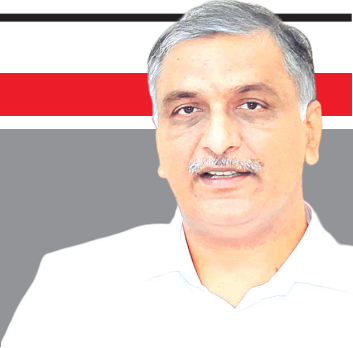




"We Have Political Differences But...", Says Owaisi : **P8**

Brevis, Conway script Chennai win, Titans go down by 83 runs: **P7**

Harish Rao Alleges Conspiracy to Divert Godavari Water: **P3**



### Brief Insights

BJP to Pull the Plug on Rajasthan CM



The Miss World 2025 pageant, underway in Hyderabad, Telangana, has been hit by controversy as Miss England 2024, Milla Magee, made a dramatic mid-event exit. Calling the experience degrading, Milla claimed contestants were treated like "performing monkeys" and paraded before wealthy male sponsors. In a bold statement to The Sun, the 24-year-old lifeguard and plus-size advocate said, "I felt like a prostitute," accusing the pageant of prioritizing appearances over purpose. Milla, who entered the competition to promote CPR awareness, criticized the **CONT:P7**

SRH Crush KKR by 110 Runs, Klaasen's Blitz Seals Big Win



Sunrisers Hyderabad ended an IPL season of 'what ifs' with a power-packed batting effort just like it had started, etching a crushing 110-run victory over Kolkata Knight Riders riding on Heinrich Klaasen's 37-ball century here on Sunday. In the season opener, SRH scored an imposing 286 against Rajasthan Royals and on this day at the half-filled Feroz Shah Kotla, Klaasen (105 not out off 39 balls) and Travis Head (76 off 40 balls), who had saved his best for the last, helped the 'Orange Army' post an unassailable 278 for 3 in 20 overs. **CONT:P7**

Dr. K Lakshman: Family Feuds Divide Telugu Politics



Politics in the Telugu states has become quite intriguing, with familiar patterns repeating in both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. While the distribution of family assets differs from the allocation of political positions, internal family rivalries have intensified. In Andhra Pradesh, the younger sister and Sharmila are directing their criticisms at Jagan, while in Telangana, Kavitha is openly challenging KTR. Both siblings appear more focused on protecting their personal and familial interests than addressing the needs of the people. This mirrors past conflicts seen within the YSR family and **CONT:P2**

# Share Best Practices, Empower All, Speak Responsibly: PM to NDA States

New delhi WUT | May. 26

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday called upon NDA-ruled states to adopt and integrate each other's best governance practices as part of the vision for a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India). Addressing a day-long conclave of NDA Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers in the national capital, the Prime Minister emphasized collaborative development and inclusive policymaking as the alliance prepares to mark the first anniversary of its third consecutive term in office.



The ruling NDA is likely to form a dedicated committee to examine and implement these best practices across states. The conclave also unanimously adopted two key resolutions — one applauding the success of Operation Sindoor and another supporting caste enumeration as a means to mainstream the margin-

alized.

Lauding the precision and impact of Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Modi described it as a testament to India's growing self-reliance and the technological strength of its indigenous defence capabilities. The resolution on Operation Sindoor, moved by Rajasthan CM Bhajanal Sharma and seconded

by Maharashtra Deputy CM Eknath Shinde, commended the valour of the armed forces and Mr Modi's decisive leadership in countering terrorism. In his address, PM Modi underlined caste enumeration as a critical step in ensuring that communities left behind in the development process are identi-

fied and integrated into mainstream progress. The resolution on caste census, moved by Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini, reinforced the NDA's commitment to inclusive development. BJP president J.P. Nadda clarified that while the NDA does not believe in caste-based politics, caste data would help inform targeted welfare interventions. The conclave also paid homage to those who lost their lives in the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. Presentations were made by the Chief Ministers of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh, showcasing state-level **CONT:P4**

India Sends Strong Anti-Terror Message to Qatar Amid Pahalgam Attack Fallout

New delhi WUT | May. 26

An all-party parliamentary delegation led by NCP-SP leader Supriya Sule on Sunday met with Deputy Speaker of the Qatar Shura Council Dr Hamda Al Sulaiti and other Qatari MPs and conveyed India's national outrage over the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. The delegation highlighted that the visit reflected India's united stance on cross-border terrorism. Qatar emphasised its own zero-tolerance policy against terrorism and that terrorism must be condemned globally, the Indian Embassy in Qatar



posted on X. Earlier, the delegation paid floral tributes at the bust of Mahatma Gandhi at the embassy. The all-party delegation arrived in Qatar late Saturday as part of the government's outreach with the international community on the fight against terror and on the significance of Operation Sindoor. Apart from Sule, the working president of the NCP-SP, the delegation comprises BJP leaders Rajiv Pratap Rudy, **CONT:P4**

Governor Varma Attends Saraswati Pushkaralu in Kaleshwaram

Warangal WUT | May. 26

Governor Jishnu Dev Varma inspected the Saraswathi Pushkaralu arrangements at Kaleshwaram in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district on Sunday. Varma along with his family had Pushkara Snanam (holy dip) in the sacred Triveni Sangam at the Saraswati Ghat and offered prayers to the goddess Saraswati Devi. The events are taking place on a grand note for the last 11 days with elaborate arrangements from the state government and the district administration, so as to



ensure that the devotees do not face any inconvenience. The governor was given a warm welcome by IT minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, district collector Rahul Sharma and SP Kiran Khare. Later, on a visit to Kaleshwaram, the temple priests welcomed

the governor with Purna Kumbam and Mangala Vaidyam amid Vedic chants. Varma and his wife offered special prayers to the presiding deity Sri Mukteshwara Swamy. The temple authorities presented the governor couple with silk clothes, **CONT:P4**

Congress Gives Top Priority to BC Leaders, Says Revanth

Hyderabad WUT | May. 26

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday said the party was giving top priority to Backward Classes communities and had taken several measures for their welfare. During his interaction with BC leaders, who will meet with the party leadership on Monday, Revanth Reddy said the Congress government in Telangana was the first in the country to conduct a caste census in the stipulated time and pass a Bill in the Legislative Assembly proposing 42 per



cent reservations for the BC community. He said the Congress would recognise their service for the party. The Chief Minister met AICC general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal and discussed several issues. The AICC is expected to consider BC candidates for filling up nominated posts.

Sangareddy's Drone Didis Win Modi's Praise

New delhi WUT | May. 26

'Drone didis' from Sangareddy, who learnt operating drones and are using them to spray pesticides on agricultural fields, received a fulsome praise from Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Mann Ki Baat on Sunday. Fifty women from the district were trained in using drones in agriculture under the Centre's pilot project "Namo Drone Didi Scheme". Under this scheme, selected women will be provided pesticide-spraying drones at 80 per cent subsidy. Calling the women "Sky Warriors", the Prime Minister said "these women are proving that change can



happen when technology and determination go hand in hand." "They are completing the pesticide spraying work on 50 acres of land using drones. They work for three hours in the morning and two hours in the evening. There is no heat from the sun, no danger of toxic chemicals", Modi added. Speaking with Deccan Chronicle, Bhavani, a 'drone didi' from Isojipet in Pulkal mandal of Sangareddy district, said: "We underwent a training programme for nine days. **CONT:P2**

# Human Chain Protest in Hyderabad Against Waqf (Amendment) Act

Hyderabad WUT | May. 26

Hyderabad witnessed a significant human chain protest on Sunday against the recently notified Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. The protest was organized following a nationwide call by the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) and received strong support from the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM). The human chain stretched from Masjid-e-Bilal in Toli Chowki to Reti Bowli, spanning approximately two kilometres. AIMIM MLAs Akbaruddin Owaisi and Kausar Mohiuddin took part in the protest, which saw a large turnout from community members and concerned citizens. Speaking to the media, MLA Kausar Mohiuddin stated that the protest aimed to raise awareness about the implications of the amended law and called upon the central government to reconsider and withdraw the changes. "The initiative was actively



A large crowd participated in a human chain protest against the Waqf Act 2025 at Charminar and various parts of Hyderabad. —Photo: Mir zulfequar ali

led by the AIMIM Karwan Constituency, which mobilized people and emphasized the need to protect Waqf properties and institutions from perceived threats under the new legislation," he said. Protesters held placards and banners demanding protection of Waqf rights and raised slogans in a peaceful and democratic manner.

