 percentile mark. The achievement highlights Resonance's commitment to nurturing tal-

ent and fostering academic excellence. With its proven track record and dedicated faculty, Resonance continues to empower students to excel in competitive examinations. Resonance All India JEE Main 2024 Results Summary: 100 Percentile Scorers: 59 students nationwide, including 5 from Hyderabad, achieved a perfect score in respective subjects. 99 Percentile and Above: 336 students, with 68 from Resonance Hyderabad, scored above the 99 per-

centile mark.

Top Performers: The top five students at the national level and from Hyderabad were recognized for their exceptional scores.

Top 5 Students Nationwide: Sagarika Sinha, Yashwardhan Singh Choudhary, Soukarya Bhattacharya, Suvaan Arora, Deepak

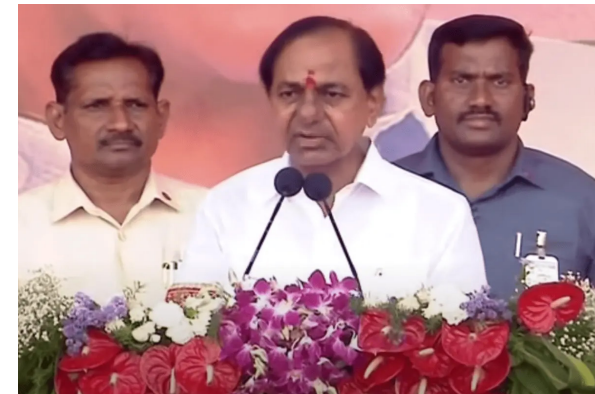
Top 5 Students from Hyderabad in Various Subjects: Palle Hari Charan Reddy (Physics), Srujan Reddy Avujugari (Chemistry), Soma Sree Ved (Physics), Vemuri Sriraga Charan (Physics), Sai Srinivas (Physics)

Notable Achievers from Hyderabad: Several students from Hyderabad scored above the 99.6 percentile mark, showcasing the city's academic prowess.

## Passenger attacks driver in Telangana, TSRTC staff stalls 45 buses in protest

Hyderabad, wake up telangana

BRS chief K Chandrashekhara Rao made an appeal to Muslims in Telangana in Urdu during his road show in Bhuvanagiri town as part of his bus yatra/election campaign on Thursday, urging them not to vote for Congress. Voting for Congress will help BJP candidates emerge victorious and become MPs, as both the parties were together, he said. "BRS has been a secular party and will remain secular," he said. Reminding the Muslims that during the ten-year rule of BRS, peace and harmony were maintained in the state, Rao said that



gifts during Ramzan season which used to be distributed during BRS regime, were not seen during this year's Ramzan. He also pointed out that it was BRS which gave monthly honorarium to Imams and Muazins in Telangana, which was not done anywhere else in the country. "They arrested and lodged my daughter in jail, but we are not scared. The fight will continue," he said.

He said that the BJP at the Centre, without worrying about any of the people's issues, was focusing only on distributing prasad and taking out shobhayatras, and that their "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" has remained only as a slogan. He urged the Bhuvanagiri voters to elect BRS candidate Kyama Mallesh, whom he described as a wealthy person who represents the weaker

## Ponnam Prabhakar assures of support to weavers, asks them not to take extreme steps

Hyderabad, wake up telangana

In the wake of many weavers committing suicides, Backward Classes Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar assured that State government would extend all support to weavers and appealed to them to not take extreme steps. Meetings were being con-

ducted with officials on the measures to be taken to bail out the weavers from crisis. Discussions were on whether to extend yarn on subsidy or sanction advanced looms under workers to owners sheds programme, he said while addressing media persons here on Friday. The State government was according top

priority to weavers' welfare. Already, through GOMS 1 different departments have been directed to procure required cloth exclusively from TSCO as a means to ensure weavers welfare and support them in eking out their livelihood, he reminded. Holding the past government responsible for the weavers'

suicides, the Minister said 135 weavers had died by suicide between 2014 and 2023. "How can the four-months-old Congress government be held responsible for weavers' suicides in the State," asked Ponnam Prabhakar. The Minister stressed that already Rs.50 crore arrears were released under first phase and

in a few days another Rs.50 crore would be released to the weavers. The Minister also appealed to the master weavers to support the workers in case of any financial or health issues. The State government would extend all support to the master weavers, he assured.



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## Election Victory for BRS Campaign in Secunderabad Cantonment Ward 1



Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana  
Dp srinivas rao

In a triumphant outcome, the BRS campaign in Ward 1 of the Secunderabad Cantonment Constituency has secured a resounding victory. Nivedithana Sayanna, the BRS MLA candidate, witnessed an overwhelming response during her campaign efforts. Nivedita was actively supported by former vice-presidents of the Cantonment Board, Jakkula Maheshwar Reddy, throughout the campaign. Door-to-door canvassing was conducted in Sewell Temple, Chittireddy Colony, Chinnathokatta, and Nakkalapally Basti, urging residents to cast their votes in favor of the BRS candidate. During these interactions, Nivedita received heartfelt support and condolences from the local community. The chant of "Jai BRS" echoed through the neighborhoods as residents expressed solidarity with the party. In a significant declaration of support, it was announced that Sayanna's family will receive unwavering backing from the BRS party. The victory marks a significant milestone for the BRS campaign in the Secunderabad Cantonment Constituency, setting the stage for future endeavors.

## KCR advises CM Revanth to stop swearing in name of Gods, start taking concrete steps to deliver promises

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

Leader of Opposition and BRS president K Chandrashekhar Rao advised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to stop swearing in the name of Gods to implement the electoral promises and instead, take concrete steps to deliver them, if he had any guts. Doubting the Congress government's commitment to deliver its promises, he said the continu-



ation of schemes like Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima is also uncertain. Participating in the bus tour supporting BRS MP candidate Manne Srinivas Reddy in Mahabubnagar on Friday, Chandrashekhar Rao criticised the Congress for coming to power by making false promises and spreading false

narratives. He stated that despite spending five months in power, the Chief Minister did not deliver any promises and instead, passing time by hurling choicest abuses against him and the BRS which were responsible for Telangana State formation. He listed out the numerous promises of the Congress including Rs 15,000 to farmers, Rs 4,500 to unemployed youth, Rs 2,500 to women,

Rs 4,000 to elderly citizens, one tola gold under Kalyana Lakshmi and several others, which are yet to be implemented. "There are no Scooty for young women, but only looty in the Congress regime. The Congress ruined Telangana within days after coming to power. But I will be silent spectator. I will fight for the State development until my last breathe, but seek your support in the form of

your vote," he said. The BRS president slammed the Congress government for conspiring to restrict Rythu Bandhu benefits and bring back the dark times of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh to Palamuru region. He reminded that farmers were forced to abandon their farm lands and drive autorikshaws in Hyderabad for livelihood, before Telangana State formation. "Farmers must unite and join the

BRS in a fight against the Congress to safeguard their interests. I appeal them to strengthen the arms of BRS by casting their vote to Manne Srinivas Reddy," he urged. The BRS president stated that a vote for the Congress candidate in Mahabubnagar will only benefit the BJP as the fight is only between the BRS and the BJP, while the Congress is confined to third spot.

