



WAKE UP



TELANGANA

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Brief Insights

Indians' Wait for US Green Cards Gets Longer



People applying for the EB-5 visa programme, the renowned green card, will have to face further delays — at least by six months — as the United States has implemented yet another retrogression for Indian applicants, citing a large number of applicants. This means that even if they were close to receiving their green card, the applicants may now face additional months or even years of waiting. The EB-5 visa has been retrogressed from November 1, 2019, to May 1, 2019, pushing back the priority date to six more **CONTINUE:P4**

India, China Discuss Restoring Direct Flights



India and China have concluded an initial round of discussions on restoring direct air services, civil aviation secretary Vumlunmang Vualnam said on Monday at an Indian Chamber of Commerce conference on aviation and tourism. While calling the talks “constructive,” Vualnam noted that “some issues remain unresolved,” and additional meetings will be scheduled. Direct flights between the two countries were suspended in early 2020 amid the Covid-19 pandemic and heightened border tensions following the Galwan Valley clash that year. Prior to the halt, airlines operated dozens of weekly services linking Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Kunming with New Delhi.

PM Attacks Congress for Constitution Abuse

Modi Blasts Congress Over Constitution Misuse

New delhi
WUT | Apr. 15

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Monday (April 14, 2025), launched a scathing attack on the Congress party, accusing it of misusing the Constitution to retain power and implementing reservations based on religion in Karnataka. He condemned the party's "appeasement politics," stating that it has harmed the Muslim community and betrayed the vision of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Modi alleged that Congress has consistently disregarded the spirit of the Constitution and the rights of SCs, STs, and OBCs. He criticized the party for amending the Waqf law in 2013 for political gains and challenged them to appoint a Muslim as their party president to prove their commitment to the community.



MODI SLAMS T CONG OVER KANCHI LAND

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday accused the Telangana government of forgetting the promises that it had made to people and running bulldozers over forests and wildlife. This is the first time that Modi spoke on the Kancha Gachibowli land controversy. Addressing a public meeting in Yamunanagar in Haryana, the Prime Minister asked people to notice the difference between two models of running the government, which were present before them.



Telangana Becomes First State to Implement SC Categorisation

CM Revanth Reddy Hails Telangana's Historic SC Categorisation Move

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Telangana made history on Monday by issuing a government order (GO) to implement the categorisation of Scheduled Castes (SC), becoming the first state in India to do so officially. This move follows the recommendations of the Justice Shameem Akther Commission, which suggested dividing 59 SC communities into three groups for reservations in government jobs and education. The GO, which coincides with the birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar, was published in the Telangana Gazette on April 14, 2025, after receiving the Governor's assent on April 8, 2025. The categorisation is as follows: Group I: 15 socially, economically, and educationally disadvantaged SC communities will receive



Bhu Bharati Portal to End Land Issues Permanently: CM

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Emphasising the urgency to resolve land-related issues in the State, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy sought the cooperation of the Revenue department in the flawless implementation of the Telangana Bhu Bharati (Record of Rights in Land) Act 2025. He also

urged the revenue officials, under the guidance of District Collectors, to strive to get rid of the disrepute they earned during the previous Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) regime due to the then-rulers' attempts to portray them as 'thieves and looters'. Addressing Revenue officials after launching the Bhu Bharati portal and notifying the **CONTINUE:P2**

RELEASE DRAFT GIG WORKERS BILL FOR PUBLIC FEEDBACK: CM

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed the officials concerned to place the draft Bill envisaging job security, insurance coverage and other amenities to gig and platform workers in public domain for eliciting the views of the stakeholders. The officials have been directed to take into consideration the suggestions, recommendations and objections from the people in the preparation of the final Bill. This will be the second Bill after Bhu **CONTINUE:P2**

1% reservation.
Group II: 18 moderately benefited SC communities will be provided a 9% quota.
Group III: 26 significantly benefited SC communities will get a 5% reservation.

IAF Planes Hit by GPS Spoofing Over Myanmar During Quake Relief

New delhi
WUT | Apr. 15

Indian Air Force's transport aircraft carrying relief materials to earthquake-hit Myanmar late last month faced "GPS spoofing", triggering security concerns as pilots were forced to rely on the backup systems, sources in the military



establishment said on Sunday. India sent the first consignment of relief materials to Myanmar on March 29

in a C-130 J aircraft and its pilots reported that the plane's GPS signal was tampered with when it was in Myanmar's airspace, the sources told PTI. New Delhi sent a total of six military transport aircraft to Myanmar transporting relief materials, field hospitals and rescue teams and a majority **CONTINUE:P4**

India Swings Into Action to Bring Choksi Back to Face Trial in PNB Loan Fraud

New delhi
WUT | Apr. 15

Absconding diamondaire Mehul Choksi has been arrested in Belgium following an extradition request by Indian probe agencies for allegedly defrauding the PNB to the tune of over Rs 13,000 crores. The Indian authorities are now pursuing extradition



proceedings to bring him back from Brussels. Follow-

ing his arrest, India has swung into action to bring Choksi back to face trial in the cheating and money laundering cases. Choksi, along with his nephew Nirav Modi and others, are named in the Punjab National Bank "scam", the biggest ever swindling in the banking sector amounting to Rs 13,850 crores. **CONTINUE:P4**

Salman Khan Receives New Death Threat



Bollywood actor Salman Khan has once again received a death threat. The threat came via a message sent to the WhatsApp number of Mumbai's Transport Police Department in Worli, warning of killing the actor by entering his house and also threatening to blow up his car with a bomb. According to the police, the unidentified person sent the message at around 6.30 am Sunday, threatening to enter Salman Khan's residence and kill him. The police said the sender also threatened to plant a bomb in the actor's vehicle and **CONTINUE:P6**

BJP, RSS Enemies of Ambedkar: Cong

New delhi
WUT | Apr. 15

On the occasion of Dr B.R. Ambedkar's 135th birth anniversary, the Congress accused the BJP-led Central government of merely offering "lip service" to Ambedkar's legacy while failing to implement his ideals in practice. Addressing reporters at the Central Hall of Parliament, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge claimed the BJP-RSS were "enemies" of the architect of the Constitution. Kharge cited a 1952 letter written by Ambedkar in which he



blamed S.A. Dange and V.D. Savarkar for his defeat in the Lok Sabha elections, to counter Modi's previous criticism of the Congress over its treatment of Ambedkar. Kharge further alleged that despite Modi's claims of representing Backward Classes, the government remained silent on atrocities committed against Dalits and OBCs. Referring to an incident involving Rajas-

than Leader of Opposition Tikaram Jolly at the Ram Mandir, he said the site was symbolically "purified" with Gangajal after his visit, highlighting ongoing discrimination. "The truth is, it was the Congress that made Babasaheb a member of the Constituent Assembly and chairman of the drafting committee," Kharge said. He also accused RSS affiliates of having once burned copies of the Constitution and portraits of national leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. **CONTINUE:P4**

Only BRS represents the soul & identity of Telangana: KTR

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Alleging that Telangana was betrayed by Congress and A Revanth Reddy's false promises, the BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Sunday said that it was the time to



teach a lesson to the Delhi parties. The BRS launched a sharp criticism against Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, stating that the state had suffered immensely for trusting a 'deceptive leader'. Speaking at a BRS party workers' meeting in Malkajgiri, KTR accused Revanth of misleading the public with

empty promises, while alleging that the Congress party's baseless assurances have pushed people into distress. "Believing a fraudster once is one's mistake. But falling for him repeatedly becomes our mistake," KTR cautioned, urging people to reject the Congress decisively in all upcoming elections, including the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) polls. Rama Rao said that despite the deteriorating state of affairs in Telangana, only Revanth Reddy appears to be cele-

brating. "His own Ministers, MLAs, and party workers are dissatisfied; the public needs no explanation," he said, describing it as a direct outcome of Congress's failed governance. He praised Malkajgiri MLA Rajasekhara Reddy for his relentless efforts in addressing public issues. "From taking up major concerns like dumping yards to protesting against government negligence, Rajasekhara Reddy has proven that electing a good leader leads to meaningful change," KTR said. Calling for a

political course correction, KTR urged voters to deliver a strong message to both Congress and BJP in upcoming local bodies election. "No matter the occasion, it's time to make both parties accountable," he stated, asserting that BRS is the only party that truly represents the soul and identity of Telangana. KTR invited all party cadres and supporters to take part in the BRS Silver Jubilee celebrations on April 27. "Completing 25 years is a significant achievement for any political party.

ESTD-1960.

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge
baar baar aaooge

5 - 9 - 8 / C AG OFFICE ROAD, OPPOSITE TO RBI, HYDERABAD

Bhu Bharati portal to provide permanent solution to land issues: CM Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Emphasising the urgency to resolve land-related issues in the State, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy sought the cooperation of the Revenue department in the flawless implementation of the Telangana Bhu Bharati (Record of Rights in Land) Act 2025. He also urged the revenue officials, under the guidance of District Collectors, to strive to get rid of the disrepute they earned during the previous Bharat Rash-

tra Samithi (BRS) regime due to the then-rulers’ attempts to portray them as ‘thieves and looters’. Addressing Revenue officials after launching the Bhu Bharati portal and notifying the rules for the Bhu Bharati Act at Shilpaka-lavedika here on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti on Monday (April 14), Mr. Reddy said: “All struggles in the Telangana region are linked to land. The Komuram Bheem’s fight for Jal Jungle Jameen, the peasant armed struggle, and the

struggles of Communist brothers were all fought for land rights.” He reiterated that his government introduced the new Record of Rights (ROR) Act to ensure land rights for every genuine individual in the State. Mr. Reddy stated that many innocent people faced a lot of hardships due to shortcomings in the Dharani Act and portal, accusing the previous BRS government of enacting it to realise their vested interests. “It helped them usurp thousands of



acres of land,” he alleged. The Chief Minister also criticised the BRS government for not notifying the rules for the Dharani Act for several years, prompting the public to face difficulties and resort to attacks against revenue officials.