Similar demonstrations were held across various parts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in response to the amended law. The Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, received presidential assent on April 5. It was passed in the Lok Sabha with 288 votes in favour and 232 against, and in the Rajya Sabha with 128 votes for and


95 against. Opposition parties have labelled the Act as unconstitutional and discriminatory, and have challenged it in the Supreme Court. However, the Centre maintains that the legislation aims to enhance transparency in the administration of Waqf properties.

ESTD-1960.

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

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baar baar aaoge



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

Governor Varma Attends Saraswati Pushkaralu in Kaleshwaram

**Warangal**  
WUT | May. 26

Governor Jishnu Dev Varma inspected the Saraswathi Pushkaralu arrangements at Kaleshwaram in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district on Sunday. Varma along with his family had Pushkara Snamam (holy dip) in the sacred Triveni Sangam at the Saraswati Ghat and offered prayers to the goddess Saraswati Devi. The events are taking place on a grand note for the last 11 days with elaborate arrangements from the state government and the district administration, so as to ensure that the devotees do not face any inconvenience. The governor was given a warm welcome

by IT minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, district collector Rahul Sharma and SP Kiran Khare. Later, on a visit to Kaleshwaram, the temple priests welcomed the governor with Purna Kumbam and Mangala Vaidyam amid Vedic chants. Varma and his wife offered special prayers to the presiding deity Sri Mukteshwara Swamy. The temple authorities presented the governor couple with silk clothes, laddu prasadam and sweet Pongal along with a memento of goddess Saraswati Devi. The IT minister explained to the governor about the Saraswati Navratna Mala Aarti programme, which is held every evening on a grand note by priests

from Kashi. Varma appreciated the arrangements for the Pushkaralu. From the early morning, thousands of devotees thronged Kaleshwaram in cars, buses and private vehicles. Devotees faced problems due to the traffic jam through 6 to 7km enroute to Kaleshwaram from Muddulapally and also for 2 to 3km on the inter-state bridge from Sironcha of Maharashtra to Kaleshwaram in Telangana. Devotees also faced difficulties due to the heavy rain in the past two days and the resultant mud accumulation on the roads, making vehicular movement difficult. The police cleared the traffic from time to time.

Harish Rao Alleges Conspiracy to Divert Godavari Water, Slams Congress and BJP

**Hyderabad**  
Santosh chowdary  
WUT | May. 26

Former Minister T. Harish Rao strongly criticized the Congress-led Telangana government and the BJP-led Centre, accusing them of failing to protect the state's irrigation interests. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan, he alleged a conspiracy to divert 200 TMC of Godavari water through Andhra Pradesh's proposed Banakacharla project, without proper permissions.



He reminded that the Telangana movement itself was born from water rights issues and accused the Congress of repeating past mistakes. "Congress is betraying Telangana once again by remaining silent,

just as leaders in the past traded public interest for power," Rao said, calling it "Guru Dakshina" for political gains. Harish Rao accused the Andhra Pradesh government of proceeding with the Ba-

nakacharla project without obtaining approvals from KRMB, GRMB, CWC, Apex Council, or environmental bodies, in violation of the Bifurcation Act. He recalled how former AP CM Chandrababu Naidu had tried to block key Telangana projects like Kaleshwaram and Palamuru through legal complaints and letters to the Centre. Criticizing Telangana Congress leaders and Union Ministers Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay, Rao questioned their si-

lence at forums like NITI Aayog and demanded they lead an all-party delegation to the Prime Minister. He also highlighted the Centre's alleged financial bias, stating that while AP projects like Polavaram and Banakacharla received over ₹80,000 crore each, Telangana's projects were denied national status and penalized under FRBM norms. Rao urged immediate legal and public action to protect Telangana's water rights and future.

Bespoke Dental Smiles International Wing Inaugurated at HiTech City

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Dr. Gowd's Dental Hospitals marked a major milestone in Indian dentistry with the inauguration of Bespoke Dental Smiles – International Wing at HiTech City, Hyderabad. This state-of-the-art dental center is set to redefine standards in cosmetic and implant dentistry with world-class technology and expert care. The grand inauguration was graced by prominent dignitaries including Etela Rajender, Hon'ble MP, and R. Krishnaiah,

MP (Rajya Sabha), who lauded the center's contribution to healthcare. Telangana Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha attended as Chief Guest, acknowledging the hospital's role in advancing regional health infrastructure. Led by Dr. M. S. Gowd, a pioneer in South Indian dentistry with over 50 years of experience, the international wing brings together advanced clinical care and innovation. Dr. Vikas Gowd, awarded Outstanding Dentist of the Year 2025, and Dr. Kirti Gowd, Best Orthodontist in Hyderabad,



emphasized the center's commitment to precision, technology, and personalized treatment. The facility features digital intraoral scanners, CAD-CAM smile design studio, CBCT 3D imaging, an in-house lab, and a dedicated surgical the-

ater for complex procedures—all within luxurious, patient-friendly interiors. Bespoke Dental Smiles offers a comprehensive range of services, including smile makeovers, dental implants, full mouth rehabilitation,

aligners, Invisalign, orthodontics, pediatric care, and advanced cosmetic surgeries. Commending the initiative, MP Etela Rajender hailed the Gowd family's legacy in dentistry, while MP Krishnaiah noted Hyderabad's growing status as a global healthcare hub. With this launch, Bespoke Dental Smiles sets a new benchmark in premium dental care, blending elite technology with compassionate expertise to position Hyderabad as a leader in global dental excellence.

In the Mann ki baat programme Modi ji message inspired by youth: BJP's convenor Pandarinath

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Bhagya Nagar district in the 122nd serial "mann ki baath" program on Sunday May 25 chief guests G.Premender Reddy ji BJP Genral Secretary Telangana state, Niranjan yadav president Bhagya nagar jilla,koudi mahender BJP's contested MLA from Chandrayanagutta. Under the aegis of Aedla Pandarinath Convener Bjp Chandrayangutta. In this programme Participated: Naveen yadav secretary,Sreekanth Reddy Secretary, Mahender Reddy social media ,Ponna Srinivas Joint Treasurer,pendam Lax-



man ex obe morchha district president , Vijay kumar district general secretary se morchha ,M. venu kumar vice president SC morchha , prabhakar , Laxman , Ravi, Madhu Sudhan, Sai Prasad Divisions presidents, Nagaraju , Jaya concil member, Naresh SC morchha Con-

vener chandrayangutta,Sridhar yuvamorchha president division,In a Media statement constituency convenor A. Pandarinath said that in regard to Apiculture and khelo Bharath inspired by youth in the PM Modi ji message in this Mann ki baat programme.

BRS Slams Govt Over Miss England Humiliation

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Former MLA Gongidi Sunitha and BRS leader Rajani Sai Chand, addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, expressed deep anguish over the alleged mistreatment of Miss England Milla during the recent Miss World pageant event in Hyderabad. They condemned the state government's handling of the situation, saying it brought international shame to Telangana, a land known for respecting women. Speaking with emotion, Sunitha criticized CM Revanth Reddy and his ministers for focusing more on beauty pageants than pressing public issues. She questioned why the Chief Minister's and ministers' photos were used in beauty pageant promotions, alleging that the event was prioritized over real concerns like Gurukul issues. Citing a leading magazine interview, the leaders claimed that Miss England stated she was treated like a "prostitute" and a "toy", eventually withdraw-



ing from the competition and leaving India hurt and humiliated. They demanded immediate action against those responsible and announced plans to lodge a complaint with the Human Rights Commission. The BRS leaders drew a comparison with the KCR regime, stating that women were respected and festivals like Bathukamma were promoted with pride. "KCR never organized events that degrade women," said Sunitha, adding that investments should come through dignified platforms, not controversial pageants.The leaders called on the global women's community to condemn the incident and urged the state government to prioritize people's issues instead of indulging in events that allegedly disrespect women.