## Madhavi Latha Energizes BJP Campaign in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana  
Prashanth reddy

In a fervent display of electoral enthusiasm, Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) senior leader and Jambagh division corporator, Mr. Rakesh Jaiswal, led a spirited campaign alongside Hyderabad Lok Sabha candidate, Smt. Madhavi Latha, in Hyderabad today. The campaign, marked by vibrant drum beats and energetic footwork, saw Ms. Madhavi Latha traversing through every street of the Jambagh Division. Mr. Jaiswal emphasized the significance of Ms. Madhavi Latha's bold campaign-



ing, suggesting that it has instilled a sense of apprehension in the All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) party leadership. The remarkable response garnered by Ms. Madhavi Latha's campaign has evidently left her opponents on edge. The campaign witnessed the presence of several prominent figures including Pandu Yadav, Smt. Shashi

Kala (Corporator, Mangalhat), Srinivas Yadav, Gopal Swamy, Dayanand, Sudhir Kumar, Mayur, Kajal, Renuka, Ramakrishna, and Raghu, alongside senior BJP leaders and dedicated party workers. As the electoral battle intensifies, such vigorous campaigning efforts underscore the BJP's determination to make significant inroads in Hyderabad's political landscape.

## Election observer inspects reception and counting centre in Khammam

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

Khammam Lok Sabha election general observer Dr. Sanjay G Kolte and police observer Charan Jeet Singh inspected the reception and counting centre in Khammam on Friday. The observers along with district Collector VP Gautham and Commissioner of Police Sunil Dutt visited Sri Chaitanya Engineering College in Khammam Rural mandal where they inspected the blocks and rooms of the college. They wanted tight security arrangements at the college. Speaking to the media later in the day, Collector Gautham informed that the

scrutiny of 72 nominations filed by 45 candidates for Khammam Lok Sabha was done and nominations of four candidates were rejected. 41 candidates were in the fray. Monday is the last day for nominations withdrawal. The distribution of voter slips has also started. Allotment of EVM machines was also done. Voting from home for elder and PwD voters would start on April 3 and conclude on April 8. 2930 persons applied for home voting, he said. CP Sunil Dutt informed that police have so far seized Rs.1 crore cash during inspection at check posts. Liquor worth Rs.47.36 lakh and ganja worth Rs.11.47 lakh were seized, he added.

## Cantonment Congress Party Candidate Attracts Massive Inclusions from Local Leaders



Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana  
Dp srinivas rao

In a significant development within the Cantonment Constituency, the Congress party witnessed a surge in support as local leaders rallied behind its candidate, Mr. Ganesh. The momentum was evident as several prominent figures, including Ward-4 President Surekha Garu and Colony Founder Krishna Garu, announced their allegiance to the party during a gathering. Surekha Garu, Pres-

ident of Ward-4 Gandhi Colony, cited the compelling schemes and initiatives championed by the Congress Party as the driving force behind her decision to join. Her endorsement carries weight within the community and underscores the growing traction of the party's agenda among grassroots leaders. The event also witnessed the presence of senior leaders from the Cantonment Constituency, including Muppidi Madhukar, further amplifying the significance of the occasion. Their participation signifies a unified

front within the party and signals a formidable challenge to its political rivals in the upcoming elections. The influx of support wasn't confined to Surekha Garu alone. A slew of influential figures, such as Colony Vice Presidents MD Yakub Garu,

Surekhamma Garu, Padma Garu, Yadamma Garu, and Sujatha Garu, among others, also pledged their allegiance to the Congress Party. Their collective endorsement bolsters the party's grassroots presence and augurs well for its electoral prospects in the region. The move underscores the growing momentum behind the Congress Party's campaign in the Cantonment Constituency and sets the stage for an intense electoral contest in the days ahead. With local leaders aligning themselves with the party's vision and agenda, the political landscape in the region appears poised for a significant shift, with implications reaching far beyond the upcoming elections.



## Konda Vishweshwar Reddy Unveils Ambitious 'Sankalp Patra' for Chevella Constituency

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

In a significant move aimed at addressing the multifaceted needs of Chevella, Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, scion of a distinguished lineage and former Member of Parliament, has unveiled an extensive manifesto titled 'Sankalp Patra'. Rooted in his family's legacy of service and inspired by his interactions with the citizens of Chevella, Reddy's manifesto outlines a comprehensive roadmap for the holistic development of the constituency. Drawing upon his engineering background and passion for community welfare, Reddy's manifesto touches upon various sectors crucial for Chevella's progress. It encompasses key areas such as agricultural enhancement, citizen housing, economic support, vibrant village development, better governance, social and civil infrastructural development, environmental conservation, healthcare, youth empowerment, support for the aging population, irrigation projects, and effective implementation of central government schemes. Under the banner of agricultural development and farmer welfare, Reddy pledges



financial assistance, increased minimum support prices, and the establishment of agricultural skill development facilities. Additionally, he vows to ensure the protection of farmers' losses through crop insurance schemes and the extension of fish production initiatives. For citizen housing and economic support, Reddy promises to facilitate affordable housing schemes and loans for street vendors, alongside advocating for tax deductions to alleviate financial burdens. Emphasizing vibrant village development, Reddy aims to generate local employment, enhance self-governance, and promote rural tourism hubs across the constituency. He also advocates for better governance through empowering local bodies and strengthening financial freedom. The manifesto underscores the importance of social and civil infrastructural development, highlighting initiatives for town planning, civic infrastructure improvement, and the promotion of social cohesion

through community centers and healthcare clinics. In line with his commitment to environmental sustainability, Reddy proposes measures for lake cleaning, sewage treatment, waste management, and the development of green spaces. Reddy's vision extends to healthcare reforms, youth empowerment, support for the aging population, and the effective implementation of central government schemes to ensure equitable development across the constituency. Furthermore, Reddy delineates specific plans for each region within the constituency, including initiatives for agricultural revolution, infrastructure development, education enhancement, and healthcare upgrades. With his 'Sankalp Patra', Reddy aims to usher in a new era of governance characterized by transparency, accountability, and inclusive growth. He calls upon the citizens of Chevella to support him in realizing this vision, underlining the transformative potential of their collective efforts. As the electoral battle heats up, Konda Vishweshwar Reddy's 'Sankalp Patra' stands as a testament to his commitment to serve the people of Chevella and steer the constituency towards prosperity and progress.