“Instead of notifying the rules, the previous government tried to blame the Revenue department for their faults in the system,” Mr. Reddy said. “Unfortunately, it led to a situation where even a Tahsildar was set on fire. The previous rul-

ers planned to portray Revenue officials as thieves and looters.” He emphasised his stance against portraying Revenue officials in a bad light. “To benefit the poor, we introduced the new ROR Act and launched the portal to provide a permanent solution to land issues,” Reddy explained. “We’re implementing this as a pilot project in four mandals, aiming to bring in dispute-free land policies.” He urged revenue officials to raise awareness about the Act through pro-

grammes (Revenue Sadasulu) in each village. The Chief Minister announced plans to introduce the Bhudaar system, similar to Aadhaar, to check land issues completely. He ordered District Collectors to embark on an intensified awareness programmes at the field-level on the newly launched Bhu Bharati portal, which serves as a one-stop permanent solution for all land ownership issues of farmers. Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti

Vikramarka also flayed the previous government for ‘playing havoc’ with innocent people’s lives due to issues in the Dharani portal. He announced the revival of assignment committees to help Dalits, tribals, and marginalised communities get lands allotted by the government. Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy attributed the BRS’s loss of power to the Dharani Act, which enabled one family to amass lands.

Ambedkar Belongs to the Whole Nation, But He Is Closer to Telangana: Harish Rao

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Former Minister and Siddipet MLA Harish Rao participated in the 135th birth anniversary celebrations of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar held at Patancheru and Kollur. After garlanding Ambedkar’s statue, Harish Rao described him as a visionary who enlightened the lives of the oppressed and marginalized. “Ambedkar studied in the world’s best universities and used his knowledge for the betterment of society,” he said. “The Constitution he drafted gave equal rights to all, especially to women, workers, Dalits, and

tribals.” Harish Rao emphasized that Ambedkar’s teachings—“Read, Teach, Mobilize, Fight”—should be a guiding light for future generations. He reminded everyone that celebrating Ambedkar Jayanti is not just about offering flowers, but about living by his ideals and fighting against discrimination. He also credited Ambedkar’s Article 3 of the Constitution, which facilitated the formation of Telangana state despite being a minority in Assembly numbers. “Ambedkar belongs to the whole country, but Telangana shares a special bond,” he noted, highlighting that

the KCR government named the Secretariat after Ambedkar and installed the world’s tallest 125-ft Ambedkar statue. Later, at the Beerappa Swamy Jatra Mahotsav in Tellapur, Harish Rao, along with BRS leaders and devotees, paid homage to the deity. He recalled how the KCR government respected the Kuruma community by appointing their members to key temple posts and by executing the historic Mallanna Sagar project. He expressed pride in presenting silk robes to Mallanna Swamy for a decade, crediting KCR for ensuring irrigation and drinking water across Telangana.



On the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti, former Minister Harish Rao, along with MLC Yadav Reddy, Errolla Srinivas, and Vaneru Pratap Reddy, unveiled a statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in Srigiri Palli village of Gajwel mandal. Speaking at the event, Harish Rao praised Ambedkar’s vision, stating that everyone loves Ambedkar for the light he brought to the country through the Constitution. He emphasized Ambedkar’s stance on state formation, quoting that a new state can be

formed even without the consent of the majority, as provided under Article 3 of the Constitution. “That’s how Telangana was formed, and that’s why KCR named the Secretariat after Ambedkar,” he added. Harish Rao highlighted Ambedkar’s emphasis on education as a tool to eliminate discrimination. He credited the previous BRS government for establishing over 300 SC Gurukul schools and promoting English education. Rao criticized the Congress government, saying

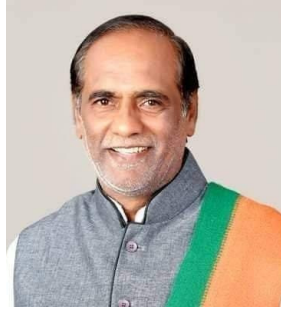
they failed to keep promises such as providing an additional ₹1 lakh for SC/ST housing and allowed 40% of budget funds to lapse. He accused the Revanth Reddy-led government of scrapping G.O. 50, which supported education and job reservations, and replacing it with G.O. 29. Rao also questioned the claims about empowering women, pointing out that the much-hyped interest-free loan scheme only offers ₹5 lakh.

Congress Has Repeatedly Insulted Ambedkar; Modi Government Fulfilling His Vision: Dr. K. Laxman

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Rajya Sabha MP and BJP OBC Morcha National President Dr. K. Laxman, speaking at the BJP office in Telangana on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti, emphasized the significant contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and criticized the Congress party for consistently insulting him throughout history. He stated that the BJP, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership, is celebrating Ambedkar Jayanti across the nation and is sin-

cerely working to uphold Ambedkar’s ideals. Dr. Laxman noted that Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, fought for the rights of backward classes and women but was repeatedly humiliated by the Congress and former Prime Minister Nehru. He alleged that Nehru forced Ambedkar to resign as Law Minister and conspired to defeat him in elections with the help of communists. He also accused the Congress of ignoring key recommendations for the upliftment of SCs, STs, and BCs, including the



Kaka Kalelkar and Mandal Commission reports. Highlighting Modi’s rise from a backward class background, Dr. Laxman credited Ambedkar’s Constitution for enabling such representation. He contrasted this with the

Congress’s alleged caste-based appeasement and manipulation, including its caste census politics in Telangana. Dr. Laxman urged people to recognize BJP’s efforts in empowering marginalized communities, citing schemes like Mudra and Standup India. He stated that making a Dalit, an Adivasi woman, and a Muslim President reflects BJP’s inclusive approach. He called on every village to celebrate Ambedkar Jayanti and spread awareness of Ambedkar’s legacy and BJP’s commitment to it.

BRSV Vice President Tunga Balu Leads March to Yadadri Ahead of BRS Silver Jubilee Public Meeting

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

In a show of strength and solidarity, BRSV State Vice President Tunga Balu Garu led a grand padayatra from Rayagiri to Yadadri to mobilize support for the upcoming BRS party’s silver jubilee public meeting, scheduled on the 27th of this month in Warangal. Marking the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, the padayatra began with floral tributes to his portrait. Speaking on the occasion, Tunga Balu emphasized that BRS, formed in 2001 to achieve statehood for



Telangana, has now completed 25 impactful years. He recalled Ambedkar’s vision that smaller states ensure better governance, a belief echoed through the struggle for Telangana under KCR’s leadership. He highlighted the immense progress made during the decade of BRS governance after Telan-

gana’s formation. He cited the development of Yadadri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple as a milestone, bringing spiritual and economic growth to the region. “Land rates skyrocketed, tourism flourished, and employment opportunities surged,” he said. Tunga Balu criticized the Congress govern-

ment, saying the past 16 months have pushed the state backward. “Land prices have dropped and people are disillusioned,” he added. He expressed hope that with the blessings of Yadadri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy and the support of Telangana’s people, BRS will return to power soon. Key guests included BRSV State President Gellu Srinivas Yadav, District President Kancharla Ramakrishna Reddy, former MLA Filela Shekhar Reddy, and several other party dignitaries. BRSV district leaders and enthusiastic youth also actively participated in the march.

Place Gig Workers draft Bill in public domain for stakeholders views: Telangana CM

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed the officials concerned to place the draft Bill envisaging job security, insurance coverage and other amenities to gig and platform workers in public domain for eliciting the views of the stakeholders. The officials have been directed to take into consideration the suggestions, recommendations and objections from the people in the preparation of the final Bill. This will

be the second Bill after Bhu Bharati (Record of Rights) Act to be placed in public domain before its enactment. The Chief Minister held a meeting with gig workers, representatives of their unions and senior officials of different departments on Monday (April 14). Officials explained him about the salient features of the draft of the Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Bill. Mr. Reddy wanted the officials to place the draft Bill online for eliciting views of the people so that an effective legisla-

tion would be put in place. He suggested changes in the draft Bill to ensure that there were cordial relations and effective coordination between the companies and aggregators in addition to employment security of these workers. There were over four lakh gig workers engaged in food delivery, transport, package delivery and other trades in the State. Steps should be taken to take views and recommendations from all sections. Officials should focus on giving final touches to the pro-

visions that would be incorporated in the proposed legislation. The Chief Minister set April 25 deadline for the officials to prepare the final draft of the legislation. The deadline was set to ensure that the Act would come into force from May 1, coinciding with the International Labour Day. Mr. Reddy recalled that the Congress party had promised to bring a comprehensive legislation to protect the interests of gig and platform workers ahead of the previous [2023] Assembly elections.

THE ARCHITECT OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION, DR BR AMBEDKAR WORKED RIGOROUSLY FOR EGALITARIAN SOCIETY: TPCC DR SRIRANGAM

Hyderabad
Prashanth reddy
WUT | Apr. 15

on the occasion of the 134th jayanti of the architect of the Indian Constitution, Bharat Ratna Babasaheb Dr. BR Ambedkar, TPCC official spokesperson Dr. Satyam Srirangam paid huge tributes to no. of Ambedkar statues in the Kukatpally constituency by garlanding idols. Speaking on this occasion, Satyam Srirangam said that Ambedkar was an Indian jurist, economist, politician and Dalit rights fighter. He said that Ambedkar Jayanti will be celebrated in a grand manner to honor his relentless services in the construction of today’s independent India. He said that Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was a great man who fought for the financial and social empowerment of the oppressed marginalized sections of the country till the end of his last breath. He said that Ambedkar dedicated most of his life to the empowerment and agitation for the oppressed sections, that he



was a great man who taught freedom, equality and human values to every citizen of the country, that as the first Union Law Minister of independent India and as a member of the Constituent Assembly, Ambedkar worked hard to draft the Constitution. Dr. Ambedkar, who is famous as the architect of the Indian Constitution, the protector of democracy, the social reformer and the great intellectual, is a memorable leader in the history of India. He praised Ambedkar as a great person who made the Indian Constitution a source of

pride for the country. He said that the main reason why many welfare schemes are reaching the poor across the country is the Constitution prepared by Ambedkar. He called on everyone to follow in his footsteps. He said that the BJP party is damaging the spirit of the Constitution, trampling on democratic values and inciting hatred for political survival, and that the Congress party’s goal is to prevent religious politics, and that the Congress party has a key role in the development of the country. Telangana State Dalit Welfare Association President Adimulla Ramu, State General Secretary Jeedimetla Ramesh, Division Presidents Krishna Rajput, Mekala Ramesh, Congress Party senior leaders Thumu Vinay, yellesh Yadav, Raghunath, Narasimha Yadav, Hemanth, Shekhar Gajananand, Mekala Narsing Rao, Krishna Veni, Anil, Katta Narsing Rao, Kalikota Shankar, Ravi Stevenson, Karke Nikhil, Tinku, and leaders of Dalit organizations participated in this program in the large scale.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's 135th Birth Anniversary Celebrations: Tributes Across Bowenpally