Dr. K Lakshman: Family Feuds Divide Telugu Politics, BJP Gaining in Telangana

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Politics in the Telugu states has become quite intriguing, with familiar patterns repeating in both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. While the distribution of family assets differs from the allocation of political positions, internal family rivalries have intensified. In Andhra Pradesh, the younger sister and Sharmla are directing their criticisms at Jagan, while in Telangana, Kavitha is openly challenging KTR. Both siblings appear more focused on protecting their personal and familial interests than addressing the



needs of the people. This mirrors past conflicts seen within the YSR family and now the KCR family. The Congress party is playing a significant role in fueling opposition against the younger siblings by pitting them against their elder brothers. In Telangana, Revanth Reddy's vocal opposition seems aimed

at diverting public attention. With the decline of TRS, the BJP is emerging as a strong political force in Telangana and is poised to come to power in the future. While Kavitha's letter to KCR raised eyebrows, it is clear she is challenging KTR's leadership—indirectly opposing KCR's choice.

Her talk about a "social Telangana" appears hollow, lacking real substance. On the national front, India is gaining global economic strength, now recognized as the world's fourth-largest economy, surpassing Japan—an achievement credited to Prime Minister Modi's leadership. Recently, I completed the Asia Pacific Regional Workshop with PAC members, emphasizing PAC's growing importance in parliamentary democracy. Despite internal conflicts, I affirm our commitment to work beyond party lines. Kavitha's influence in Telangana politics remains minimal.

ACB arrests land surveyor for graft in Telangana's Nirmal

A land surveyor was arrested while allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 7,000 from a farmer in Kaddampeddur mandal centre on Saturday. Anti-Corruption Bureau officials said that the accused public servant was Umaji, while the complainant was Prabhakar from Gangapur village. Umaji was caught red-handed for accepting bribe from Prabhakar. He reportedly demanded Rs 20,000 from the farmer for issuing proceedings of a survey of his land. He had collected Rs 12,000 from Prabhakar and was harassing the farmer for the remaining bribe.A vexed Prabhakar, approached the ACB sleuths, who in turn trapped the surveyor.

Lease of OU Quarters to Trust Raises Furore

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Osmania University's faculty members and student groups have criticised the university administration for leasing out professor quarters and a portion of land on the campus to a private trust, arguing that the move goes against university rules. The two quarters, labelled P2 and P3, are located in a prime part of the university campus. They were reportedly leased to Adi Dhvani Trust at just ₹12,000 a year for each unit. Faculty members say the trust is now seeking additional space through a 30-year lease agreement. Teachers argued that the land and housing were meant to support university staff, many of whom are paying Rs.40,000 in rent each month elsewhere in the city due to a lack of available quarters. "Giving it to a private trust for just Rs.1,000 a month while teachers pay full rent makes no sense," said Prof. B. Manohar, president of the Osmania University Teachers' Association (OUTA). The association is demanding



that the lease be cancelled and those responsible be held accountable. The union also pointed to the Justice Chinnappa Reddy Committee report, which clearly stated that no university land should be handed to private entities. Student groups also raised objections to the university decision. "This land belongs to the university and should be

used for students and teachers, not outsiders," said a student representative. Several unions have warned of protests if the lease is not withdrawn. Vice Chancellor Prof. Molugaram Kumar said the lease was approved by former in-charge VC Dana Kishore, according to records in the university's official minutes. When asked if the lease could be suspended, he said any such decision would have to be taken by the Executive Council, which is not expected to meet for at least another month.

Sangareddy's Drone Didis Win Modi's Praise

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded the efforts of women drone operators from Sangareddy district in his monthly radio address, Mann Ki Baat, on Sunday. The women, trained under the Centre's "Namo Drone Didi" pilot scheme, have been using drones to spray pesticides on agricultural fields, earning them the title of "Sky Warriors" from the Prime Minister.Highlighting their contribution, PM Modi said, "These women are proving that change can happen when technology and determination go hand in hand. They are now able to spray pesticides over 50



acres of land, working three hours in the morning and two hours in the evening—away from the sun's heat and free from exposure to toxic chemicals."As part of the scheme, 50 women from 13 mandals across Sangareddy were trained in drone operation. Each underwent a rigorous nine-day training

program involving theory classes from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., followed by practical sessions in the afternoon. The initiative provides pesticide-spraying drones to selected women at an 80% subsidy.Speaking to Deccan Chronicle, Bhavani, a 'Drone Didi' from Isojipet in Pulkal mandal, said, "The training

was comprehensive. We are now awaiting further sessions in Bengaluru that will focus on drone repairs and advanced modules. Successful completion will make us eligible for the full subsidy."District Rural Development Officer Kota Janga Reddy stated that drones have already been sanctioned for six women, with Collector Valluru Kranthi actively coordinating with the Centre to secure subsidies for another 12 participants.Collector Valluru Kranthi expressed pride in the recognition, stating, "It is a proud moment for the district that the Prime Minister has appreciated the women of Sangareddy and referred to them as 'Drone Didis.

# Indiramma Housing Scheme: New Hope To Poor Families In Jangaon

**WARANGAL**  
WUT | May. 26

Nearly eight decades after Independence, many poor families are living in miserable conditions without proper shelter. The Indiramma Housing Scheme is giving them a new hope. The Congress government in Telangana launched the scheme on January 26, which is proving to be of immense help to many poor families in Jangaon district. The government is providing a financial assistance of `5 lakh to the beneficiaries, in four phases. They must build houses within an area of 400 to 500 square feet. The money is re-leased through a Green Channel System. The payment is split into parts -- `1 lakh after completion of basement, `1 lakh after construction of the walls, `2 lakh after laying the slab and `1 lakh upon



completion of the house. With directions from district collector Rizwan Basha Shaikh, the officials are implementing the scheme in one village from each mandal as a pilot project. The beneficiaries are chosen in a transparent manner from the village. Officials have identified 716 beneficiaries from the villages selected under pilot project from 12 mandals across the district. Collector Shaikh said that around 450 beneficiaries began construction of the Indiramma Houses in their villages by availing financial support from the government. In the first phase, the government deposited `1 lakh into the

bank accounts of the beneficiaries who completed the works up to basement level. Recently, the government deposited another 1 lakh into their bank accounts for completing the construction works of walls. Meanwhile, the beneficiaries thanked chief minister A Revanth Reddy and the Congress government and said their dream of owning a house would be fulfilled shortly. Chintakuntla Saritha of Kothapalli village in Lingala Ghanapuram mandal expressing her happiness said her family used to live in a hut. The present government sanctioned a house for her under the Indiramma scheme. Till date, it has sanctioned `2 lakh. Officials assured her that the remaining amount too would come to her in due course. Maloth Mohan, from Yerrakunta Thanda of Jangaon mandal said, "Our is a house

made of mud bricks. We used to face troubles during the rainy season. The Congress government has granted us the Indiramma House. We are happy and thankful." Mohan said the officials had sanctioned `2 lakh for him earlier for the completion of housing works up to walls. Now, they came and took pictures of the house with the completion of slab works and promised him that he would soon receive another cheque. "We are very grateful to chief minister Revanth Reddy," he said. Another beneficiary Panuganti Hema Latha of Kothapalli village in Lingala Ghanapuram mandal said his family used to live in a hut. The government sanctioned an Indiramma House and put `2 lakh into their bank account in two phases. "I am thankful to minister Ponugleti Srinivas Reddy for this," she said.

# Heavy Rush at Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad Amid Summer Holidays

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad, witnessed a massive footfall today with around 24,000 visitors thronging the zoo amid pleasant weather and summer holidays. Families, tourists, and wildlife enthusiasts flocked to the park, making it a preferred destination for a day outing. Anticipating the surge in visitors, the zoo management had made elaborate arrangements to ensure a smooth experience. Additional booking counters, increased deployment of security personnel, battery-operated vehicles, and drinking water facilities were set up across the premises.