## short takes

### Indian student's death in US possibly tied to Blue Whale suicide game

In a grim first for Indians studying in US colleges and universities, a first-year student took his own life in March while playing, it is understood, a macabre online game of dares called the "Blue Whale Challenge", which has also been called the "suicide game". The 20-year-old, who will remain unnamed here in deference to his family's wishes, was a first-year student of the University of Massachusetts. He was found dead on March 8. Gregg Miliote, a spokesperson for the Bristol County District Attorney said case is being investigated as "apparent suicide". This death was widely reported as a murder in which the student was misidentified as enrolled in Boston University and was said to have been robbed and that the body was found in a car in a jungle. The Boston Globe newspaper subsequently identified the student by name. But while this agency will not name him in respect of his family's wishes, the cause of death by suicide while playing this dangerous game which is known to prey on teens and young adults around the world, needs to be reported as a cautionary incident for Indian students and teens in India and abroad and parents. The "Blue Whale Challenge" is an online game in which participants are given a dare to perform and these dares become increasingly more difficult over 50 steps. This student from India's fatal challenge was holding his breath for two minutes, according to official sources. This may be the first instance of a Blue Whale challenge fatality for India. The Indian government had wanted to ban this game years ago but settled for a more detailed advisory instead. "Blue whale game (The suicide game) is abetment to suicide," said the Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in the advisory issued in 2017, a year after the emergence of the game. "It is understood through various internet reports that it is shared among secretive groups on social media networks. The creators seek out their players/victims who are in depression and send them an invitation to join. The basis of the challenge is that an anonymous 'group administrator', otherwise known as 'the curator', hands out 50 tasks to selected 'players' that must be completed, documented and posted during a 50-day period. Players of the challenge can't stop playing once they've started; they are blackmailed and cyber bullied into completing the 'game' instead."

### IMD predicts severe heatwave conditions over South Peninsular India including T'gana



Heatwave to severe heatwave conditions likely to continue over East and south Peninsular India including Telangana, during the next 5 days, the India Meteorological Department said on Friday. "A spell of rainfall accompanied by isolated thunderstorms/lightning and heavy rainfall is likely over Northeast India from 28-30 April," it said. According to the IMD, heatwave to severe heatwave conditions will likely prevail in many places over Gangetic West Bengal, in some parts of Odisha, and in isolated pockets over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal during the next 5 days. "Heatwave conditions in isolated pockets over Bihar, Jharkhand, Telangana, Rayalaseema, Interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, East Uttar Pradesh during the next 5 days; Kerala & Mahe during 26th-28th; Konkan during 27th-29th and West Uttar Pradesh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh & Yanam during 28th-30th April 2024," IMD said in a statement. The IMD has also predicted a fresh spell of rainfall

accompanied by thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds is likely to occur over the Western Himalayan region from April 26-29 and the plains of Northwest India from April 26-28 and adjoining Central India from April 26-27. "Western Disturbance as a cyclonic circulation lies over south Iran & adjoining south Pakistan in lower & middle levels. An induced cyclonic circulation lies over West Rajasthan in lower tropospheric levels. Under their influence: Fairly widespread to widespread light to moderate rainfall/snowfall accompanied by thunderstorms, lightning very likely over Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh-Gilgit-Baltistan-Muzaffarabad, Himachal Pradesh and isolated rainfall over Uttarakhand during 26th-29th April 2024, with the possibility of hailstorm over Jammu-Kashmir-Ladakh-Gilgit-Baltistan-Muzaffarabad on 26th and Himachal Pradesh during 26th-28th and Uttarakhand on 28th and 29th April 2024,"

## Voting begins in 88 seats in second phase of Lok Sabha elections

Voting for the second phase of the Lok Sabha elections 2024 began at 7:00 am on Friday across 88 Parliamentary Constituencies spread over 12 States and Union Territories. 89 general observers, 53 police Observers and 109 expenditure observers have been deployed in the regions. IMD has forecast normal weather for phase two Lok Sabha polls. The polling time has been extended till 6 PM in many polling stations in Banka, Madhepura, Khagaria and Munger constituencies in Bihar to facilitate voters in hot weather conditions. For convenience for voters, meticulous arrangements have been made by the Election Commission at all polling stations including facilities, to deal with hot weather conditions. It may be recalled that polling for 29-Betul PC in Madhya Pradesh was rescheduled in the third phase due to the death of a candidate from the Bahujan Samaj Party. The polling for 102 seats in phase one was completed on April 19. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar has said that ade-



quate arrangements have been made for smooth polling in the second phase of Lok Sabha polls and urged voters to participate in the festival of democracy in maximum numbers. Over 16 lakh Polling officials will welcome over 15.88 crore voters across 1.67 lakh polling stations in the second phase. 34.8 lakh first-time voters are registered to cast their votes. Additionally, there are 3.28 crore young voters in the age group 20-29 years. 1202 candidates (Males - 1098; Females-102; third gender - 02) are in the fray. Three Helicopters, four Special trains and nearly 80,000 vehicles have been deployed to ferry polling and

security personnel. Webcasting will be done in more than 50 per cent of the polling stations along with deployment of micro-observers in all polling stations. Webcasting is being done in over 1 lakh polling stations. A total of 4553 Flying Squads, 5731 Static Surveillance Teams, 1462 Video Surveillance Teams and 844 Video Viewing Teams are keeping surveillance round the clock to strictly and swiftly deal with any form of inducement of voters. Around 4195 Model polling stations are set up across the 88 PCs with local themes. More than 4100 Polling stations are being completely managed by women

including security staff and at over 640 Polling stations by Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). Polling stations in all States/UTs except Bihar and Kerala have less than 1000 average electors per polling station. Bihar has 1008 and in Kerala, it is 1102 electors per polling station. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is seeking his third consecutive term, while the opposition bloc-INDIA- a coalition of opposing parties formed to take on the BJP in the general elections, is eyeing ousting him from power. The 2024 elections are taking place at a time when opposition leaders, including Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal,

## 2024 elections are to save the Constitution: Former UP CM Akhilesh Yadav

Amidst the ongoing second phase of Lok Sabha elections, former Uttar Pradesh Chief minister Akhilesh Yadav addressed a public rally in UP's Kannauj and said that the 2024 elections are to save the Constitution. Speaking at the rally, Akhilesh Yadav said, "The BJP is helping big businessmen while the INDIA alliance and SP will help the poor... This election is also to save the Constitution. You must have seen, the BJP wants to finish the Constitution. Remember, if the Constitution finishes, our right to vote will also end. There will be no right to vote." He also urged



the voters to take an oath to save the Constitution. "Today, take an oath to protect the Constitution that was given to us by Dr BR Ambedkar, the Constitution that gives us rights, the Constitution that protects our self respect... the Constitution that gives us reservation, we have to work to save the Constitution. 'Agar Samvidhan bachega, to hamara loktantra bachega.'" Yadav also

said that there are two types of people in the 2024 elections, one that wants to save the Constitution while the other one who wants to finish it. Taking a jibe at the BJP, the former CM also said, "... Today every corrupt has reached in the godown (warehouse) of BJP... Those who keep saying 'parivarvaad', the truth is these BJP and NDA people are scared of PDA parivaar- 'pichre

(backward), Dalit and alpasankhyak (minority)." The second phase has 88 Lok Sabha constituencies across 13 States/Union Territory including 13 in Rajasthan, 20 in Kerala, eight in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, five each in Assam and Bihar, six in Madhya Pradesh, three each in Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, and one each in Tripura, Manipur, and Jammu & Kashmir. With weather conditions predicted to be within normal ranges, voters can cast their vote comfortably. For the convenience of voters, meticulous arrangements have been made at all polling stations including

facilities, to deal with hot weather conditions, according to the Election Commission. According to the ECI, over 15.88 crore voters will be voting in the second phase which includes 8.08 crore male electors, 7.8 crore female electors, and 5929 third-gender electors. A total of 4553 flying squads, 5731 static surveillance teams, 1462 video surveillance teams and 844 video viewing teams are keeping surveillance round the clock to strictly and swiftly deal with any form of inducement of voters across the 1.67 lakh polling stations, as per the ECI press note.