Hyderabad
Dp srinivas rao
WUT | Apr . 15

The 135th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution and a champion for social equality, was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Bowenpally and surrounding areas. The event, organized by former Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap, saw active participation from local leaders and residents. The celebrations began with Jampana Pratap, alongside MLA Shri Ganesh, paying tribute to Dr. Ambedkar by garlanding his statue at Bowenpally Crossroads. A large crowd gathered to honor the visionary leader, who fought tirelessly against untouchability and caste-based discrimination. The tribute extended to various



neighborhoods under New Bowenpally Ward 1, including Bapujinagar, Mahatmanagar, Sanjeevayanagar, Third Ward Mattifort Double Bedroom Colony, Edga Ambedkar Nagar, and Sixth Ward Mahatmanagar Bastis. At each location, Jampana Pratap garlanded Dr. Ambedkar's

statues while addressing the public about his lasting impact on the nation. "Dr. Ambedkar's contributions were pivotal in securing the socio-political rights of Dalits and in establishing a Constitution grounded in the values of equality, justice, and fraternity," Pratap remarked. He urged the youth to embrace Ambedkar's teachings and work towards building an inclusive society. The celebrations were attended by prominent community leaders such as Ajit, Srikanth, Moni, Rajesh Yadav, Mahesh, Babu, Shankar, Giri Parasuram, Yadagiri, Ashok, Varadharani, Rama Rao, Mukesh Yadav, and Pawan, who played an active role in the event. Their involvement reflected the deep respect and admiration for Dr. Ambedkar within the community.

The celebrations in New Bowenpally were especially noteworthy. The local neighborhoods were adorned with vibrant decorations, and cultural programs were held to highlight Ambedkar's contributions to society. Youth groups also organized awareness campaigns focusing on his role in advocating for education, labor rights, and social justice. As the event drew to a close, Jampana Pratap urged the community to continue working towards Dr. Ambedkar's vision of an egalitarian society. "True tribute to Dr. Ambedkar lies in living by his principles every day and striving to eradicate the inequalities that persist," he said. The event was a powerful reminder of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's enduring legacy and the relevance of his teachings in shaping a just and equitable India.

Free Wheelchairs Distributed to Disabled on Ambedkar Jayanti

Hyderabad
Dp srinivas rao
WUT | Apr . 15

The 134th birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the visionary leader and architect of the Indian Constitution, was celebrated across Hyderabad with a special focus on the empowerment of weaker sections of society. To mark this occasion, the Dalit Chaitanya Sangam organized a wheelchair distribution program for the disabled at various locations across the city. The event was graced by the presence of Muppadi Naveen Kumar Madiga, the founding president of Dalit Chaitanya Sangam, who led the initiative alongside his



team. Free wheelchairs were distributed to several disabled individuals to enhance their mobility and independence. In addition to the wheelchair distribution, Ambedkar Jayanti was also celebrated under the auspices of Vindhya Bullion Private Limited. The celebrations included a food distribution program, followed by a cake-cutting ceremony. Muppadi Naveen Kumar, in his address, emphasized the

need to work towards realizing the vision of an equal society as dreamed by Dr. Ambedkar. The event saw participation from various dignitaries, including Vadla Ramanjaneyulu, Ravi, Abhishek, Dam, Seshu, Venkat, Sushiraj, Shilpa, and Shyamala Ramani, among others. The celebrations reflected a spirit of unity and social welfare, in line with Dr. Ambedkar's enduring legacy.

BRS MLA Slams Congress for Delaying Kalyana Lakshmi Cheque Distribution

Hyderabad
R santosh chowdary
WUT | Apr . 15

Former Minister and Balkonda MLA Vemula Prashanth Reddy strongly criticized the Congress-led government for halting the distribution of Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak cheques for over a month. Speaking at a press meet in Velpur, he expressed concern that poor families are being made to suffer due to political interference and arrogance by local Congress leaders. Reddy stated that as per G.O. No. 18, dated 29.06.2016, the local MLA has exclusive authority to decide the date and venue for cheque distribution. He revealed that 847 cheques were recently sanctioned in Balkonda and requested, via official correspondence on March 18, that they be distributed promptly through Gram Panchayat Secretaries to avoid delays. However, he alleged that Congress leaders blocked the distribution, insisting that the cheques not be handed over by



the MLA. The situation worsened when a program scheduled with Minister Jupally Krishna Rao was suddenly cancelled. "This shows their intent to use poor girls as pawns in a political power game," Reddy said. He reminded that CM Revanth Reddy, during election campaigns, had promised to provide ₹1 lakh and a tola of gold under the scheme. "But 16 months have passed and not even a gram of gold has been given," he said. The MLA demanded immediate distribution of the cheques through Panchayat Secretaries, asserting that delaying aid to underprivileged girls for political one-upmanship is unacceptable. Several local leaders and party workers attended the press conference in solidarity.

Telangana first to implement SC Categorisation after Supreme Court verdict, says Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday announced that Telangana had created history by becoming the first state in the country to legally implement Scheduled Caste (SC) categorisation after the Supreme Court's verdict on August 1, 2024. Speaking on Ambedkar Jayanti at the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Uttam Kumar Reddy, along with ministers Damodar Raja Narasimha and Ponnampalabharathi, said that the Congress Government had transformed a long-pending demand into law through a transparent and legally sound process. "We have officially released the Government Order today and handed over the first copy to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. The categorisation of SCs has been a matter of long-standing discussion in the Assembly across all



parties, but no government had the courage or commitment to act on it. It was only after our government came to power that the process was set in motion." He stated that the government had issued three key Government Orders to operationalise SC categorisation: GO Ms No 9 and GO MS No 10 of the Scheduled Castes Development Department, and GO Ms No 99 of the General Administration Department, all dated April 14, 2025. While G.O. No. 9 notified the SC (Rationalisation of Reservations) Act, 2025, G.O. No. 10 contained the detailed implementation

rules, and G.O. No. 99 issued instructions for applying these reservations in government services. Uttam Kumar Reddy read out the key details of the Act and Rules, explaining their significance and outlining how they would be enforced. "The Congress Government has done what no other party could. All parties extended verbal support for SC categorisation, but none took it to implementation. We have done it legally, inclusively, and with full preparedness," he said. He clarified that the new categorisation would not apply to recruitment notifications issued before August 1, 2024, the date of the Supreme Court's ruling. "We did not issue any new job notification after that date so we could legally implement categorisation. Now that the framework is in place, the Chief Secretary and all departments had been instructed to issue fresh notifications from Tuesday onwards," he stated. Uttam Kumar Reddy said that within just two to three hours of the Supreme Court delivering its judgment on August 1, 2024, the Congress Government in Telangana had made a firm decision to implement SC categorisation without any delay. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, and other senior ministers were unanimous in their view that the court verdict must be translated into immediate action. A Cabinet Sub-Committee was promptly constituted to give shape to Rahul Gandhi's vision of social justice and en-

sure that the most marginalised among SC communities received their due share. He credited the visionary leadership of Rahul Gandhi for making this Act possible. "Rahul Gandhi's firm stand on social justice and his consistent support for marginalised communities laid the ideological foundation for this bold step. His commitment to equitable development empowered the Congress Government in Telangana to carry this Act forward with moral clarity and political conviction," he said. The Act, unanimously passed by the Telangana Legislative Assembly on March 18 and approved by the Governor, reorganised the existing 15% SC reservation into three distinct groups based on the socio-economic status of SC sub-castes: Group I, the most disadvantaged 15 sub-castes (3.288% of SC population), received 1% reservation. Group II, with 18 moderately represented sub-castes

BJP's corporator and Golconda Jilla Prez participated in the Dr Ambedkar jayanti

Hyderabad
Prashanth reddy
WUT | Apr . 15

BJP's senior leader and jambagh division corporator shri Shri Rakesh Jaiswal ji, paid rich floral tributes to Bharat Ratna Shri Dr B R. AMBEDKAR on 135 th jayanti celebrations at Mozamzahi Market Jambagh Division. Uma Mahendar JiBjp President Golconda Zilla Since Mr Uma Mahender taking charge as a presidentEntire district he is roaming any leaders call him he is going, most of the time and several times Rakesh Jaiswal calling him as a chief guest, whenever programme in the head quarters Mr Mahendra attending without fail.



He is working aggressively entire district he is mingling with all cadre. Moving with all leaders together. Ragunandan Yadav JiBjp GS Golconda Zilla Along With Srinivas Yadav, V. Gopal, Krishna, Nitin Nandkar, Anand Bora, Raghu Kamble, Raj Kumar, Praveen, Pramod, Narsingh Charry, Ajju Mudhiraj, Ramu, San-

deep, Ravi, Bharath, Local Peoples, Attend the Programme. Rakesh Jaiswal said in this context Dr Br Ambedkar those who are the architect of Indian constitution the great boon of India. Our Prime minister Narendra Modi ji working as per the aspirations of Ambedkar ji he praised.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Statue Unveiled in Omkar Nagar on 134th Birth Anniversary

Hyderabad
Dp srinivas rao
WUT | Apr . 15

A statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, was unveiled in Omkar Nagar Colony, Miyapur Division, under the auspices of the SC Morcha. The ceremony, held on the occasion of Ambedkar's 134th birth anniversary, was graced by Ravi Kumar Yadav, who was the chief guest. The event saw the presence of various dignitaries including Rachamalla Nageshwar Goud (Rangareddy District Urban OBC District President), Vijayender Singh (Rangareddy District Urban ST Morcha General Secretary), Boini Mahesh Yadav (Rangareddy District Urban Executive Committee Member), and several senior BJP



leaders like Akula Laxman and Parmandi Manik Rao. They all paid tribute to Ambedkar by garlanding his statue and lauding his tireless efforts for the development of the Bahujan community. The occasion was followed by a food distribution program. Numerous local leaders and residents, including members of the Beda Budaga Jangam Jana Sangam, participated in the event, showing their solidarity and respect for Ambedkar's legacy.