Though there was some wait time due to the large crowd, the measures taken helped manage the rush efficiently. Dr. Sunil S. Hiremath, IFS, Director of Zoo Parks (TS), along with the staff, extended heartfelt thanks to all visitors for making Nehru Zoological Park their holiday choice. The zoo, which houses over 2,300 animals belonging to 194 species, is India's first to dis-

play animals in a zoological order using open enclosures that replicate natural habitats. To mark the occasion and raise awareness about wildlife conservation, the zoo organized special animal talks and reptile awareness programs. These events emphasized the need to protect animals and their habitats, highlighting the critical role of wildlife in maintain-

ing a healthy ecosystem. In alignment with the World Environment Day theme "End Plastic Pollution," the zoo also conducted campaigns to educate the public on reducing plastic use, encouraging visitors to join the effort in preserving the environment and supporting conservation efforts at the zoo.

# Government To Distribute 3-Month Free Rice In June For Monsoon

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

In a major relief measure ahead of the monsoon season, the state government, for the first time, has decided to distribute in advance free ration rice for three months -- June, July and August -- together in June itself. The government has directed all district collectors to ensure the three-month quota is supplied to all categories of ration cardholders through fair price shops in rural and urban areas across the state.

As a precautionary measure, the state government has taken the decision to optimise the storage, transportation and distribution capacities and to avoid potential delays in the free rice supply in the coming months, which are often disrupted by seasonal flooding and infrastructural challenges. The civil supplies department has issued orders for arrangements for the smooth supply of the advance distribution through FP shops to be completed between June 1 and June

30. From storage godowns to mandal level stock points and fair price shops, the rice will be supplied at 6 kg of rice per head. Usually, ration cardholders face difficulties to get the subsidy rice from ration shops by standing in long queues. During rainy season, poor and lower middle-class families experience inconvenience in procuring rice due to floods and seasonal challenges. To avoid all these problems, the Central government directed all the states to supply three months'

# Zaffer Khan Certified as MMA Referee and Judge by TAMMA



**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Syed Aijaz Ahmed, National Referee and Judge & TAMMA Board Member, along with Shaik Khalid, Indian MMA Team Coach & MMA India Board Director, and Shiva Ganesh, National Referee and Judge & TAMMA Board Member,

presented an official certificate to Zaffer Khan, recognizing him as a certified MMA Referee and Judge. The certification was awarded by the Telangana Association of Mixed Martial Arts (TAMMA) following the successful completion of training at Legend's MMA in Hyderabad.



Gaddam Prasad Kumar Speaker Telangana Legislative Assembly, Telangana State Haj Committee chairman Syed Gulam Afzal Biyabani, Sajjad Ali, Executive Officer of the Telangana State Haj Committee, Mohammed Mujeebuddin, Irfan Shareef Assistant Executive officer, Haj Committee flagging off the 25th Batch of 289 Indian Hajj pilgrims from the Hajj House, Nampally, Hyderabad on Sunday, to Rajiv Gandhi International Airport to Makkah.

# PM's Mann ki baat programme become Hassle free to the people: V. Sudhakara sharma



**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

PM Narendra Modi's 122nd Mann Ki Baat program was viewed on Sunday May 25 at the residence of BJP senior leader Shri Sudhakar Sharma in polling booth number 51 along with polling booth president Rahul and polling booth in-charges Ravikumar and Ramana. Bhanu Prakash Avwalkar BJP senior leaders were participated Shri sudha-

kar sharma said in his Media statement Modi ji explained excellently modern drone technology which is used by Sangareddy farmers. This technology Modi spread the across the world. Sudhakara sharma applauded the PM this Mann ki baat programme utilise the people ease of doing and harnessing the task, and also said that hassle free things are going with this programme sudhakara sharma added.



Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin, along with the local corporator, led a Human Chain protest from Tolichowki to Nalla Nagar in Hyderabad, opposing the Waqf Amendment Act, 2025, as per the AIMPLB's call.

# 'Neera Cafe' Tenders Should Be Cancelled: Former Minister V. Srinivas Goud

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Former Minister V. Srinivas Goud has strongly criticized the Congress government's decision to hand over Neera Cafe projects to private individuals, calling for immediate cancellation of the tenders. He demanded that these cafes and associated assets be operated through the State Kallu Geetha Corporation instead, as originally intended. Goud, accompanied by former Bhuvanagiri MLA Paylla Sekhar Reddy and the former Chairman of the Kallu Geetha Corporation, visited the Neera Production Centre at Nandanam in Yadadri district, which was established with a budget of Rs 7 crore. The facility and Neera Cafes were developed during the previous administration to



uplift the Kallu Geetha workers and Goud community. He expressed concern that although the Nandanam Centre was fully equipped and completed, it remained non-operational for over a year due to the Congress government's inaction, allegedly citing the election code. The group alleged that machinery is rusting due to neglect and urged the Excise Minister to visit the center and ensure it begins operations by June 2. The leaders also demanded

that the Congress government fulfill its election manifesto promises, including providing safety gear for every Geetha worker, increasing the reservation for Gouds in wine shop licenses from 15% to 25%, and renaming Jangaon district after Sarvai Papanna. Several leaders participated in the visit, including BRS Bhuvanagiri Mandal President, Sarpanch Forum President, local leaders, and former municipal representatives.

# Dermatologists Raise Red Flag Over Quackery in Skin and Hair Treatment

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Dermatologists are sounding the alarm over the growing presence of unqualified individuals offering treatments for skin, hair, and aesthetic issues. These practices -- often carried out under the misleading banner of "cosmetology" -- are not only illegal but potentially harmful, with doctors warning of delayed diagnoses, resistant infections, and permanent skin damage. The concern spans a wide range of issues: acne, pigmentation, hair loss, fungal infections, and even advanced procedures like fillers and



laser treatments -- all being handled by individuals without medical degrees or formal dermatology training. Practitioners from alternative systems of medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, or those without any health science background are advertising these services, primarily through social media. "Even acne could be skin tuberculosis, and hair fall may indicate thyroid

or autoimmune issues," said Dr Rajetha Damisetty, a dermatologist. She added that people are walking into parlours and clinics run by individuals who've never studied human pathology, and that's deeply dangerous. Dr Damisetty also flagged the rampant misuse of steroid creams by such practitioners, particularly in treating fungal infections. "What seems like a quick-fix cream for a rash may actually be fuelling a larger epidemic. Resistant tinea infections are now being seen across India because steroids are handed out without medical oversight," she explained.

# GHMC Class IV Employees Demand Immediate Promotions, Cancel Ramki Agreement

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Thousands of eligible Class IV employees in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), who provide essential services to the state's largest population, have been waiting for promotions for years. Adil Sharif, Working President of the INTUC-recognized Municipal Sahakhar Mazdoor Union, has urgently requested immediate promotions based on seniority. On

Sunday, he met Government Advisor Vem Narendra Reddy and submitted a detailed memorandum highlighting this and other pressing issues. Adil Sharif pointed out that employees in categories such as Class IV, Public Health Workers, Office Subordinates, and Assistant Municipal Commissioners have been stuck without promotions for a long time, depriving them of rightful benefits. Many workers have been stationed in the same posts for years without trans-



fers, which has affected morale. Additionally, he raised concerns over GHMC's current financial crisis, which is delaying retirement benefits,

forcing employees nearing retirement to struggle with health problems and the cost of medicines. He also demanded the immediate cancellation of the Ramki agreement, which he claims is financially draining GHMC. Signed by the erstwhile United Andhra government in 2011, the agreement no longer has relevant work in Telangana. According to Sharif, GHMC is paying bills to this contractor while relying on missionary staff and manpower to do the

actual work. He further alleged that some employees responsible for safeguarding GHMC's assets and funds have become stooges of Ramki, abusing their authority. Joining Adil Sharif in the meeting were INTUC General Secretary R. D. Chandrasekhar, M. Raj Reddy, and other union representatives. They urged the government to address these long-pending issues promptly to restore employee welfare and protect GHMC's financial health.

## Chief Of Defence Staff's 'Strategic Review' Of Army's Combat Readiness

**New delhi**  
WUT | May. 25

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan on Sunday carried out a strategic review of the Indian Army's combat readiness at the force's northern and western theatres following the Operation Sindoor.

In separate visits to the two crucial commands that played a major role during the operation, Gen Chauhan commended the overall synergy and timely accomplishment of tasks under challenging conditions.