## EAM Jaishankar receives copy of book 'India's Nuclear Titans'

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar received a copy of the book 'India's Nuclear Titans' edited by Soumya Awasthi and Shrabana Barua. He said it is important that the contributions of nuclear titans is recognised by the emerging generations. In a post on X, Jaishankar stated, "Pleased to receive a copy of the book: India's Nuclear Titans, edited by Soumya Awasthi and Shrabana Barua. Important that the contributions of these Titans is recognized by the emerging generations." The book 'India's Nuclear Titans' traces the evolution of India into a nuclear state while analysing the role played by stalwarts like Homi Bhabha, Vikram Sarabhai, Abdul Kalam, K Subrahmanyam, among others. The book aims to give a brief but complete picture of India's nuclear story. Earlier in February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS) in Surat on Thursday and dedicated to the nation two Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) in the district. Built by the



Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL), at a cost of more than Rs 22,500 crore, the KAPS-3 and KAPS-4 projects have a cumulative capacity of 1400 megawatts and are the largest indigenous PHWRs, said an official release. As per the official release, the PHWRs are first-of-its-kind reactors with advanced safety features comparable with the best in the world "The two reactors will produce about 10.4 billion units of clean electricity per year and benefit consumers of multiple states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, MP, Chhattisgarh, Goa and UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu," said the release.

## Wake Up Telangana

HYDERABAD | SATURDAY | APRIL 27, 2024

### Editorial

# The power of power nap



at Harvard Medical School, suggests early afternoon is more appropriate for napping and late afternoon napping may affect night sleep. The Sleep Foundation recommends a time between 12 am and 2 pm when there is a dip in productivity and alertness due to mid-day meal. Also, the optimum duration of the naps is 20-30 minutes. Shorter naps prevent one from entering deep stages of sleep, which can lead to grogginess. Frequent and longer naps increase the risk of cardiovascular disease (Yamada et al, 2015). Taking daytime naps longer than 30 minutes has been linked to a higher likelihood of having non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). Another side-effect of daytime napping is the release of inflammatory cytokines released by the immune system that cause inflammation in the body (Qu et al, 2014). While the mechanism is not clear, the correlation does exist. Maintaining a consistent sleep-wake schedule helps regulate our body's internal clock, known as the circadian rhythm. Although initially challenging, consistent efforts make it attainable. Establishing a predictable pattern of going to bed and waking up at the same time aligns with our natural sleep-wake cycles. This consistency strengthens the body's sleep and wake signals, facilitating easier sleep onset and refreshed awakening. It enhances sleep quality, daytime alertness, and overall physical and mental well-being. Adhering to a regular sleep schedule and initiating an afternoon nap every day at the same time trains our bodies to follow a healthy and synchronised routine. Create a distraction-free space right: A quiet and comfortable environment, preferably away from noise and disruptions may enhance the quality of sleep. Simple measures like dimming the lights or using a sleep mask, comfortable temperature and comfortable clothing/bedding, may create a conducive atmosphere.

**E**xtensive research supports the concept of 'afternoon power nap,' altering the perception of napping from an indicator of laziness and unproductivity to a method for enhancing productivity and brain health. Several workplaces, including Google, Cisco, and Ben and Jerry's, have implemented nap pods to facilitate employee rejuvenation through napping. Furthermore, certain gyms and fitness centres educate individuals on relaxation techniques and actively promote the practice of napping. From the likes of Winston Churchill to Mariah Carey, advocates of afternoon siestas have spanned across diverse realms.

**The Benefits**  
**Boosts brain function:** We live in an environment that constantly stimulates our brain. Brief restorative naps provide an opportunity for the brain to consolidate information, process emotions and repair itself. Regular napping enhances problem-solving and decision-making skills, alertness and productivity. A meta-analysis revealed that brief naps up to two hours have been demonstrated to enhance cognition function, especially alertness (Dutheil et al, 2021).  
**Boosts mental health:** Napping can alleviate negative affect and enhance mood in response to acute stressors (Wofford et al, 2022). Regular nappers have reported higher levels of happiness. Additionally, brief naps have been found to facilitate improved emotional regulation, and dreaming may serve as a mechanism for processing negative emotional experiences. Effective communication and collaboration between brain regions, specifically the medial prefrontal cortex and amygdala, during sufficient sleep, contribute to enhanced emotional control and overall well-being.  
**Boosts physical health:** For all the wear and tear that happens during wakefulness, the body repairs itself during sleep. It aids in relieving muscle tension, lowering blood pressure and promoting relaxation. A Swiss study found that individuals who nap once or twice a week have a reduced risk of experiencing cardiovascular events (Häusler et al, 2019).  
**Getting it Right**  
**Time it right:** Dr Suzanne Bertisch, Assistant Professor



# Waiving US visas for Israelis would be a mistake

**M**y American-Palestinian cousins, the Awad family, have a routine for whenever they come to visit us in Jerusalem. They try to avoid flying into Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv because if the Israelis refuse them entry – as happens to many Americans because of their national origin, religion, or public criticism of Israel – they would have to fly back all the way to the US. Instead, they usually enter Palestine from Jordan through the King Hussein Bridge Border Crossing. As an occupying power, Israel still operates the Palestinian side of this crossing. So when entering the occupied West Bank through that crossing, the Awads still face the Israeli discriminatory practices, but at least if they get denied, it would mean just a return to Jordan. My cousins also choose to travel via Jordan because they can leave their phones with relatives in Amman and not have to hand them over to the Israelis at the border. Electronics get searched for – among other things – any criticism of Israel or support for the boycott movement, which immediately results in refusal of entry. The Awads always bring an extra book or two to read and a spare deck of cards. Once they arrive