Fulfill the aspirations of Dr Ambedkar need to follow his footsteps: Madhari

Hyderabad
Prashanth reddy
WUT | Apr . 15

BJP's senior leader and state unit SC morcha Vice President Shri Madhari Chandra Shekhar year by year conducting Dr Ambedkar jayanti actively participating in the sc cast communities meeting in the year of 2012 Dalita Ratna award. Every programme of Ambedkar and Babu jagjivan Ram programmes This year on Monday April 14 actively participated the architect of Indian constitution Dr Br Ambedkar jayanti. Hugely sloganeeer about Baba Saheb Ambedkar He



called up the youth to fulfill the aspirations of the Ambedkar need to follow his footsteps for egalitarian society and also called up to the Dalit intellectual and Dalit society people

PM Modi govt striving to achieve the aspirations of Dr Ambedkar: Kondapally Sridhar Reddy

Hyderabad
Prahsnath reddy
WUT | Apr . 15

BJP Kisan Morcha State President Kondapalli Sridhar Reddy said that the Narendra Modi government is constantly striving to achieve the aspirations of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. Speaking to the media, Kondapalli Sridhar Reddy, who along with BJP leaders, garlanded the statue of Ambedkar at Naidupeta Circle under the jurisdiction of the Edulapuram Municipality to commemorate the 134th

birth anniversary of Ambedkar, said that the Narendra Modi government is implementing the aspirations of Babasaheb Ambedkar, who said that the fruits of the government have real meaning only when they reach the lower classes of the society. Sridhar Reddy said that today's youth should study the writings of Ambedkar to take forward his aspirations. Sridhar Reddy reminded that the central government has declared the sacred places where Ambedkar walked as Pancha Tirthas and is devel-



oping them with large funds. The Bharat Ratna title was announced to Ambedkar during the BJP government's tenure. Sridhar Reddy said that the leaders who insulted Ambedkar at

every step and conspired are now shedding crocodile tears on Ambedkar for vote bank. Sridhar Reddy demanded that Congress leaders explain why Ambedkar was not given the

Bharat Ratna when the Congress party ruled this country for many years. Ambedkar supporters should note that Babasaheb Ambedkar's portrait was placed in Parliament only after the formation of Modi's government. Sridhar Reddy praised Babasaheb Ambedkar, who recognized the need for the formation of small states, and said that Telangana state was formed with the flexibility provided in the Constitution. Sridhar Reddy informed that Bharatiya Janata Party workers across the country are cele-

brating their birth anniversary like a festival. BJP District Secretary Nakrikanti Veerabhadram, BJP Khammam Rural Mandal President Battu Nagaraju, Senior BJP leaders Veerelli Lakshmaiah Kanneti Kotayya Nalla Masa Srinivasa Rao, BJP Khammam Rural Mandal General Secretaries Komarabhattini Venkanna Lankapalli Sagar, BJP Mandal leaders Pridhvi Nayak Upender Reddy Jathoth Madhu Nayak Baniya Nayak Satti Nagaraju Gunjuri Nagaraju Ramesh Mohan Nayak and others participated in the program.



The 7th Telangana State Senior Rugby (Men & Women) Tournament, organized by the Rugby Association Medchal Malkajgiri (RAMM), showcased the best of Telangana's rugby talent at the Gymkhana Football Ground, marking a significant milestone in the promotion of the sport across the state. With an impressive turnout of 25 teams (13 Men's and 12 Women's) comprising over 350 players, 50 officials, and 6 representatives from Rugby India, this year's tournament stands out as one of the largest and most vibrant rugby gatherings in Telangana's history.

Indians’ Wait for US Green Cards Gets Longer

New delhi
WUT | Apr . 15

Indian applicants under the EB-5 visa programme are set to face further delays as the United States government has once again retrogressed the visa cut-off date, citing a surge in applications. This move is expected to push back green card approvals by at least six months, prolonging the wait for many applicants who were nearing the final stages of the process.

As per the latest visa bulletin released by the U.S. Department of State (DoS), the EB-5 visa cut-off date has been retrogressed from November 1, 2019, to May 1, 2019, effectively delaying green card issuance for Indian investors by another six months. This follows a previous retrogression in April, where the cut-off date was moved back by more than two years—from January 1, 2019 to November 1, 2019.

Retrogression is a common occurrence when the number of applicants in a specific visa category exceeds the annual limit set

by U.S. law. In such cases, the government pushes the “priority date” backwards, meaning only those with an earlier application date become eligible for processing. The current retrogression impacts all EB-5 visa categories, including: C5 – Non-targeted employment area investment T5 – Targeted employment area investment I5 and R5 – Immigrant investor pilot programmes NU and RU – Unreserved and reserved visas under the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act of 2022

The DoS clarified that only those applications with a priority date earlier than May 1, 2019, will be processed until further notice. Applicants with later dates must wait until their date becomes current in a future bulletin.

Officials attributed the move to an “extremely high volume” of EB-5 applications from India and indicated that, if global demand continues to rise, similar final action dates could be introduced for applicants from other countries.

BJP, RSS Enemies of Ambedkar: Congress

New delhi
WUT | Apr . 15

On the occasion of Dr B.R. Ambedkar's 135th birth anniversary, the Congress accused the BJP-led Central government of merely offering "lip service" to Ambedkar's legacy while failing to implement his ideals in practice. Addressing reporters at the Central Hall of Parliament, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge claimed the BJP-RSS were “enemies” of the architect of the Constitution. Kharge cited a 1952 letter written by Ambedkar in which he blamed S.A. Dange and V.D. Savarkar for his defeat in the Lok Sabha elections, to counter Modi's previous criticism of the Congress over its treatment of Ambedkar. Kharge further alleged that despite Modi's claims of representing Backward Classes, the

government remained silent on atrocities committed against Dalits and OBCs. Referring to an incident involving Rajasthan Leader of Opposition Tikaram Jolly at the Ram Mandir, he said the site was symbolically "purified" with Gan-gajal after his visit, highlighting ongoing discrimination. “The truth is, it was the Congress that made Babasaheb a member of the Constituent Assembly and chairman of the drafting committee,” Kharge said. He also accused RSS affiliates of having once burned copies of the Constitution and portraits of national leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.Reaffirming the party's commitment to Ambedkar's ideals, Kharge said: “On his 135th birth anniversary, we reiterate our unwavering dedication to the protection of constitutional

Fugitive Diamantaire Mehul Choksi Arrested in Belgium, India Pushes for Extradition in ₹13,000 Crore PNB Scam

New delhi
WUT | Apr . 15

In a significant breakthrough, absconding diamantaire Mehul Choksi has been arrested in Belgium following an extradition request by Indian investigative agencies. Choksi, wanted in connection with the massive ₹13,850 crore Punjab National Bank (PNB) fraud, was taken into custody on April 12 in Antwerp by Belgian authorities.

The arrest follows a formal request by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED), who are now actively pursuing extradition proceedings to bring Choksi back to India to face trial in cases of cheating and money laundering. Indian officials are expected to travel to Brussels shortly, armed with detailed case records and ev-

idence, to ensure swift legal proceedings.

Choksi, 65, was traced to Belgium in November 2023, where he had reportedly arrived for medical treatment. He had been residing in Antigua and Barbuda since 2018, after fleeing India just before the scam was exposed.

Despite taking citizenship in the Caribbean nation, Indian authorities maintain that his Indian citizenship remains valid.Sources said that at least two open-ended arrest warrants—issued in 2018 and 2021 by a Mumbai special court—have been submitted to Belgian authorities as part of India's extradition plea. Belgian officials confirmed that Choksi is currently in detention, with access to legal counsel, pending further judicial proceedings.His



lawyer, Vijay Agarwal, confirmed the arrest and said that while Belgium does not allow for direct bail applications, an appeal will be filed seeking his release from detention during the extradition hearing.

The legal defense is expected to argue that Choksi is not a flight risk, is undergoing cancer treatment, and that the extradition request is politically motivated. They are also likely to raise concerns about prison

conditions in India.

The Interpol red notice against Choksi was reportedly deleted earlier following his legal representation to the global police body. Since then, Indian agencies have been pursuing the extradition route.Choksi, along with his nephew Nirav Modi—also a prime accused in the PNB fraud case—allegedly orchestrated one of the biggest banking scams in India's history.

The duo, along with several family members, employees, and PNB officials, were booked by the CBI and ED in 2018.According to investigators, Choksi's firm Gitanjali Gems fraudulently obtained 165 Letters of Undertaking (LoUs) and 58 Foreign Letters of Credit (FLCs) from PNB's Brady House branch in Mumbai between March and April 2017.

These documents were issued without sanctioned limits or cash margins and were kept off the bank's central records, thereby avoiding scrutiny. Based on these LoUs, multiple foreign banks—including SBI (Mauritius and Frankfurt), Allahabad Bank (Hong Kong), Axis Bank (Hong Kong), Canara Bank (Manama), and Bank of India (Antwerp)—disbursed loans to

Choksi's firms. PNB was ultimately forced to repay approximately ₹6,345 crore when Choksi's companies defaulted. The ED has so far attached or seized assets worth ₹2,565.90 crore linked to Choksi and has been permitted by courts to initiate monetization of these properties.Nirav Modi, declared a fugitive economic offender, remains jailed in London since his arrest in 2019.

He continues to contest his extradition to India.Meanwhile, Indian agencies remain hopeful that the long-standing extradition treaty between India and Belgium will facilitate Choksi's return. The arrest marks a major development in India's efforts to bring fugitive economic offenders to justice.

IAF Aircraft Faced GPS Spoofing During Relief Mission to Earthquake-Hit Myanmar

New delhi
WUT | Apr . 15

Indian Air Force (IAF) transport aircraft carrying relief materials to earthquake-affected Myanmar last month encountered GPS spoofing attacks, raising serious security concerns. According to military sources, the incidents were reported during 'Operation Brahma', under which India extended humanitarian aid to the neighbouring country.The first instance was reported on March 29 when a C-130J Super Hercules aircraft, flying over Myanmar's airspace, ex-

perienced GPS signal tampering. The pilots swiftly switched to the backup inertial navigation system to maintain safe flight operations, sources told PTL.In total, India deployed six military aircraft—including C-130Js and C-17 Globemaster heavy-lift planes—to Myanmar, transporting relief materials, field hospitals, and rescue teams. A majority of these aircraft reportedly experienced GPS spoofing during the mission.GPS spoofing is a form of cyberattack that involves broadcasting fake GPS signals, misleading navigation

systems and posing significant risks to aircraft. Experts explain that spoofing can displace the aircraft's perceived position by dozens to hundreds of miles."Most likely, the GPS spoofing was carried out by an adversary in the region," a source stated, though no specific nation was named.