The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), while conducting a strategic review and operational assessment, emphasised the importance of continued vigilance, jointness and synergy across the services to address "evolving threats", according to the

Army.

The top military official also exhorted the two commands to render a helping hand in rehabilitation of the civilians targeted by the "adversary".

At the northern command's headquarters in Udhampur in Jammu and Kashmir, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lt Gen Pratik Sharma briefed Gen Chauhan on operational preparedness as well as efforts to eradicate terrorism in the Union territory, the Army said.

"At Udhampur, the Chief of Defence Staff was briefed on the success of the Northern Army in neutralising the terror network, adversary's assets that supported terror and counter measures taken to protect own military assets and civil population during Operation Sindoor," it said.

## BJP MP Apologises For 'Women In Pahalgam' Remark, Says It Was "Distorted"

**New delhi**  
WUT | May. 26

BJP Rajya Sabha MP Ram Chander Jangra on Sunday claimed his remarks on the Pahalgam terror victims were "distorted" for political motives, and he had no intention of insulting anyone, as the opposition parties demanded his sacking.

"I do not treat women of my country weak in any manner... We stand with the women who lost their husbands in the Pahalgam attack, we stand with those families... Still, if I have hurt anyone's feelings, I have no hesitation in apologising," he said in a video message.

Mr Jangra's remarks that the tourists in Pahalgam should have put up a fight against the terrorists and the women, who lost their husbands in the attack, should have acted like

'veerangna' (warrior women) has sparked an uproar, with the Congress, TMC and SP accusing the BJP of being insensitive and "anti-women".

BJP leader and Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar termed Mr Jangra's remarks on Pahalgam tourists "wrong" and said the matter should be closed now as he has expressed regret for any hurt caused.

Asked about Mr Jangra's comments, Mr Khattar told reporters in Karnal that it does not reflect the party's stance.

"He (Mr Jangra) presented the remarks in the wrong context. Sisters lost their husbands in the incident, to say this about them is wrong and inappropriate," said Mr Khattar.

Mr Khattar, a former Haryana chief minister, said Mr Jangra had expressed regret for any hurt caused by his remarks.

# Share Best Practices, Empower All, Speak Responsibly: PM to NDA States

**New delhi**  
WUT | May. 26

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday called on NDA-ruled states to adopt and integrate the best governance practices from each other, underscoring this collaborative approach as a crucial step toward achieving the vision of a “Viksit Bharat” (Developed India).

Speaking at the day-long NDA Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers conclave held in the national capital, Mr. Modi emphasized the importance of inclusive policymaking and coordinated development across states as the alliance prepares to mark the first anniversary of its third consecutive term next month.

In line with this vision, the NDA is expected to establish a dedicated committee to study and implement these exemplary governance models across member states.

The conclave saw unanimous adoption of two significant resolutions — one praising the success of Operation Sindoor and another endorsing caste enumeration as a vital step toward mainstreaming marginalized communities.

Highlighting the achievements of Operation Sindoor, the Prime Minister described the operation as a powerful affirmation of India's growing self-reliance and the sophistication of its indigenous defense technologies.

The resolution on Operation Sindoor, proposed by Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and seconded by Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, commended the bravery of the Indian Armed Forces and lauded Mr. Modi's strong leadership in combating terrorism and safeguarding national security.

Addressing the issue of caste enumeration, PM Modi underscored its role as a necessary measure to identify and include communities that have been historically left behind in the development process.

The resolution on the caste census, moved by Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, reinforced the NDA's commitment to inclusive growth and equitable policymaking.

BJP President J.P. Nadda clarified that the alliance does not engage in caste-based politics but views caste enumeration as a tool to design targeted welfare programs and foster social development.

He also noted that the Bihar government, led by JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar, had pioneered caste enumeration efforts within NDA-ruled states.

The conclave

paid homage to those who lost their lives in the terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22, reaffirming the alliance's resolve against terrorism.

Several Chief Ministers presented their states' best governance initiatives, highlighting innovations in diverse sectors such as water conservation, education, grievance redressal, women's empowerment, and sports.

Notable presentations included Bihar's Jal Jeevan Hariyali Abhiyaan, Assam's campaign against child marriage, the Bastar Olympics in Chhattisgarh's Maoist-affected Bastar region, Gujarat's expansive solar power program, and Meghalaya's accountable governance schemes.

Uttarakhand's Chief Minister also delivered a presentation on the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code.

Shar- ing his reflections post-conclave, PM Modi posted on X: “Participated in the NDA chief ministers’ conclave in Delhi. We had extensive deliberations about various issues. Various states showcased their best practices in diverse areas, including education, healthcare, youth empowerment, and technology. I emphasized the need to accelerate development and ensure that the benefits of a double-engine government reach all citizens effectively.”

The meeting was attended by 20 Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers from NDA-ruled states, along with BJP National President J.P. Nadda, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, and other senior leaders.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah also briefed the gathering on ongoing government efforts to combat Left-wing extremism, particularly in the Maoist-affected Red Corridor.

In historical context, Mr. Nadda announced that the NDA would observe June 25 — marking the 50th anniversary of the Emergency imposed in 1975 — as Loktantra Hatya Diwas (Day Democracy Was Killed).

The alliance plans to raise public awareness about the threats to democracy during that period.

Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who was unable to attend the conclave due to prior commitments, shared on X that the state has launched month-long yoga sessions at 100 tourist destinations ahead of International Yoga Day on June 21.

Prime Minister Modi is scheduled to participate in the Yoga Day event in Visakhapatnam.

## India Sends Strong Anti-Terror Message to Qatar Amid Pahalgam Attack Fallout

**New delhi**  
WUT | May. 26

A high-level all-party parliamentary delegation from India, led by NCP-SP leader Supriya Sule, met with Dr Hamda Al Sulaiti, Deputy Speaker of Qatar's Shura Council, and other Qatari MPs on Sunday to convey India's united outrage over the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives.

The delegation, which includes representatives from major Indian political parties, underscored that the visit represents India's unified stance against cross-border terrorism.

The Indian Embassy in Qatar stated on social media that Qatar reaffirmed its zero-tolerance policy against terrorism and emphasized that such acts must be globally condemned.

The visit is part of India's diplomatic outreach to the international community to highlight the threat of terrorism and the significance of Operation Sindoor—India's precision strikes on terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir following the Pahalgam attack.

Prior to the meeting, the delegation paid floral tributes at the bust of Mahatma Gandhi at the Indian Embassy in Doha.

Alongside Sule, the delegation includes BJP leaders Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Anurag Thakur, and V Muraleedharan; Congress leaders Manish Tewari and Anand Sharma; TDP MP Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu; AAP leader Vikramjeet Singh Sawhney; and former diplomat Syed Akbaruddin.

India's Ambassador to Qatar, Vipul, welcomed the delegation, which is one of seven multi-party groups visiting 33 world capitals to expose Pakistan's links to terrorism and clarify that the recent conflict was triggered by the Pahalgam attack, not Operation Sindoor, as claimed by Islamabad.

Following the Qatar visit, the delegation will travel to South Africa—current G20 President—Ethiopia, home of the African Union, and Egypt, a key player in the Arab world.

Tensions between India and Pakistan had escalated following the Pahalgam attack, with both sides engaging in military actions until a ceasefire agreement was reached on May 10.

## 'Why Are They Dying Only in Kota': SC Grills Rajasthan Over Surge in Student Suicides

**New delhi**  
WUT | May. 26

The Supreme Court on Friday expressed serious concern over the rising number of student suicides in Kota, Rajasthan, calling the situation "grave."

A bench comprising Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan noted that 14 suicide cases had been reported from Kota so far this year alone.

"What are you doing as a state? Why are these children dying by suicide, and only in Kota? Have you not given this any thought?" Justice Pardiwala asked the counsel representing the Rajasthan government.

The state's counsel informed the bench that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) had been constituted to probe the rising number of suicides.

The hearing also involved a separate case concerning the death of a 22-year-old IIT Kharagpur student, who was found hanging in his hostel room on May 4.

The court was displeased to learn that the FIR in the IIT Kharagpur case was not registered until May 8—four days after the incident.

"Don't take these things lightly. These are very serious matters," the bench warned.