at the Israeli passport control and flash their US passport, they are almost always asked to wait a long time. So they take out the books and the cards and enjoy their time until a random Israeli security officer decides whether they can enter their homeland or not. Once the Awads cross the border, they know they are still not safe. Discrimination against American citizens continues inside Palestine, where the Israeli occupation runs a vast network of checkpoints. They know, for example, that as Americans visiting Palestinian family members or friends, they may not be allowed to drive across a checkpoint together in the same car, as some of them may be ordered to disembark and not allowed to proceed. They also know they are lucky not to have Palestinian documents. If Americans who hold Palestinian IDs attempt to go to occupied Jerusalem to visit the Al-Aqsa Mosque or the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, they are stopped at one of the many checkpoints along the way and turned away. These Americans also do not have the option to fly into Tel Aviv, as Palestinian ID holders are not allowed to use it. There are myriad ways in which Americans can be denied entry or restricted

in their travel while in occupied Palestine. And they don't have to be of Palestinian descent to face such mistreatment at the hands of the Israeli authorities. Because of all these restrictions, when the Awads do make it to Jerusalem to visit us, it is a special joy for us because we know what they have had to go through to reach us. I and my children, who are American citizens, know all too well Israel's discriminatory policies. Meanwhile, illegal Israeli settlers – regardless of whether they are American or not – are allowed to live on occupied land in Palestine, in violation of international law. And, of course, they are free to go wherever they want in occupied Palestine. Despite Israel's egregious record in discriminating against Americans, the Biden administration is about to admit it into the US Visa Waiver Program, which would allow Israelis to travel to the US without applying for a visa at a US embassy or consulate. The visa waiver programme is a privilege reserved only for countries meeting federal statutory requirements including one known as "reciprocity". Reciprocity means that a US national should be treated the same way an Israeli national is treated when travelling to the US.

### LETTERS

The editor,

The TS govt's education minister took the decision to conduct Inter 1st year board exam in near future, then what is the meaning of PROMOTED? It seems the education ministry will definitely conduct the exams for those classes to which it promoted. If not so the made announcement should be revoked. Thus the Inter 1st year students will sigh relief and will give full attention in the study of 2nd year in which they are sitting after promoted by TS govt.

S.M.ARIF HUSSAIN, Senior Hon. Server in Education.  
MUSHEERABAD.



**Dear Reader**  
**If you are facing any problem in your neighborhood or strongly feel about any issue, you can write to us. We will publish your complaint in our columns. Please send your complaint to editor.wtonlinedaily@gmail.com Or whatappas us @8885610056 Please mention your name, addresses and email id. You can also share photographs or videos about the issue.**

# India's deadly train crash: Forget the truth, blame it on Muslims

By aljazeera.com  
 It happens only in India that even a train accident is used as an opportunity to demonise Muslims. Just after the recent terrible train crash near Balasore station in the eastern state of Odisha, in which more than 280 people died, posts started circulating on different social media platforms and WhatsApp groups, blaming Muslims for the accident. Could it be a coincidence that it was a Friday when three trains collided with each

other in Odisha? As if the Friday angle was not sufficient, a lie was invented that the station master was Muslim. To make it look more sinister, the photo of a religious shrine near the railway track where the accident had taken place was spread on social media claiming that it was a mosque, suggesting that there must be some link between the mosque and the accident. It was immediately exposed as a lie. It was a Hindu temple and not a mosque. But imag-

ine if it had actually been a mosque – the baseless conspiracy theory would have received fresh wings. Sadly, fact-checking only cements doubts created by fake news in minds that are already prejudiced against Muslims and are being told day and night that Muslims are conspiring against the nation. These are minds trained to think that there is a need to keep an eye on Muslims and to subjugate them using laws and, if necessary, violence. The

railway minister ordered an inquiry into the accident by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which has long given up the pretence of acting as an independent investigative agency and is principally used to target political opponents and probe cases along ideological lines laid down by the country's ruling masters. In this case, handing the case over to the CBI circumvents the normal process in such situations, which is an investigation

by the commissioner of safety. The result: Instead of paying attention to flaws in safety measures, which could raise uncomfortable questions for the government, the investigation into the accident will now keep alive a criminal conspiracy theory. It aligns with the rumours spread just after the accident. Close on the heels of this accident, the chief minister of the state of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, made a speech to discourage the use of

chemicals in farming. Giving it an anti-Muslim twist, he vowed that "fertiliser jihad" would not be allowed. He was using this occasion to target Bengali Muslims in his state, whose main occupation is farming. Suggesting that they were spoiling the land by using chemicals, he was giving yet another justification for evicting Bengali Muslims and taking away their land, building on a campaign he has relentlessly pursued in recent years. Sarma is

# "Obscene Batting": Punjab Kings Set World Record By Chasing Down 262 - Full List of Highest Successful Chases

HYDERABAD  
wake up telangana

The cricket world was in shock as Punjab Kings set a new world record on Friday. Led by Jonny Bairstow's incredible hundred, Punjab Kings set a new world record for the highest run chase in the history of T20 cricket as they overhauled the 262-run target set by Kolkata Knight Riders with eight wickets to spare in the IPL on Friday. PBKS bettered South Africa's 259/4 against West Indies in March last year. In the IPL, Rajasthan Royals held the previous record for chasing down 224 against KKR at



Eden Gardens recently, equalling the record they had set against then Kings XI Punjab (now Punjab Kings) in 2020 in Sharjah. Highest targets successfully chased in Men's T20 cricket 262 - Punjab Kings vs Kolkata Knight Riders, Kolkata, IPL 2024 259 - South Africa vs West Indies, Centurion, 2023 253 - Middlesex vs Surrey, The Oval, T20 Blast 2023 244 - Australia vs New Zealand, Auck-

land, 2018 243 - Bulgaria vs Serbia, Sofia, 2022 243 - Multan Sultans vs Peshawar Zalmi, Rawalpindi, PSL 2023 :Obscene batting," commented Kevin Pietersen, Talking about the match, sent into bat, Kolkata Knight Riders scored 261/6 but PBKS completed the chase with eight balls to spare. KKR rode on a 138-run partnership between openers Phil Salt (75 off 37 balls) and Sunil Narine (71 off 32 balls). The batters that followed the openers then consolidated the home team's position and took them to an imposing total. In reply, PBKS too were off

to a great start and scored 93 runs for the loss of Prabhsimran Singh's wicket in the powerplay. Prabhsimran blazed away to a 20-ball 54 before getting run out. Bairstow continued his brutal onslaught to help PBKS pull off a stunning win. Bairstow (108 off 48 balls) was well-supported by the in-form Shashank Singh who smashed 68 in only 28 balls. Brief scores: Kolkata Knight Riders: 261/6 in 20 overs (Phil Salt 75, Sunil Narine 71). Punjab Kings: 262/2 in 18.4 overs (Jonny Bairstow 108, Prabhsimran Singh 54, Shashank Singh 68).