Five aircraft landed in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw on March 29 and 30, while a sixth aircraft flew to Mandalay on April 1. After the first incident, subsequent pilots were alerted about the GPS spoofing risk and flew with heightened caution.Such

spoofing attacks are typically observed in conflict zones and have been reported previously in areas bordering Iran. The Indian Air Force has not officially commented on the incidents. Military sources said probing spoofing events in foreign airspace is practically unfeasible.India launched 'Operation Brahma' as a swift response to the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, reaffirming its commitment to regional humanitarian efforts despite emerging security challenges in hostile cyber environments.

Donald Trump May Impose Martial Law-Type Order On April 20. What We Know

Washington
WUT | Apr . 15

One of the first executive orders that Donald Trump signed when he assumed office as US President on January 20 was to declare a "national emergency" along the southern border of the United States. That order had a rider to it - that President Trump might "invoke the Insurrection Act of 1807" and possibly deploy the military on US soil on April 20 - ninety days after the executive order was signed.

The rider or clause in President Trump's executive order on January 20 stated that "Within 90 days of the date of this proclamation, the Secretary of Defence and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a joint report to the President about the conditions at the southern border of the United States and any recommendations regarding additional actions that may be necessary to obtain complete operational control of the southern border, including whether to invoke the Insurrection Act of 1807."

According to the Insurrection Act of 1807, the President of the United States may permit the

deployment of the military and the US National Guard to ensure that the law is enforced in certain conditions and situations. It authorizes the military to completely suppress any rebellion, uprising, or any act of violence or resistance, including that by citizens.

The Insurrection Act has the powers to override the Posse Comitatus Act, which is normally in place at all times, and prohibits the US military from participating or interfering in any civil law enforcement. It also gives the US President - the commander-and-chief of the US armed forces - complete powers to decide if, when, and where to deploy US troops within the United States of America.The Insurrection Act however, is somewhat different from a martial law. While a martial law gives complete control of administration and running of the states affairs to a military general - usually the chief of defence staff or the army chief - the Insurrection Act keeps the powers of the state and administration with the US President, who selective uses military powers to enforce law and order.

"Confident SC Won't...": Union Minister On Challenge To Waqf Act

New delhi
WUT | Apr . 15

Minority Affairs minister Kiren Rijju, referring to the legal challenge to the amended Waqf law, told NDTV today that he is "confident" that the Supreme Court would not "venture into legislative matter". He also said Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's declaration that the amended law will not be implemented in the state raises questions on whether she has any moral authority or the Constitutional right to occupy that position. The minister's comment comes amid an escalating row over the law, which has been challenged in the

Supreme Court by multiple individuals and organisations, and the staunch assertion of Ms Banerjee in Bengal. The Supreme Court will hear the petitions on Wednesday.

"I am confident that the Supreme Court will not venture into a legislative matter," the minister told NDTV. "We have to respect each other. If tomorrow the government interferes into judiciary, it won't be nice. The separation of powers is well defined," he said. "I have not seen any other bill being scrutinised so much... one crore representation, maximum sittings of the JPC (Joint Parliamentary Committee) and a record in Rajya Sabha while debating the



bill," he added. Earlier, the Supreme Court had made it clear that it would not trespass into the domain of the legislature. But as the final arbiter on issues involving constitution, it has agreed to hear out the petitioners, who claim the amended law tramples on

several fundamental rights, including the right to equality and the right to religious freedom.

In Bengal meanwhile, Mamata Banerjee -- who refused to implement the Citizenship Amendment Act, National Register of Citizens and Uniform Civil Code last year -- has

now announced that the amended Waqf law will also join that category.

Asked about her stance, Mr Rijju said it could indicate that Ms Banerjee does not believe in the Constitution of India.

"What kind of bizarre statement is that?" Mr Rijju told NDTV.

"Does Mamata or anybody not care for the people? They treat Muslims as mere vote bank. It will be a black day, the moment they defy... Anybody who says they will not obey the act passed by the Parliament of India - does he or she have any moral authority and Constitutional right to occupy that position and hold the Constitution book? Do they respect Ambedkar?"

What kind of message do they want to send? Very unfortunate," he added.

While the implementation of the law rests in the hands of the state governments, the BJP has said the states have no power to bypass the Central laws.

"We want to make it clear that after the 73rd and the 74th amendments in the Constitution, powers of the Centre, state and district-level governments are clearly defined. No district panchayat can go beyond the law passed by the state assembly and no state can bypass the law passed by the Centre (Parliament)," said BJP spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi.



EDITORIAL

MANIPUR CONFLICT IS A SETBACK FOR ACT EAST POLICY

Hyderabad WUT | Apr . 15

India initiated the Look East Policy in the 1990s to explore economic prospects outside of South Asia in response to the financial problems posed by the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the Gulf crisis of 1990-1991. This policy was in line with liberalisation, globalisation and privatisation (LPG) activities. By adopting the Act East Policy in 2014, the NDA government improved India's standing and level of international participation. However, there has been a great deal of violence in the ongoing Manipur conflict, which began in early May 2023, between the Kuki and Meitei communities. The continuous battle reached a new level with the use of highly sophisticated weapons like drones and rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs) to bomb civilian residences. After over a year and a half of fighting, more

than 226 people have died, and 60,000 have been rendered homeless. Significant decisions were made in the State and the Centre during this battle. For example, the 16 km Free Movement Regime (FMR) was removed, and the 1,643 km Indo-Myanmar border was fenced. Progress has been hampered by these contentious choices and the continuous unrest in the region, which harms ASEAN and Myanmar's relations with India. Hence, this impedes the smooth execution of diverse socio-economic initiatives associated with various Act East Policy initiatives. Free Movement Regime, Fencing Scholars charge that the government's decision to end the Free Movement Regime (FMR) and fence off the 1,643-kilometre Indo-Myanmar border was made with short-term gain in mind, jeopardising long-term considerations. With the adoption of this judge-

ment, the numerous Indo-Myanmar ethnic link groups of Nagas and other Chin-Kuki communities — whose territories were split by colonial topographical demarcations — have ended. This led to a variety of insurgent groups opposing such measures, including the Suspension of Operation groups (SOO), which is made up of 25 Kuki insurgent groups, and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland-Isak-Muivah (NSCN-IM), among other surrounding States. The FMR is being implemented to facilitate trade by leveraging geographical proximity to Myanmar, improving people's engagement, and allowing free movement. As a result, the government's decision demonstrates a lack of clarity on the abovementioned principles, which will have a detrimental effect on India's future relations with Myanmar, a crucial ally in its diplomatic efforts with most Southeast and East Asian



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The Editor

HC raps HCA for blocking U-16 cricketer

Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka of the Telangana High Court came down heavily on the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) for insisting on Aadhaar OTP verification from a minor cricket player as a condition for registration to the BCCI's Under-16 tournaments. The judge declared such a demand was unjustified, illegal and violative of the minor's right to privacy and directed the HCA to immediately register the player and allow him to participate in official tournaments. The writ plea, filed by Master Shiva Ramakrishna Terli, a 15-year-old cricketer who previously captained the Hyderabad U-14 team, contended that he was unfairly barred from playing due to HCA's insistence on Aadhaar OTP sharing, despite already having provided multiple valid identity and residence documents, including a passport, birth certificate and school records. The OTP was demanded over a phone call late at night on October 3, 2024, allegedly with threats that non-compliance would jeopardise his future in cricket. Subsequently, a first information report was filed against HCA officials under the BNS, the Aadhaar Act and the Information Technology Act for unauthorised access and threats. Despite the High Court issuing an interim order on November 6, 2024, restraining the respondents from enforcing the OTP requirement and directing them to permit the petitioner's registration, HCA did not comply. The association defended its action by citing an anonymous complaint alleging the petitioner had two different birth certificates and had possibly manipulated his age. The court found that no proper inquiry or show-cause notice had been issued, and the association had acted in breach of its own grievance redressal mechanisms under Rule 41. The judge reiterated that Aadhaar OTP verification was not a mandatory requirement for registration with BCCI or HCA. Citing a UIDAI circular and multiple judgments, the court emphasised that Aadhaar can only be used to establish identity and not as conclusive proof of date of birth. For players in the Under-16 category, age eligibility is determined based on the TW3 bone maturity test, which the petitioner had cleared. The report of this test was in HCA's possession, but the association failed to produce it before the court.

Ganja worth ₹53.28 lakh seized by Kuravi police

Warangal WUT | Apr . 15

Kuravi police on Monday arrested four persons involved in illegal transportation of ganja and seized 106.96 kg of the contraband worth ₹53.28 lakh. The seizure took place during a routine vehicle inspection near the SRSP Canal in Kuravi mandal. Disclosing the details, DSP N. Tirupathi Rao said the operation was carried out following instructions from Dis-



trict SP Sudheer Ramnath Kekan. A team led by Kuravi sub-inspector G. Satheesh

intercepted a suspicious Maruti Zen (Reg. No: OD-02-AJ-3351) and upon in-

spection, found three individuals from Odisha — Narsing Madi (35), Chandra

Madkani (31), and Ramachandra Madi (29) — and one local, Banoth Mahender (36), from Thandadharmaram village in Maripeda mandal, currently residing in Hyderabad's LB Nagar. The accused were found transporting the ganja in three large sacks, allegedly procured from Chitradhara in Odisha and routed through Visakhapatnam and Khammam with the intent to sell it in Hyderabad.

Police also recovered five mobile phones from their possession. All four have been taken into custody. SP Sudheer Ramnath Kekan, while appreciating the efforts of the police team, warned of strict action against drug traffickers. He voiced concern over the rising instances of youth falling prey to drug addiction in the district, which has severe social and health repercussions.