The Supreme Court referred to its March 24 judgment, which addressed the growing mental health crisis among students and mandated the formation of a national task force to

## Karnataka Assembly Speaker Revokes Suspension Of 18 BJP Legislators

**New delhi**  
WUT | May. 26

More than two months after 18 BJP MLAs were suspended from the Karnataka Legislative Assembly for six months, Speaker U T Khader on Sunday said their suspension has been revoked.

The decision was announced by Mr Khader after a meeting with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, Leader of Opposition R Ashoka, and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil.

In an unprecedented move, 18 BJP MLAs were suspended for six months from the assembly on March 21 for showing "indiscipline" and "disrespecting" the Speaker, and were forcefully evicted from the House by the marshals as they refused to leave.

Mr Khader said, "Though I proposed the suspension, the House gave its approval through a resolution. So, today the leader of the House and Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, Law Minister and Leader of the Opposition discussed with me. It has been decided to revoke the suspension and the conditions that were specified, and to allow them to function as legislators."

Speaking to reporters, he said, "The suspension has been revoked happily. There are no conditions. Those legislators are our friends and not enemies, the incident had happened in a fit of the moment. To ensure that such incidents don't repeat, I too had to take strict action."

He further said the legislators realised their mistake and they also had the understanding that they may not be able to attend legislative committee meetings and official tours.

He said in his capacity as the Speaker, it is his duty to protect the respect of MLAs.

"I'm confident that they will not repeat such a behaviour. With that faith in them, I have revoked the suspension," he said, adding the decision will be ratified by the House during the next session.

The incident leading to suspension had occurred on the last day of the assembly's budget session; following the massive protest by BJP MLAs against 4 per cent reservation to Muslims in public contracts and demanding a judicial probe into alleged "honey-trap" attempt against Cooperation Minister K N Rajanna.

During the protest inside the assembly that day, some BJP legislators climbed onto the podium and surrounded the Speaker's chair; few MLAs hurled papers at the Speaker and marshals had to forcefully evict the BJP MLAs.

# BJP to Pull the Plug on Rajasthan CM

**New delhi**  
WUT | May. 26

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is facing growing internal unrest in Rajasthan, with Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma increasingly under fire from both party insiders and public critics.

Amid a broader leadership crisis within the party—especially the ongoing tug-of-war over the selection of BJP's next national president—serious deliberations are now underway to remove Sharma and install a more experienced and assertive leader in the state.

According to highly placed sources within the party, the central leadership has been closely monitoring the situation in Rajasthan and is reportedly “far from satisfied” with Sharma's performance.

Though the next Assembly elections are scheduled for 2028, the BJP seems unwilling to wait until the electoral calendar forces its hand.

Backchannel conversations with senior state leaders have already begun, with the party actively considering a change in leadership to revive its waning popularity and strengthen its organisational structure.

The key issue that has triggered discontent is the alleged failure of the state government to deliver on essential public services—particularly the severe drinking water crisis that has gripped large parts of the desert state during the peak summer season.

Infrastructure concerns such as road maintenance, electricity supply, and reports of mismanagement in government hospitals have further fueled public dissatisfaction.

Tensions came to the fore when former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje launched a public attack on Sharma's administration.

In a strongly-worded post on social media, Raje questioned the indifference of government officials amid the worsening water crisis, stating: "Do only the officers feel thirsty? Does the public not feel the same? While the people suffer in this scorching summer due to lack of water, the officers appear indifferent. Water should reach the lips of the

people, not remain confined to paper. The officers are asleep while the public cries. I will not let this continue."

Raje's statement marked the first open challenge to Sharma's leadership from a prominent party stalwart and has emboldened other dissenting voices within the state unit.

Following her remarks, Sharma reportedly instructed officials to fast-track pending water infrastructure projects, but critics argue that the move was “too little, too late.”

Moreover, dissatisfaction is not limited to Raje's camp.

Several local BJP leaders have alleged that the state government is being run entirely by bureaucrats and that party functionaries are being ignored.

According to insiders, even the state police have been accused of not responding to the concerns of local BJP leaders, undermining the party's grassroots machinery.

Adding to Sharma's troubles is his political inexperience.

As a first-time MLA, many within the party feel he lacks the assertiveness and political maturity required to lead a complex state like Rajasthan.

This has led to increasing murmurs that public sentiment is shifting rapidly, with some sections of the electorate already beginning to view the previous Congress-led Ashok Gehlot government more favourably in comparison.

A senior BJP leader from Rajasthan, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, “People are saying that the previous Gehlot government was better than this. That's a very dangerous perception to take root just months into our tenure.”

The stakes for the BJP are high.

With the 2029 general elections drawing closer, the central leadership is wary of allowing any state-level setbacks that could impact its national prospects.

Rajasthan, with its 25 Lok Sabha seats, is a key battleground, and a weak state government could jeopardise the party's chances in both Assembly and parliamentary polls.

While the search for a replacement has begun in earnest, sources say the central leadership is unlikely to bring back Vasundhara Raje as Chief Minister.

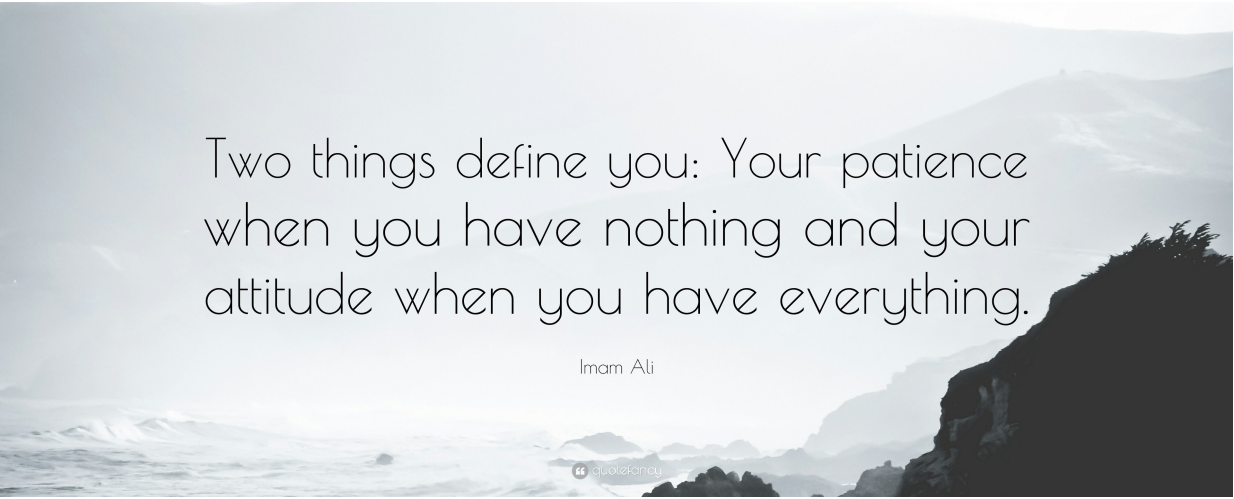
Instead, the party is looking for a fresh, experienced face—someone capable of taking decisive action, commanding respect within the party ranks, and reconnecting with the electorate.

Party insiders caution that the central leadership is still divided on whether to immediately replace Sharma or issue a symbolic warning and give him time to course-correct.

However, the urgency of the situation and the escalating internal criticism make it increasingly likely that a leadership change could be on the cards sooner rather than later.

Simultaneously, similar unrest is reportedly brewing in at least one other BJP-ruled hill state, where the Chief Minister's position has also come under question.

With pressure mounting in multiple regions, the BJP leadership is expected to take a decisive call in the coming weeks to ensure stability and electoral preparedness



Two things define you: Your patience when you have nothing and your attitude when you have everything.

Imam Ali

EDITORIAL

BAIL WELCOME; WHY REBUKE PROF?