# Mahadev betting scam: Tamannaah Bhatia summoned by Maharashtra Cyber Police

HYDERABAD  
wake up telangana

Bollywood actress Tamannaah Bhatia has been summoned by the Maharashtra Cyber Police for the ongoing investigations into the multi-crore Mahadev online gambling and betting scam, officials here said on Thursday. Bhatia had allegedly endorsed and promoted the online viewing of IPL matches on Fairplay app, one of the group apps of Mahadev, said the officials. The actress has been asked to appear before the Cyber Police on Monday, April 29, to record her statement as a witness for the investigations into the alleged illegal streaming of the IPL 2023 series on the app. Noted for her role in 'Baahubali' and other films, Bhatia follows other entertainment industry players like the business managers of Sanjay Dutt and Jacqueline Fernandez, besides singer Badshah and over



425 persons from different fields getting arrested across the country. As more skeletons tumble out, multiple inter-state and Central agencies are now probing the Mahadev app scam, reported to run into an estimated over Rs 6,000 crore. After the scam erupted in 2021, the involvement of many celebrities, entertainment world personalities, business folks and others, ostensibly with political patronage, came to the fore. The case has seen six dozen more FIRs lodged all over India and as a money-laundering angle emerged, the Enforcement Directorate also jumped into the multi-dimensional probe.

# Thought for the Day

"The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot."

# Comics

NIAF in Comic Strips - Part 1 - By Davina Pereira for the Global CP A&R Affected Areas, CP Risks & Population Groups - NIAF Steps 1&2

# Samantha Ruth Prabhu opens up about childhood struggles and success journey on Podcast 'Take 20'

Samantha discussed this topic on her podcast 'Take 20', where she aims to assist people by sharing her experiences, helping them relate, understand, and seek help when needed.

HYDERABAD  
wake up telangana

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu has opened up about how success has been her focus since childhood, as she did not experience a luxurious upbringing. Samantha discussed this topic on her podcast 'Take 20', where she aims to assist people by sharing her experiences, helping them relate, understand, and seek help when needed. In one episode, Samantha explored the human body's fight or flight response in certain situations alongside wellness coach and nutritionist Alkesh Sharotri. "I used to believe that exhaustion and the need for rest were signs of weakness. I was proud of being a hustler, thriving on only six hours of sleep, and being exceptionally productive throughout the day," said the actress, who has been diagnosed with an autoimmune condition called myositis. "Despite feeling exhausted, I refused to acknowledge it, working tirelessly without a break for 13 years." The actress added: "Growing up, I didn't have a luxu-



rious childhood, so success was my focus from an early age. I always felt intense pressure to 'Make It' in life. Constantly fed with the notion that I wasn't good enough, so that became an intense motivation for me to succeed at any cost." Samantha, who captivated the nation with her sizzling performance in the song 'Oo Antava' from 'Pushpa: The Rise', said that people often perceive "acting as glamorous, which it is, but that's not the

entire reality". "It is a lot of hard work and pressure, especially when you're constantly in the spotlight and being judged. I started in this industry when I was just 22-23 years old, and some girls start even younger. We don't come into this knowing everything; we let others dictate and define us," she said. Reflecting on her own journey, Samantha said: "I've been letting others define me since childhood, creating a pattern where I worked tirelessly to please and seek approval from others. Eventually, my own thoughts, feelings, and desires became insignificant." Fears emerged once she achieved success. "When I achieved success, I feared losing it, immediately searching for the next big accomplishment. So, I believe I've been in fight or flight mode throughout my career," she explained. Samantha will soon be seen in the lead role opposite Varun Dhawan in the OTT series 'Citadel: Honey Bunny'.

## Anti-Drugs Agency Appoints New Officer To Probe Sameer Wankhede Case

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

In a twist to the Sameer Wankhede case, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has shifted out the officer who was heading the special enquiry team (SET) and appointed a new central vigilance officer (CVO). The probe agency termed the transfer "routine". A new vigilance officer Neeraj Kumar Gupta was appointed CVO for three months after "grave allegations" were made by

its former Mumbai zonal director Sameer Wankhede following the drugs-on-cruise case of 2021. The Ministry of Finance Deputy Director General (special wing) Neeraj Kumar Gupta, a Kerala cadre IPS officer of the 2005 batch, was appointed "part-time" CVO for three months, an order said. NCB officials said following completion of the tenure of Gyaneshwar Singh, the IPS officer who headed the SET that probed the Wankhede case, a new officer was appointed. "Singh was replaced by Gupta

as per official procedure of changing the CVO after every three years," a senior official said. According to him, Mr Singh wrote to NCB Director General (DG) SN Pradhan and said he wanted to be "recused" from the CVO post on two grounds -- heavy duty engagement of the operations wing that he is heading and some anonymous complaints made against him, and that he did not want a conflict of interest. "It was found appropriate to appoint a new CVO as Singh's tenure of three

years had ended and that he had himself sought to hand over the charge given his full-time charge of NCB operations directorate that coordinates domestic and international action of the agency in coordination with all its field formations and other law enforcement agencies," a source said. Mr Singh, a 1999-batch Himachal Pradesh cadre Indian Police Service officer, is working as the DDG (operations, enforcement and operational control) at the NCB headquarters and was also designated as the CVO

for the last three years. The CVO is empowered to investigate complaints made against officials and staff of the NCB that investigates high-profile and sensitive drugs trafficking cases apart from handling other vigilance and anti-corruption matters. The reports prepared by the CVO are sent for further action to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), cadre controlling authorities and others. The operations wing headed by Mr Singh recently busted India's highest-ever narcotics bust from

the sea with the seizure of 3,300 kg drugs off the Gujarat coast in February, and it also unearthed an international drugs trafficking racket allegedly led by Jaffer Sadiq, a sacked functionary of the DMK in Tamil Nadu. The NCB SET under Mr Singh had found alleged lapses on the part of Mr Wankhede and his team on majorly two counts -- alleged irregularities in the conduct of the drugs-on-cruise raids, and violations under the Central Civil Services (CCS) Rules. The SET submitted this report

to the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), which had held that Mr Singh could not have been part of the enquiry team set up to probe alleged procedural lapses by IRS officer Wankhede in connection with the Cordelia cruise drugs case. The CAT had also dismissed a review plea filed by the agency against this order. The NCB Mumbai under Mr Wankhede had arrested actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan and some others on drugs charges after they raided a cruise docked at Mumbai

## Phone smuggling racket busted in Hyderabad, 5 Sudanese nationals

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

Hyderabad Police have busted an international smartphones smuggling and snatching gang and apprehended 17 accused including five Sudanese nationals, in this connection. The staff of the Commissioner's Task Force, South Zone Team along with Bandlaguda police seized 703 smartphones worth around Rs 1.75 crore. Hyderabad Police Commissioner K. Sreenivasa Reddy told mediapersons that the gang was busted during the investigation into a spate of mobile phone snatching and theft across the city. The police discovered that a major criminal network has been operating in the city involving cell phone snatchers, a host of receivers of these stolen goods and also traders