Two Suspected Leopards Spotted at ICRISAT Campus in Patancheru; Forest Officials Await

Hyderabad WUT | Apr . 15

Two suspected leopards were reportedly sighted on the campus of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in Patancheru on Monday, prompting forest authorities to initiate precautionary measures. According to ICRISAT officials, grainy visuals cap-

tured through drones and mobile phones showed what appeared to be two large cats roaming the premises. "We sought assistance from the forest department to identify the animals. We have alerted all staff and initiated safety protocols. We are awaiting official identification," said Tahira Natalie Carter, Head of Communications at



ICRISAT. Chief Wildlife Warden Elusing Meru stated that the visuals shared so far were inconclusive. "We cannot confirm if the animals are leopards based on the current footage. Trap cages and camera traps have been

sent to the site. If confirmed, veterinary teams with tranquiliser guns will be deployed to sedate and capture the animals," he said. All ICRISAT employees have been advised to remain alert, and internal safety procedures have been activated. This is the third such leopard sighting at ICRISAT since 2014. On previous occasions in 2014 and 2019, two

male leopards were eventually captured after months of effort by forest officials. However, this is the first time two big cats have reportedly been seen together on the campus — a rare occurrence in any urban area of Telangana. Interestingly, forest officials had also received a report of a possible leopard sighting from the ICRISAT area three days ago, which

was later identified as a jungle cat. A similar incident occurred in October 2024 near the Miyapur Metro Station, where what was initially believed to be a leopard turned out to be a jungle cat. Forest officials continue to monitor the situation closely as they work to verify the species and ensure the safety of both the campus residents and the animals.

Salman Khan Receives New Death Threat

Mumbai
WUT | Apr . 15

Bollywood actor Salman Khan has once again received a death threat. The threat came via a message sent to the WhatsApp number of Mumbai’s Transport Police Department in Worli, warning of killing the actor by entering his house and also threatening to blow up his car with a bomb. According to the police, the unidentified person sent the message at around 6.30 am Sunday, threatening to enter Salman Khan’s residence



and kill him. The police said the sender also threatened to plant a bomb in the actor’s vehicle and detonate it. “The message stated that they will definitely kill the actor. It was sent to the traffic police’s helpline number, after which the matter was reported to us and a case

was registered,” said a senior police official. Mumbai Police have registered a complaint and are investigating it now. The police also said they were trying to locate the suspect. Meanwhile, security around Salman’s Bandra residence, Galaxy Apartments, has been significantly beefed up. Last year in April, shots were fired at Salman’s house by shooters associated with the gangster Lawrence Bishnoi gang, following which the actor’s security was beefed up. He was upgraded to Y+ security after the firing incident. The Bollywood star, who has been on Bishnoi’s hit list over the 1998 Blackbuck poaching case, has received multiple threats directly or indirectly through the Mumbai police in recent months. Bishnoi’s gang had claimed responsibility for last year’s firing

in a Facebook post and also said it was responsible for former Maharashtra Minister Baba Siddique’s murder, who was known to be close to Salman Khan. A case was registered against 18 members of the Bishnoi gang for allegedly hatching a conspiracy to kill the Bollywood star. Lawrence Bishnoi is currently lodged in a Gujarat prison. In November last year, Salman Khan had received a death threat over a song linking his name to Bishnoi.

Vysya Achievers Awards 2025 to be Held on May 27 at Aahwanam Resorts



Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

The Vysya Achievers Awards (VAA) 2025 is set to take place on May 27 at the scenic Aahwanam Lake Side Resorts in Gandipet, Hyderabad. Designed to celebrate excellence, vision, and impact across various sectors, the VAA aims to honor outstanding members of the Vysya community who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. The official logo of the event was recently launched by renowned music director Prashant Vi-hari, marking the beginning of the countdown to this prestigious gathering. At the helm of the event is Madipadige Raju, Chairman and Director of VAA, a prominent businessman and philanthropist. He is also the founder of Vasavi Businesses Group (VBG), Meeting Millionaires Network (MMN), Vasavi Ventures, and Vasavi Bandhan Global Foundation (VBGF). Supporting him is an esteemed board of directors comprising industry leaders such as Meda Naresh (Director, SRS Capital Pvt Ltd), Dr. Jagannadh Jaina (Founder & MD, Seasons Hospital), Dr. Kalyani Guduguntla (Director, Smile Miles Dental Hospital), Pabbi-setty Siva Kumar (CEO, SKP Advisory Group), Dr. Neelima Vemula (Director, Neemax Group), Arun Kumar

(Founder, Arun Fireworks & Vajra Events; Owner, Aahwanam), Santosh Chegu (CEO, Medusa Fashion Co), Kolipara Ravi Kumar (CMD, Srujan Jewellers), and Yeloge Satish Kumar (CEO, INDYUG Cold-Pressed Oils). The awards not only recognize high achievers but also aim to support rising stars within the community by offering funding, branding, and marketing assistance to elevate their ventures. A distinguished jury comprising prominent figures from the Vysya community will evaluate nominations and select winners from across the globe. Categories span various domains including Lifetime Achievement, Innovation, Infrastructure, AI, Manufacturing, Public Service, Sports, Education, Finance, Entrepreneurship, and the Arts. Key awards include the Legacy Award, Vishwakarma Award, Trailblazer Award, NRI Beacon Award, Young Star Prodigy Award, AI Nexus Award, and Karma Yodha Award, among others. Leading up to the main ceremony, several pre-events are planned, including a grand Award Trophy Reveal at the iconic Taj Falaknuma Palace, branding events for sponsors and nominees, and a curtain raiser. The main event on May 27 promises to be a glamorous evening filled with inspiration, celebration, and recognition of true achievers within the Vysya community.

NMDC Celebrates 134th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

NMDC, India’s largest iron ore producer, marked the 134th birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar — the architect of the Indian Constitution — with commemorative events held at its Corporate Office in Hyderabad and across all project sites nationwide. The celebrations were led by Priyadarshini Gaddam, Director (Personnel) & Director (Finance) with Additional Charge, along with B. Vishwanath, Chief Vigilance Officer, and K. Praveen Kumar, Executive Director (Commercial). Together with NMDC employees, they paid floral tributes to Dr. Ambedkar in a solemn ceremony organized by the NMDC HO SC/ST Employees Welfare Association. The event commenced with the lighting of ceremonial lamps and garlanding of Dr. Ambedkar’s



portrait, followed by a prayer session in his honor. Key office bearers of the Association, including President B. Hanu-mantha Rao and General Secretary B. Pavan Kumar, played a pivotal role in coordinating the event. Addressing the gathering, Priyadarshini Gaddam underlined the importance of education in building an empowered and equitable society. “Education is the foundation of progress and the pathway to realizing Dr. Ambedkar’s vision of a just and inclusive India. Those who are uplifted must uplift others, paving

the way for collective social advancement,” she stated. In his address, B. Vishwanath emphasized Dr. Ambedkar’s contributions to social justice and constitutional governance. “His life was a relentless pursuit of equality, and his thoughts on transparency, accountability, and education remain ever relevant,” he said. Reiterating its commitment to Ambedkarite values, NMDC concluded the celebrations with a cultural program and the distribution of school bags to children—symbolizing its sustained focus on education and equality.

Musical Tributes Paid to Maestro Ushakant



Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

Rich tributes were paid to the legendary musician and composer Ushakant at the Musical Vibes show hosted by Mahati Music Academy at Ala Liberty, Banjara Hills. The program was a heartfelt homage to the late maestro, who passed away on March 25, 2025, celebrating his extraordinary contributions as a composer, lyricist, and visionary music educator. Dr. Sangita Reddy, Joint MD of Apollo Hospitals Group, described the event as a

fitting tribute to Ushakant’s illustrious journey and emphasized the healing power of music. Former EMRI CEO Venkat Changavalli recalled his profound experience at a Mahati program in 2015 and praised the transformative impact of music. Dr. J. Sreekanth, son of Ushakant and Director of Mahati Music Academy, expressed pride in continuing his father’s musical legacy. Vice President Sunder Lakshman echoed the sentiment, stating that Ushakant’s music continues to live on and inspire generations.

Kareena Kapoor and Prithviraj Sukumaran to star in Meghna Gulzar’s ‘Daayra’

Mumbai
WUT | Apr .15

In a powerful new collaboration, Kareena Kapoor Khan is set to share the screen with Malayalam superstar Prithviraj Sukumaran in filmmaker Meghna Gulzar’s upcoming project, “Daayra.” “Daayra” delves deep into the complexities of today’s society, confronting

urgent and unsettling truths that resonate with the times. This gripping crime-drama thriller unravels the timeless conflict between crime, punishment, and justice, with Kareena and Prithviraj bringing raw intensity and gravitas to their powerful roles. Speaking about the film, Kareena said, “As I celebrate 25 incredible years in Hindi cinema, I’m

thrilled to announce my next film, Daayra, with the incredible Meghna Gulzar in the director’s chair. I’ve long admired her work, from Talvar to Raazi, and to be directed by her is a dream come true. The opportunity to collaborate with the talented Prithviraj is also a highlight, and I’m drawn to the film’s bold, thought-provoking narrative. Daayra promises to

be a cinematic experience that challenges and inspires, and I look forward to working with Meghna, Prithviraj, and the team at Junglee Pictures on this powerful, timely film.” In a statement, Prithviraj shared, “When the script was narrated to me, I knew I had to do this. I was thoroughly absorbed by my character and what he brings to the

table as the story progresses. It is layered and will connect with the masses. Working with Meghna Gulzar’s vision, Junglee Pictures and an actor like Kareena Kapoor will be a great collaborative experience. Daayra is a story that is one of a kind and digs deep into the societal norms, world of crime and punishment that unfolds.”

Hyderabad
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Actress Vidya Balan donned traditional Kanjivaram silk sarees to mark the celebration of Tamil New Year. Radiating elegance and cultural pride, the actress embraced the festive spirit with her stunning ensemble, paying homage to the rich heritage of Tamil traditions. Taking to her Instagram handle, the Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 actress posted a video of her where she is seen wearing Kanjivaram silk sarees. In the post, Vidya also extended her heartfelt greetings to fans on Puthandu. Balan captioned the post, “Wishing you and loved ones a very Happy Vishu and Tamizh Puthandu!!



What better way to celebrate than in the beauty of Kanjivaram Silk Sarees from @Shobitam with their grace, tradition and elegance!! Queen of Sarees, Indeed. May this new year bring you all joy, prosperity, and happiness. Let’s celebrate this auspicious occasion with warmth and joy! The inno-

vation they bring to their heritage designs and quality craftsmanship is something that sets each Kanjivaram saree apart.” Puthandu, or Tamil New Year, marks the start of a new year according to the Tamil calendar, celebrated by Tamil-speaking communities worldwide. This vibrant festival typically falls on April 14, bringing together families to honor age-old traditions, enjoy festive delicacies, and exchange warm wishes with loved ones. Puthandu, the first day of the Tamil month of Chithirai, marks the beginning of the Tamil New Year. The day holds great significance as it is believed to be the moment when Lord Brahma began the creation of the universe.