Hyderabad WUT | May. 26

The Supreme Court granting interim bail to Ashoka University assistant professor Ali Khan Mahmudabad, arrested for expressing his opinion about Operation Sindoor, may have come as a relief for him, but the conditions and references the court has made trigger a feeling of foreboding regarding the shrinking space for free speech in the country. In contrast, the suo motu intervention of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in the case directing the Haryana state police chief to submit a detailed report on his arrest is to be welcomed. A plain reading of the Facebook post Prof Mahmudabad wrote

would convince anyone that he was attempting to expose the fakery of the right wing's celebration of an Army officer while indulging in lynching of individual citizens and resorting to bulldozer raj. What followed was, however, akin to the developments that can happen only in a banana republic: He was arrested and remanded in judicial custody for 14 days based on a petition of a statutory body. From the lower court to the highest, the judiciary failed to uphold the right to freedom of speech and expression, guaranteed under Article 19 of the Constitution. Worse, the apex court admonished the academic for the timing of his remarks calling them "dog whistling"

and an attempt to get "cheap publicity". It has barred him from talking about Operation Sindoor, an action of the Government of India, too. This is highly regrettable. The mandates of Article 19 have no constraints of timing or subject save pertaining to those mentioned in the Constitution itself. As the NHRC rightly pointed out, the arrest and incarceration of a citizen for expressing his opinion was, prima facie, a violation of his human rights and liberty. It is bit unnerving that the ultra-nationalism whipped up by a section of the people can put a question mark on democratic rights such as life, liberty and free speech. Courts exist to protect those sacred rights.



Dear Reader  
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Please mention your name, addresses and email id. You can also share photographs or videos about the issue.  
The Editor



Coop Bank manager Wins Back Wages

Justice Namavarku Rajeshwar Rao of the Telangana High Court directed the payment of back wages to an accountant and bank manager of the Karimnagar Cooperative Urban Bank. The judge allowed a writ plea filed by A. Rajaram Reddy, chief executive officer (CEO) of the bank. Several allegations were made against him, as a result of which 16 charges were framed. Upon inquiry, 12 out of the 16 charges were held to be proved against the petitioner by the enquiry officer in June 2011, and the petitioner was dismissed from service. The High Court had earlier held that the punishment of dismissal from service imposed on the petitioner was unfair and directed the bank to reconsider the punishment. Upon reinstatement, the petitioner was demoted to a lower grade in service and was reinstated as an accountant/branch manager. The respondents treated the petitioner's period of dismissal from service — from 13.06.2011 to the date of joining as accountant/branch manager (i.e., 02.02.2024) — as "dies-non," and no salary/remuneration for that period was paid. This decision came under challenge in the present writ petition. The petitioner stated that he was compelled to give an undertaking in writing that he would not claim any salary or service benefits from June 2011 to February 2024. He contended that he had suffered punishment through the demotion from CEO to accountant/branch manager, and that the respondents ought not to have imposed an additional punishment by denying back wages. The court found that the petitioner, being a physically challenged person, was unlikely to find other employment and was compelled to accept the lower designation. When he insisted on salary, the respondent authorities obtained an undertaking from him under duress that he would not claim any salary or service benefits for the period. Allowing the writ petition, the judge held that while the petitioner was not entitled to full back wages, he was entitled to 50 per cent of the salary for the period in question.

Online Job Racket: Four Arrested for Duping Woman Of ₹8,75,148 In Hyd

Hyderabad WUT | May. 25

The city cybercrime police busted an online job fraud racket and arrested four people for cheating a woman of ₹8,75,148 through a fake work-from-home offer. The accused lured the victim under the name of a reputed company. The arrested persons were identified as Manoj Diwakar, Nagiri Vijay and Sanapathi Kishore Babu from Hyderabad, and Thirunagari Santosh Kumar from Rangareddy district.



They operated bank accounts, cards, and payment devices to launder the victim's money. The victim received a message on Telegram on January 2, 2025, from a person claiming to represent a marketing company, using a fake website. She was given a

trial task of hotel bookings and promised daily income of ₹17,000 to ₹18,000. She received small returns initially, which built her trust. Later, she was told to pay large sums for high-value bookings and a security deposit. The fraudsters eventually convinced her to deposit a security amount of ₹7.91 lakh to release an alleged earning of ₹15.82 lakh but she never received the money. A case was registered on January 15 under the IT Act and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

The accused used fake websites and Telegram groups, promised high earnings, allowed small withdrawals to gain trust, and created fake "minus balances" to force more payments. Police seized 4 phones, 8 debit cards, 7 bank passbooks, 7 cheque books, a tablet, and a swiping machine. Police asked the public to avoid job offers through search engine ads or unknown websites and to report any cyber fraud to 1930 or visit cybercrime website.

Shifting school in Saidabad: DEO inaction challenged

Hyderabad WUT | May. 26

Justice J. Sreenivas Rao of the Telangana High Court, while presiding over a vacation bench, has taken on file a writ petition filed by the VIP Educational Society, which runs a private school in Saidabad. The society approached the court seeking intervention against the inaction of state education authorities regarding its request to shift a portion of its school premises and obtain the necessary approvals. According to the petitioners, the school had submitted applications on February 10 and May 3, requesting permission to shift Classes

VI to X to a new premises located within 200 metres of the original location. The school management also sought permission to continue operating Classes I to V from their existing location in Shareef Tower, Saidabad. The relocation of the upper classes, the society explained, was necessitated due to a dispute with the landowner of the original premises, which made it untenable to continue full operations from that site. Despite complying with the procedural requirements, including applying for permission to shift and for Essential Temporary Recognition (ETR) at the new location, the petitioners contended

that the authorities had failed to process or act upon their representations. The school also informed the court that it had duly applied for the renewal of its licence for the next ten years, thereby demonstrating its commitment to compliance with the educational regulations and long-term continuity of operations. Justice Rao, upon hearing the submissions, noted the grievances of the school management and directed the concerned authorities — particularly the District Education Officer (DEO) — to take the petitioner's representations into consideration. The court instructed the respondents to examine the

matter and take appropriate action in accordance with law, thereby ensuring that procedural lapses do not unfairly hinder the institution's functioning or the education of its students. The order is expected to bring some relief to the school, which has been facing uncertainty due to the lack of official response despite fulfilling its statutory obligations. The court's direction underscores the importance of timely and lawful consideration of applications by educational authorities, especially in matters that directly affect the academic continuity of students.

Habeas corpus plea questioned

Hyderabad WUT | May. 26

A two-judge vacation panel of the Telangana High Court questioned the maintainability of a habeas corpus petition filed by a woman seeking production of her missing father, who was last known to have travelled to Kerala for work. The panel of Justice P. Sam Koshy and Justice Narsing Rao Nandikonda was hearing a writ plea filed by Kollati Sai Hanisha, who alleged that her father, Seshagiri Rao, had been missing since May and that the respondent authorities had failed to act effectively on her complaint. The petitioner would contend that a police complaint was filed at Chilkalguda police station

but no steps were taken by the authorities to trace her father. On instructions, the state submitted that the missing person was believed to be in Kerala, and since the local police had no jurisdiction in the matter, the complaint was closed. It was argued that a writ of habeas corpus was not maintainable in the case of missing persons and that such pleas were governed by settled law of the Supreme Court, which held that habeas corpus applies only in cases of illegal custody or confinement. The panel questioned how a habeas corpus plea could be sustained in the absence of any allegation of illegal detention and observed that the appropriate remedy for the petitioner

Man held for bike theft in Hyderabad, five vehicles recovered

Hyderabad WUT | May. 26

A man was arrested for bike theft in Hyderabad on Friday, May 23. Five vehicles were recovered from the accused. The accused was identified as 47-year-old Vartiya Gopal, a decoration worker employed at the Gudimalkapur flower market. On May 23 the Langer Houz police received a complaint from a victim, Khaja regarding bike theft. In his complaint, Khaja said that on May 5 he parked his bike at Ramalayam Ground, Langer Houz and went to Moinabad for work. As he

returned the following day, Khaja noticed his bike was missing. The complaint was filed late as he was busy with work. Based on Khaja's complaint, the Langer Houz police registered a case under section 303(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). On Friday, when SI Raghavendra was patrolling near Bapughat, close to the Ramalayam Temple, they noticed a person moving suspiciously. When they questioned him, he tried to escape from the spot. However, he was caught at a short distance and brought to the police station. Upon interrogation, Gopal

# Cannes Film Festival: Alia Bhatt wears Gucci saree at closing ceremony

Hyderabad  
WUT | May. 26

Bollywood star Alia Bhatt turned heads at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival's red carpet, attending the movie gala's closing ceremony in a saree by global fashion brand Gucci. The 2025 edition of the film festival came to a close on Saturday evening and saw the participation of several international celebrities, including Jane Fonda, Viola Davis, Elle Fanning, jury head Juliette Binoche and Cate Blanche



chett. Alia, who made her second appearance at the Cannes red carpet, shared her photos on Instagram. "Happy,

sunny day at #Cannes2025 @loreal-paris @gucci," the actor, who is Gucci's global brand ambassador, wrote in the caption. The saree, touted to be the first-ever from the fashion label, was a modern, high-fashion take on traditional Indian attire. Made from sheer fabric, it features a reticulate pattern with silver sequins and Swarovski crystals throughout. The blouse was a minimal bralette style, complementing the heavily

embellished saree. Earlier on Saturday, Alia wore another outfit by Gucci. She wore a bright yellow custom-made three-piece crepe wool skirt suit. Alia made her Cannes red carpet debut on Friday, wearing an off-shoulder fishtail gown from Schiaparelli haute couture. The actor is also the global ambassador for beauty brand L'Oreal Paris, which is celebrating its 28th anniversary at the gala.