(both national and international) who are in the business of unlawful transportation of these cell phones out of the country to sell them. Police found that several stolen cell phones were also being dismantled and the resultant components such as mobile screen, camera, and speakers are subsequently being used as replacement parts for damaged mobiles

received from customers. All the accused, including five Sudanese nationals, are residents of Hyderabad. Police said Mohd Muzammil alias Mujju, engaged in wedding pandal decoration and Syed Abrar, a lorry mechanic, with desire to lead a lavish life snatched cell phones by terrorising passersby during late night hours in isolated areas. They also used a motorbike

for snatching mobile phones under the limits of Bandlaguda, Falaknuma, Bahadurpura, Mangalhat police stations of Hyderabad Police Commissionerate and Hayath Nagar police station of Rachakonda Police Commissionerate. Many of the accused are mobile phone technicians or were engaged in such work in the past. Two of the accused had shops in Jagdish Market, Abids where these phones were being purchased at low prices by Sudanese national Khalid Abdelbagi Mohamed Albadwi and his associates and the same were being exported illegally via sea route to Sudan, where they were re-selling these mobile phones for a huge profit. Police seized 703 smartphones of various brands such as Apple, Samsung, Vivo, Redmi, Realme, Oneplus, Oppo and POCO.

## 'TG' tag for vehicles awaiting smart cards

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

The State Transport Department is working towards issuing the new code 'TG' to vehicles whose smart cards are still pending. The Central government had recently issued a notification that the 'TG' code will be implemented after March 12. More than 1.5 lakh smart cards, which were earlier registered with 'TS' prefix, are pending across Greater Hyderabad limits. To check the use of fake or duplicate driving licence and Certificate of Registration (RCs), the transport officials introduced the use of

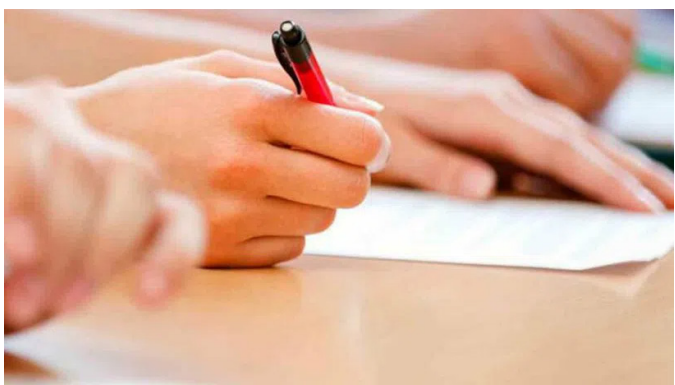
PVC made electronic chip-embedded smart cards for motorists. For instance, Khairatabad Regional Transport Authority (RTA) code starts with TG09 and ends with four digit numbers. As such, the first 10,000 registration numbers will be provided in the same way in each RTA office. The series will begin with English letters in the middle of that generation. An official said that the authorities have decided to issue 'TG' code as most of the smart cards issued earlier are still in the printing stage. Currently, the 'TG' code does not contain any English letters up to the first 10,000 registration numbers. After that, the

series begins with English letters in the middle. Delay in issuance Unlike the delay earlier in issuance of smart cards, this time a Delhi-based company got the contract for the printing and distribution of smart cards. These cards are being printed in Delhi and delivered back by courier. Motorists, however, say that this too will be delayed. So far, over one lakh cards have been sent to Delhi for printing. It is learnt that up to 50,000 smart cards have been received by the RTA. Smart cards will be provided to the motorist through speed post within ten days after vehicle registration.

## IIT aspirant faces trolling after dramatic rise from 7.4 to 100 percentile in JEE Main

Hyderabad, Wakeuptelangana

An IIT aspirant from Telangana, who initially scored 7.4 percentile in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Main January session, became an unfortunate target of provocation and scorn from trolls on social media after scoring 100 percentile in the same exam held in the April session. The student's all India 14th rank in the second exam triggered an avalanche of deliberate comments from trolls on social media that were aimed at antagonizing and demeaning the hapless student's creditable achievement, with some even taking it too far by alleging that he might



have cheated in the examination. The issue came to light with one user who himself scored 100 percentile taking to Reddit and alleging that the candidate in question sat beside him during the exam and copied answers from him and eventually fared better than him. The Reddit post, which was later deleted by the user, triggered huge trolling on both Reddit and X (formerly Twitter). Taking to X, one user posted "Someone with 7 percentile in JEE

Main session 1 got 100 percentile in JEE Main session 2 paper with full marks in all three subjects. Imagine the level of cheating that is going on nowadays." Reacting to a post, a Reddit user wrote "This guy pulled off what I dreamt" and some users sought to know how the student could copy in the computer-based examination. Another user on the same platform posted "I will wait for his JEE Advance result and see what can be done". As per reports,

the IIT aspirant acknowledged low percentile in the JEE Main session 1 and reasoned that because of high temperature during the examination he could not write well. A few Redditt users were sympathetic to the IIT aspirant in question with one user posting "Simple, he is being hated because he scored 100/100 percentile but if he had scored less than 100 then no one would have cared about him. There are also other students who copied and scored 99.9.... Percentile but no one will care about them". According to reports, the National Testing Agency, which conducted the JEE Main, is looking into the result of the candidate.

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## BJP has no intention to change the Constitution, says Kishan Reddy

Hyderabad  
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Accusing the Congress of spreading lies about BJP making efforts to change the Constitution, BJP State President G Kishan Reddy on Friday clarified that BJP had no intention to change the Constitution and that it had full faith in it. Addressing a press conference, Kishan Reddy said the Congress was losing the election, hence to create confusion among the people it was spreading lies that the BJP had set a target to win over 400 seats in the Lok Sabha polls to change the Constitution. "BJP has no intention to change the Constitution. Prime Minister Modi has clarified it several



times, but still the Congress was spreading lies to defame the party," he alleged. Reiterating that his party would scrap the Muslim reservation, Kishan Reddy said the BJP would discontinue the reservation being provided to Muslims in Telangana after coming to power in the State. "We will scrap the Muslim reservation and provide it to SCs, STs and BCs. It is unfortunate that despite the High Court terming the Muslim reservation as unconstitutional the Congress was continuing it," he said.

## EC censures TG min for allegations against KTR

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The Election Commission has censured Telangana's Environment and Forest Minister Konda Surekha for violating the Model Code of Conduct by making certain allegations against Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President K.T. Rama Rao. The poll panel passed the order while dealing with a complaint filed by BRS leader Karne Prabhakar complaining that Surekha made baseless and abusive allegations against Rama Rao in violation of the Model Code of Conduct. It strictly warned the minister to remain careful in her public utterances during the currency of the Model Code of Conduct, observing that as a star campaigner of the Congress and as a minister, she bears an additional responsibility of choosing words carefully while making any claim/allegations against any political party or the leader. "Any unverified or unsubstantiated claim made by you without any proof has the propensity to malign the image of the political party of the candidate in opposition. In the present case, unverified allegations made by you pose a risk of maligning the image of the opposition party/leader and disturbing the level playing field amid the ongoing election process in Telangana," reads the order.