Akshayakalpa Clears 3,200 Kg Plastic from Hyderabad’s Peeran Cheruvu Lake

ICRISAT activates safety protocols as forest department deploys trap cages and camera traps; confirmation on species awaited

Hyderabad
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In a significant step towards environmental restoration, Akshayakalpa Organic has adopted Peeran Cheruvu Lake near PBEL City, Hyderabad, as part of its corporate social responsibility and sustainability initiatives. Through a consistent clean-up drive launched in November 2024, the company has successfully removed over 3,200 kilograms of plastic waste from the 35-acre lake. The initiative, known as

the "Peeran Cheruvu Lake Clean-Up," is conducted on the second Sunday of every month and has seen growing participation from local residents, NGOs, environmental groups, and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). Over the last five months, these efforts have significantly improved the lake’s ecosystem and surroundings. The first clean-up drive on November 17, 2024, drew 42 Akshayakalpa staff members and four PBEL City residents, collectively removing



800 kilograms of plastic waste. The momentum continued with clean-ups on December 1, 2024

(500 kg), January 18, 2025 (850 kg), February 2025 (400 kg), and March 2025 (650 kg).

Each event has underscored the importance of community involvement and collective action for

environmental conservation. Peeran Cheruvu Lake, known for its scenic beauty, walking trails, and as a support system for local fishermen, has long suffered from plastic pollution. The clean-up drive aims to restore the lake to its natural state, making it a sustainable and vibrant space for both nature and the local community. Speaking about the initiative, Mr. Shashi Kumar, Co-founder and CEO of Akshayakalpa Organic, said, "Sustainability is at the heart of

everything we do, from organic farming to renewable energy. Through the Peeran Cheruvu Lake Clean-Up, we’re extending our commitment beyond our farms to help restore ecosystems. This initiative is a reflection of our belief in collective responsibility. We urge more individuals and organizations to join us in making a positive impact on our environment." The initiative has been lauded for promoting corporate environmental responsibility and for setting an example of how businesses can ac-

tively contribute to ecological well-being. Akshayakalpa Organic continues to invite more volunteers, environmental groups, and local citizens to participate in upcoming drives and be part of this ongoing mission to restore and protect Hyderabad’s natural resources. With five successful drives completed, the company remains committed to transforming Peeran Cheruvu Lake into a clean, pollution-free water body for the benefit of future generations.

CITY CLICKS

Shaik Rasheed’s IPL dream comes true as he debuts for CSK with a 27 off 19 balls



Shaik Rasheed became another Telugu-speaking cricketer to make his debut in IPL when he opened the batting with New Zealander Rachin Ravindra for the Chennai Super Kings in Lucknow on Monday night.

And, the 20-year-old Andhra cricketer made a pretty fluent start (27, 19b, 6×4) before pacer Avesh Khan got rid of him, but not before Rasheed made another big step closer to realising his ultimate dream of playing at the highest level.

Interestingly, Rasheed started playing gully cricket in Dilsukhnagar (Hyderabad) when he was just eight and even played for Sportive Cricket Club in the HCA League. And his passion for the game took him to the next level when he moved over to Guntur with his family.

Rasheed thrived over the last three years on the simple advice of cricketing great VVS Laxman during the 2022 ICC Under-19 World Cup in the West Indies – hold a cricket bat, close your eyes, keep visualising the bowlers whom you are likely to face on the cricket field and do shadow practice. More importantly, Rasheed made an emphatic statement about his arrival in Indian domestic cricket with his maiden Ranji century (203) against Hyderabad in November 2024 at Uppal. Despite the financial hardship, the young talent had been backed by his father who felt cricket could be the way out for his family.

With J Krishna Rao at Mangalagiri ACA Residential Academy backing him, Rasheed had the liberty to train hard to keep moving up the ladder.

Rasheed always focused more on mental preparations and adapted quickly to the given conditions than worrying too much about the technique. A reason why he was so composed and confident when he walked out with Ravindra on his IPL debut.

Dronacharya of archers take a bow



Far away from the madding crowds, P Shankaraiah, whose name is synonymous with archery for his dedication in scouting talent and taking the sport across the State, still shows the same commitment and passion at the age of 63.

So, when it was formally announced that the compound bow (mixed team event) would be introduced in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, Shankaraiah’s joy was understandable. Reason? For, apart from training young talent in recurve and the Indian Round categories, the compound bow was introduced among his trainees recently, since India is traditionally known to be a force to reckon with.

Interestingly, Shankaraiah informed ‘Telangana Today’ that Khammam is home to the highest number of archery training centres. The Sports Schools of Kinnerasani (boys) and Kanchanapalli (girls) have the archery centres with each of them taking care of 40 trainees, the Eklavya Central Schools at Kothagudem and Dammampeta having archery centres and two Khelo India archery centres in Khammam and Palvoncha.

“Obviously, the inclusion of compound bow in the Olympics is a huge morale booster for all those like Thaniparthi Chikitha of Peddapalli who hail from a poor background. “We are hopeful she will do exceptionally well,” he said. For the record, Chikitha won gold in the 37th Senior National Games in Goa, besides being a consistent performer in many national-level championships.

‘Thala’ back to business, halts Super Kings’ losing streak: Chennai beats Lucknow as vintage Dhoni on display

Lucknow WUT | Apr . 15

The iconic MS Dhoni played a nice little cameo alongside Shivam Dube to guide Chennai Super Kings to a much-needed five-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants and break their five-match losing streak in the IPL here on Monday.

Dhoni (26 not out off 11 balls; 4x4s, 1×6) and Dube (43 not out off 37 balls; 3x4s, 2x6s) shared a match-winning stand of 57 runs for the sixth wicket to chase down a target of 167 with three balls to spare.

This was after LSG skipper Rishabh Pant returned to form with a half-century to guide his side to 166 for seven.

Pant (63 off 49 balls) struggled initially but grew in confidence as the innings progressed and together with Abdul Samad (20) shared 53 runs for the fifth wicket off 33 balls. Shaik Rasheed (27 off 19) and Rachin

Ravindra (37 off 22) got CSK’s chase off to a flier with a brilliant 29-ball 52-run opening stand.

While Ravindra showed his class on the offside, Rasheed was elegant on the leg side, finding the fence at will to bring up CSK’s fifty in the fifth over.

Debutant Rasheed’s entertaining knock came to an end when he skied a Avesh Khan short ball while trying to hoick it on the leg side.

Aiden Markram then had Ravindra trapped in front of the wicket while Rahul Tripathi failed to cash in on a reprieve as he edged a Ravi Bishnoi delivery back to the leg-spinner.

Bishnoi bowled superbly, and his efforts yielded a result as he dismissed Ravindra Jadeja with a flighted delivery, and Markram took a fine catch at long on.

With CSK needing 56 off 30, in came Dhoni and he smashed Avesh



through the off side for a four, and deliberately nicked the next ball past the keeper to the third man fence to bring down the equation to 44 of 24 balls.

It was vintage Dhoni on display as he swung his bat to hit a one-handed six off Shardul Thakur and then got a boundary off Avesh.

Both Dhoni and Dube used the pace of LSG bowlers to perfection to take CSK home and give their fans some relief.

Earlier, coming off five successive losses, CSK made a dream start after electing to bowl.

Left-arm pacer Khaled Ahmed (1/38) struck the first blow in the opening over when he dismissed Markram with Rahul Tripathi taking a brilliant diving catch after sprinting backwards.

Two overs later, Anshul Kamboj removed the dangerous Nicholas Pooran LBW.

Mitchell Marsh, returning to the side

after sitting out of the last match due to personal reasons, took the attack to the opposition and smashed Khaled for a four and six in consecutive balls.

Pant, who has struggled in the tournament so far, came out with intent and looked to get back to form with some unorthodox but confident hitting, which included a reverse scoop six off a length delivery from Jamie Overton.

Veteran Jadeja (2/34) went for 10 runs in his first over but came back strongly in his next over to disturb the timbers of Marsh.

Young Ayush Badoni (22 off 17) meant business and played his shots from the onset. He hit Overton for two huge consecutive sixes — one over cover and the next over fine leg to take LSG to 95 for three after 12 overs.

Pant welcomed Maheesha Pathirana (2/45) with an exquisite cover drive to the boundary.

After surviving two

chances — first when he was caught off a no ball and then a close LBW call off Jadeja in the 14th over — Badoni got out when the left-arm spinner foxed him completely and Dhoni did the rest behind the stumps.

Pant struggled against CSK spinners, especially Noor Ahmad, who returned brilliant figures of 4-0-13-0.

But with pace back into the attack in the form of Pathirana in the 18th over, Pant took his chances as he smashed the Sri Lankan for two sixes, the second one a one-handed pull over square-leg to bring up his fifty.

Pant and Samad were going great guns before Dhoni’s brilliance ensured the dismissals of both the set batters.

Dhoni first hit the non-striker’s end with a direct throw to dismiss Samad and then, in the next ball, took a fine high catch to end Pant’s stay in the middle.

Punjab Kings under pressure after Hyderabad carnage as they take on Knight Riders

Mullanpur WUT | Apr . 15

Reeling from a demoralizing defeat at the hands of Sunrisers Hyderabad, a beleaguered Punjab Kings unit will look to regroup and bounce back when they take on the formidable Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh Stadium in Mullanpur on Tuesday. In a rare and painful occurrence, Punjab found themselves on the losing side despite posting a mammoth 245-run total in their previous outing. The architect of their downfall was the explosive Abhishek Sharma, whose jaw-dropping 141 off just 55 balls blew the Punjab bowling unit to smithereens. The match, held in Hyderabad on a flat Uppal pitch, turned into a run-fest and high-lighted serious chinks in Punjab’s bowling

armor. Even Shreyas Iyer’s valiant 36-ball 82 proved insufficient in the face of Abhishek’s relentless assault, leaving the skipper visibly amused yet helpless at the post-match presentation. With that stunning defeat fresh in memory, Punjab now face another stern test against a balanced KKR side. The match will be played on their home turf at Mullanpur, a venue which too has proven to be a haven for batters. Both previous matches at this ground have seen first-innings totals exceeding 200, a fact that raises significant concerns for a Punjab bowling unit desperately searching for form and confidence. The most glaring concern lies in the performance of their spin duo — Yuzvendra Chahal and Glenn Maxwell — who together conceded 96 runs in just



seven overs during the Hyderabad clash.