## Congress Candidate Slams AIMIM and BJP, Calls for Development-Oriented Politics in Hyderabad

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At a press conference held at the central election office of the Hyderabad Lok Sabha segment in Chaderghat on Friday, Sameer Waliullah, the Congress candidate for the constituency, launched a scathing attack on both the All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), accusing them of leveraging communal politics to mask the developmental challenges facing Hyderabad. Sameer asserted that both AIMIM and BJP were resorting to divisive tactics to polarize the electoral landscape in Hyderabad. He criticized the parties for indulging in Hindu-Muslim rhetoric that, according to him, has failed to bring any meaningful development to the city. Expressing frustration with the ongoing blame game between the two parties, Sameer emphasized the need for account-



Hyderabad DCC President & Congress candidate from Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency Waliullah Sameer addressing a press conference at Congress party's central election office of Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency at Chaderghat on Friday.

ability in governance. He called upon AIMIM to account for its actions since 1984 and urged BJP to clarify its contributions to Hyderabad's development over the past decade. Strongly condemning the controversial statements and gestures made by BJP's Hyderabad Lok Sabha candidate Madhavi Latha, Sameer accused

her and the party of attempting to sow discord along religious lines. He highlighted instances where Latha purportedly targeted the Muslim community and criticized her campaign strategy, which he claimed was designed to stoke fear and division. Sameer lamented BJP's treatment of Hyderabad, particularly the old city, accusing

the party of tarnishing its reputation by labeling it as a hotbed of 'ISI and anti-national activities'. He emphasized that elections should be focused on public issues rather than religious affiliations. Outlining the Congress party's agenda for Hyderabad, Sameer pledged to prioritize initiatives aimed at eradicating unemployment, improving infrastructure, enhancing essential services like water supply and healthcare, and bolstering educational institutions. He reiterated the party's commitment to fostering inclusive growth and urged all parties, including AIMIM and BJP, to shift the discourse towards development-oriented politics. As the electoral battle heats up in Hyderabad, Sameer Waliullah's remarks signal a push for a more substantive dialogue on the city's future, emphasizing the imperative of addressing its pressing socio-economic challenges beyond communal divides.

## No respite from heatwave till May

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The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an extended-range forecast indicating that Telangana will experience above-normal temperatures, with a high likelihood of heatwave conditions persisting in May. The IMD's forecast highlights that isolated pockets in Telangana are expected to witness heatwave conditions on most days leading up to Monday. Specifically, the period from May 2-8 has been earmarked for a moderate probability of heatwave occurrences in isolated or some pockets across the State. Dry weather is anticipated to prevail over Telangana until the first week of May, as per the IMD's projections. This forecast comes after Telangana experienced a second spell of heatwave on April 18 and 19, with isolated reports of hailstorms in



certain areas on April 20 and 23. Additionally, Friday marked the hottest day of the season so far. Temperatures soared to unprecedented levels across the State. In the districts, the mercury climbed above 45 degrees C, while the State capital experienced its own heat ordeal, with temperatures nearing 44 degrees C. The blistering heat spared no region in Telangana, as several areas witnessed staggering daytime temperatures. Jammikunta in Karimnagar district sizzled at 45.6 degrees C, closely followed by Nidamanoor in Nalgonda district and Manthani in Peddapalli, recording a searing 45.2 degrees C.

## Probe in 'Phone Tapping' case still on: Hyderabad CP

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City Police Commissioner K Sreenivasa Reddy on Friday said the probe into the 'phone tapping' case was still underway and denied issuing red corner notice to former Special Intelligence Bureau (SIB) chief and retired IPS officer T Prabhakar Rao, who is the prime suspect in the case. The Commissioner criticized claims and unconfirmed reports that were making rounds in multiple media outlets about issuing red corner notice to Prabhakar Rao. Such speculation will hinder with the



case and make the investigative process difficult, he said. "We know what to and be rest assured that we are doing our best," he said, while interacting with press persons on Friday. He said a red corner notice will be issued to Prabhakar Rao in the phone tapping case at the right time. "We will do that (issue red corner notice) but already some people are reporting that red corner notice has been issued. By such speculation, you are merely hindering

with the investigation," the CP said. "We will reveal the details of the phone tapping case at the right time through the right medium, he added. "We are investigating this case to the best of our ability. Phone tapping was done to disturb the personal lives. It is a crime not only against an individual, but also the society on the whole. Intruding into private lives is a heinous crime," Sreenivasa Reddy said. He added that four police officers whose role was found in the case were arrested and remanded in judicial custody. Some police officers were taken as witnesses.

## short takes

### LS Polls preparedness in Rachakonda

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A review meeting regarding the security arrangements and precautions to be taken at the field level in view of the conclusion of the Lok Sabha election nominations process and subsequent poll campaign and poll day was held by Rachakonda police commissioner Tarun Joshi. During the meeting held on Friday, the election security arrangements in the Lok Sabha constituencies under Rachakonda Commissionerate were reviewed. The commissioner said that all ranks of police personnel are ready for the polls in an armed

manner. He said that all security arrangements are being made for the smooth conduct of the election process from Medchal-Malkajigiri, Hyderabad, Chevella, Bhongir and Nagarkurnool Lok Sabha constituencies to assembly constituencies and mandals under Rachakonda Commissionerate. "Frisking is already being done and check posts set up on many district borders and other major highways in Rachakonda. Along with the Rachakonda police personnel, Central Armed Forces will also be on duty in adequate numbers at the check posts. Visible policing was given high priority," Tarun Joshi said advising officers to have thor-

ough knowledge of every aspect related to election rules. DCP and additional DCP level officials are taking steps to ensure that the inspection staff of the check posts works in accordance with the Election Commission rules in order to seize cash and other items beyond the limit. The commissioner directed the officials to be vigilant on history sheeters and trouble mongers from the past experiences and bind them over. As during the elections, law and order issues, social media messages and videos that are likely to create conflicts, things that go viral, they should be informed to the higher officials, he said.

### Police sets 2,043 kg ganja worth Rs 5 crore afire

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The Nalgonda police, along with the Drug Destruction Committee, set as much as 2043 kg of ganja, worth Rs 5.1 crore on fire. The ganja was seized in 39 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) cases under 15 police station limits, police said on Friday, April 26. Speaking with the media, a top police officer said that the Nalgonda police aim to



make Telangana a drug-free state and curb illegal transportation of ganja. "The golden future of the youth is being destroyed

due to unknowingly falling under the influence of intoxicants and destroying their physical and mental state," he said.

Another police officer stated that due to the use of drugs, many road accidents and other crimes are taking place, and families are being torn apart. He advised students not to fall victim to prohibited drugs and intoxicating substances. "The youth should not get used to bad addictions and destroy living things; strict action will be taken if anyone smuggles ganja and other intoxicating substances," he said.