Chahal, in particular, has struggled to make an impact, conceding runs at an alarming rate of 11.13 per over across five matches, with only two wickets to show for his efforts. His traditional loopy leg-breaks, often pitched wide outside off stump, have failed to trouble batters. The coaching staff, led by Ricky Ponting, now face a tricky conundrum: whether to persist

with a flat batting-friendly wicket that has yielded big totals, or request a slower, grippier surface in hopes of aiding their spinners. However, even that approach comes with risks, as KKR possess spin aces of their own.

Varun Chakravarthy, one of India’s most improved T20 bowlers, thrives on such tracks, and the experienced Sunil Narine remains a potent threat, particularly in slower

conditions. KKR, riding high after their commanding victory over Chennai Super Kings at Chepauk, have looked comfortable on all kinds of surfaces. Their batting depth, spearheaded by Narine, Rinku Singh, and Venkatesh Iyer, makes them a well-rounded unit capable of adjusting to any challenge. For Punjab, the batting department has shown promise. Captain Shreyas Iyer has led from the front with 250 runs and three half-centuries in five games. Young Priyansh Arya has been a revelation, contributing 194 runs and emerging as one of the finds of the season. Alongside him, Indian batters Nehal Wadhwa (141 runs), Prabhsimran Singh (133 runs), and Shashank Singh (108 runs) have provided stability and firepower in the middle and lower order. However, it is the over-

seas players who have underwhelmed. Glenn Maxwell has scored just 34 runs, while fellow Australian Marcus Stoinis has managed 59 runs in the tournament so far. The franchise will be hoping for a much-improved show from the duo, especially when up against spinners of the calibre of Chakravarthy and Narine. Adding to the woes is South African pacer Marco Jansen, who, with an economy rate of 11.33, has leaked runs and failed to deliver consistent spells. As Punjab Kings gear up to face KKR, their biggest task will be to rediscover their bowling rhythm and seek better performances from their overseas contingent. A victory on Tuesday could help restore confidence and revive their campaign, but it will take a near-perfect all-round performance to overcome a confident

Shia Community in Hyderabad Demands Reconstruction of Jannat-ul-Baqi Shrine



Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

In a powerful display of solidarity and religious devotion, hundreds of Shia Muslims, accompanied by religious scholars and community leaders, staged peaceful protests at multiple locations across Hyderabad on Sunday, demanding the reconstruction of the historic Jannat-ul-Baqi cemetery in Medina, Saudi Arabia. Holding placards and banners, the demonstrators expressed deep anguish over the demolition of the revered Islamic site in 1926 by Saudi authorities. They called on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to restore the shrine, which once housed the graves of several prominent figures in Islamic history, including Bibi Fatima Zahra (SA), the daughter of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Speakers at the rallies condemned what they termed as the continued neglect and indifference of the Saudi government towards the restoration of a site considered sacred by millions of Muslims around the world. They emphasized that Jannat-ul-Baqi holds immense spiritual, historical, and emotional significance—particularly for the Shia community. Established around 622 CE, Jannat-ul-Baqi served as the final resting place for many members of the Prophet’s family, close companions, and respected Islamic scholars. The cemetery was once marked with mausoleums



Over 16,000 RTI appeals pending due to Telangana government’s inaction

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

More than 16,000 appeals and complaints made under the Right to Information (RTI) Act are pending across Telangana as 12 State Information Commissioner posts, including that of the Chief Information Commissioner, are vacant due to the State government’s inaction. The government, which issued a notification on June 11, 2024 calling for appointments to the posts of CIC and SICs in the State Information Commission failed to initiate the process to fill up the posts. A resident of Khammam, Koyinni Venkanna filed a writ petition number 9947 of 2025 in the Telangana High Court challenging authorities’ inaction in processing applications. Justice K Lakshman while disposing of the writ petition issued an order on April 2 directing the government to consider the petitioner’s

application dated June 17, 2024 for the Information Commissioner post within a timeline in accordance with Supreme Court guidelines. Advocate Nallapu Manideep, who represented the petitioner, contended that continued inaction on the part of the government not only violated the mandatory directions of the Supreme Court in WP (C) No. 436 of 2018 and MA No. 1979 of 2019. In the above case, the Supreme Court held that most of the States have initiated the selection process to fill up the vacancies, but without any commitment regarding the timeline within which the appointments should

be made and prescribed a timeline for the States to follow in making the appointments. Speaking to Telangana Today, Manideep stated that the delay in appointing Information Commissioners rendered the functioning of the State Information Commission virtually defunct, thereby affecting the fundamental right of citizens to access information under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. A Public Interest Litigation WP (PIL) No. 18 of 2023 had already been disposed of by a Division Bench on January 29 based on the State’s assurance to comply with the Apex Court’s guidelines. However, no appointments have since been made, prompting the petitioner to seek judicial intervention, Manideep explained. The High Court judgment was a significant step toward restoring transparency and accountability in public administration, as the Right to Information

MLA Kaushik Reddy Alleges Massive Scam in Group-1 Results, Demands CBI Inquiry

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, speaking at Telangana Bhavan, alleged that the recently announced Group-1 results were the “biggest scam in the country.” He questioned the integrity of the process, stating that candidates were issued one hall ticket during prelims and a different one for mains—an unprecedented anomaly. Highlighting discrepancies, he claimed 21,093 candidates appeared for the exam, yet results were announced for 21,103—raising questions about the origin of the extra 10 candidates. “654 candidates securing the exact same marks is suspicious,” he added, pointing to irregularities in paper evaluation that, according to him, was fast-tracked in 60 days instead of the usual 4-5 months. Kaushik Reddy said only 69 out of 10,000 candidates from certain centers secured jobs, while at two centers (18 & 19 in Koti Women’s College), 74 candidates were selected out of 1,494 women. He also pointed to favoritism, alleging that former MLC Ramulu Naik’s daughter-in-law, who secured ST first rank, appeared from the same center. In Urdu medium, 7 of 9 candidates got jobs, while in Telugu medium only 70 of 7,800 were selected. He questioned the selective success. Reddy demanded a judicial and CBI probe, criticizing both Congress and BJP for silence. “If Revanth Reddy arrests me, I’m not afraid,” he declared, claiming crores exchanged hands. He urged the cancellation of the Group-1 exam, slamming BJP-Congress collusion and demanding justice for Telangana’s unemployed youth.



Fire breaks out at Park Hyatt hotel; Sunrisers Hyderabad team safely evacuated

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

A fire broke out on the first floor of the Park Hyatt hotel in Banjara Hills on Monday morning, prompting the safe evacuation of the Sunrisers Hyderabad cricket team, who were staying at the hotel. According to police officials, the blaze originated in the spa area due to a short circuit in a steam unit, resulting in heavy smoke. The Sunrisers team, who were staying on the fifth floor, were quickly moved to a safer location without incident. The fire triggered panic among hotel guests and staff, with many rushing out in fear. Thick smoke spread through the ground floor and other parts of the hotel. The police received a call from hotel management around 9 am, after which two fire engines were dispatched to the scene. Authorities confirmed there were no casualties, and the Sunrisers Hyderabad team remained unharmed. A case has been registered and an investigation is underway.



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Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha Refutes False Claims, Urges Public to ignore Misinformation

State Medical and Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha has condemned the deliberate distortion of his statements made to reporters. Clarifying the issue, the Minister stated that he made no comments about his fellow ministers. He expressed strong objection to false narratives being circulated on social media, suggesting that they were his own remarks. "There is no truth in the news that is going viral," he affirmed. Minister Rajanarsimha described the circulating reports as baseless and misleading. He urged the public not to be misled by such fabricated statements and advised people to verify facts before believing or sharing such news.

PM Modi has no moral right to speak on Telangana, says TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr. 15

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president Mahesh Kumar Goud on Monday criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stating that he has no moral right to speak about Telangana or the University of Hyderabad. Addressing the media, Mahesh Kumar questioned why the Prime Minister remains silent on rampant deforestation and environmental destruction in BJP-ruled states. He alleged that PM Modi, who failed to allocate even a single rupee extra for Telangana’s development, is in no position to comment on the state’s affairs. He advised the Prime Minister to verify facts before making public statements and to avoid being misled by the BJP leaders’ claims. Highlighting the Congress government’s performance, Mahesh Kumar said Telangana has seen rapid development and welfare initiatives since the party came to power. He pointed out that over 60,000 government jobs have been filled so far, and women now travel free in TSRTC buses. He added that the state government has waived farm loans and is offering financial support to farmers under the Rythu Bharosa scheme. Criticising the Centre, he recalled that the Modi government had promised to create 2 crore jobs annually, a commitment that remains unfulfilled even after four years.



Rowdy-sheeter brutally murdered in Dabirpura

Hyderabad
WUT | Apr . 15

Tension gripped the Dabirpura area of the Old City late last night after a 29-year-old rowdy-sheeter, Mohammad Masiuddin, was brutally murdered in public just three days before his wedding. According to police, Masiuddin, a resident of Falaknema, had gone to Dabirpura in a four-wheeler around 1 am to distribute wedding invitation cards. As he reached near the Dabirpura flyover, unidentified assailants intercepted his vehicle. When he stepped out to speak to them, two attackers held him while others stabbed him multiple times with knives. Mirchowk ACP N Venkateshwar Rao said the attackers inflicted more than nine stab wounds on Masiuddin’s face, neck, abdomen, and other parts, resulting in his immediate death. The gruesome murder sparked panic in the area. Police and forensic teams rushed to the scene and shifted the body to Osmania General Hospital for a post-mortem. Officials confirmed that Masiuddin was a rowdy-sheeter with multiple criminal cases against him. Preliminary investigations suggest the murder may have been the result of personal enmity. Police suspect Arif Khan, Aamir Khan (both brothers), Sheru, and Ibrahim were involved in the attack. Sources revealed that the accused had been tracking the victim’s movements for some time. Special teams have been formed to trace and arrest the culprits. The victim’s brother alleged that some individuals paid the assailants to carry out the murder. Heavy police deployment has been arranged in the area to prevent any untoward incidents. Further investigation is ongoing.