Kareena Kapoor pens a heartfelt birthday wish for her 'incredible friend and brother' Karan Johar



Mumbai  
WUT | May. 26

In a heartwarming gesture, Kareena Kapoor Khan took to social media to wish her close friend and filmmaker Karan Johar on his birthday, calling him her 'incredible friend and brother.' On Sunday, Bebo took to her Instagram stories and shared a collage featuring their candid photos. Alongside it, the actress penned a heartfelt note that read, "There is only one and there will only ever be one...my kjo Happy birthday to my incredible friend and brother @karanjohar," followed by red heart emojis. The collage features Kareena and Karan smiling and posing together, offering a glimpse into their cherished friendship that has stood the test of time over the years. The two share a great bond of friendship and have also collaborated on several films over the years, including 'Good Newwz,' 'Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham...', 'Gori Tere Pyaar Mein,'

'Bombay Talkies,' 'Ek Main Aur Ekk Tu', 'We Are Family,' and 'Kurbaan.' While Kareena Kapoor and Karan Johar are now known for their close friendship, few may be aware that their bond wasn't always this strong. The duo once went through a rough patch that resulted in a nine-month-long silence between them. Karan revisited this chapter on his talk show, sharing insights into their fallout and how they managed to rebuild their relationship over time. The ace filmmaker had also opened up about this chapter of his friendship with Kareena in his autobiography 'An Unsuitable Boy.' In the book, he shared that he had initially offered her the role of Naina Catherine Kapur in Kal Ho Naa Ho—a part that eventually went to Preity Zinta. Karan Johar wrote, "My first problem was with Kareena. She asked for too much money, and we had some kind of fallout at that time."

# Jennifer Lopez is proud the way her career has shaped up

Hyderabad  
WUT | May. 26

Singer-actress Jennifer Lopez is looking back at her illustrious career and feels extremely "proud" of the same. The 55-year-old star, who has enjoyed huge success in the music and film industries, has been reflecting on her career ahead of hosting the American Music Awards, reports 'Female First UK'. Jennifer told 'People' magazine, "Everything feels like I just did it. I remember the moments. I remember getting dressed for them. I remember

things people said when we were walking to the stage afterwards". "So it's all these amazing core memories of my life that when you look back on them, I don't know that I get emotional, but I get like, 'Wow'. Happy. I've been doing this and I'm proud of that". As per 'Female First UK', Jennifer recently sat down to watch some of her old performances, and the chart-topping star was struck by how much she's developed as an artist. The 'Jenny from the Block' hitmaker is also relishing the challenge of hosting the American Music



Awards. She said, "We were just looking at it to see the progression of the stuff that we've done. I don't know, it's just a very im-

portant part of my musical career and life. It was created as an answer, kind of, to the Grammys, which was voted by an academy, and this was really about the fans. And I think that's what makes it special, is that the fans vote for these awards and tell you, 'This is music we love from the year.' Jennifer previously insisted that she doesn't judge herself by commercial success. The singer explained that she isn't worried at all by her critics. Speaking to IndieWire, Jennifer explained, "There's going to be things that are huge commercial successes, and there's going to

be things that are super critically acclaimed, and then there's going to be mixed things, and then there are going to be things that people don't like. But at the end of the day, none of that matters as an artist". "What matters is that you put out something truthful into the world that you felt compelled to do, and it has that intention behind it. And for that, to me, it's already a success. And it's only reinforced when people come up to you and tell you that it's changed their life in some way or it affected their life in some way", she added.

# BUSSINESS

## Kamiliant's Toughest Test Yet: Built to Last, Ready for Anything!

Hyderabad  
WUT | May. 26

Kamiliant, known for its durable and stylish luggage since 2014, has launched its latest campaign showcasing unmatched toughness. Following the success of its first TVC featuring an explosion test, the new ad stars Bollywood action hero Tiger Shroff and versatile actor Nikita Dutta in a dramatic yet humorous battle scene inspired by Indian period films.



In this action-packed commercial, Tiger Shroff plays a fearless warrior wielding a flaming mace, while Nikita defends using a Kamiliant briefcase as a shield. Despite flying arrows and burning cannonballs attacking the luggage, it remains completely unscathed, proving its ruggedness in extreme conditions. The TVC ends with the tagline, "Naam Hai Kamiliant, Kaam Hai Toughness!" Anushree Tainwala, Executive Director –

Marketing, Samsonite South Asia, explained that the campaign uses Bollywood-style storytelling to highlight Kamiliant's strength and resilience, appealing to modern travelers who need reliable luggage for any adventure. Praatek Bharadwaj, Chief Creative Officer at Lowe Lintas, added that the playful, cinematic approach makes Kamiliant the unexpected hero in entertaining ways. Expanding beyond TV,

the campaign will feature digital spoofs and content from popular influencers like Urvashi Dholakia, Raghu-Rajeev, JordIndian, and Mithila Dwivedi, bringing humor and engaging storytelling to social media. Kamiliant's message of toughness and durability will be broadcast across television, digital platforms, outdoor media, and social channels, reaching travel enthusiasts nationwide.

## Blue Ocean: Your One-Stop Destination for Global Education and Overseas Employment

Hyderabad  
WUT | May. 26

Blue Ocean, a premier institution dedicated to facilitating global education and overseas employment, recently hosted an event at their office near Botanical Garden, R.D. Road, Kondapur. The event was addressed by CEO Mr. Mohammad Moinuddin, who spoke to students and professionals eager to explore opportunities abroad. Mr. Moinuddin highlighted that Blue Ocean is more than just a coaching center; it offers comprehensive support for study visas, visit visas, and university admissions across various countries, including the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland,



Canada, and Europe. The institution also provides skill training and assists with job placements in multiple international destinations. "The core mission of Blue Ocean is to help students pursue higher education overseas and, wherever possible, assist them in securing employment," Mr. Moinuddin stated, underlining the vision behind the foundation of the institution.

The event saw the presence of prominent senior Congress leader Chand Pasha, along with Mohammad Asad Ali, Mohammad Shaukat Hussain, Tripti Akula, Harinath Singh, Anita Didi, and Artika Shaukat. Guests were warmly welcomed by Alam Moinuddin, Haris Moinuddin, and Ayaanuddin, who greeted them with shawls and floral tributes.

## Continental Tires Opens Flagship Premium Store in Karimnagar

Karimnagar  
WUT | May. 26

Continental Tires, a leading premium tyre manufacturer, has inaugurated its latest Continental Premium Drive (CPD) store in Karimnagar, Telangana, marking its 10th CPD outlet in the region. This new flagship store strengthens Continental's presence in Southern India and highlights its commitment to offering top-tier tyre solutions to automotive customers. Spanning 1,900 square feet, the Karimnagar dealership features state-of-the-art facilities and provides a comprehensive range of services in-



cluding wheel alignment, balancing, tyre changing, and nitrogen filling. The new CPD store will enable customers in the city and surrounding areas to access Continental's premium products along with expert after-sales support under one roof. Samir Gupta, Managing Director – India and Head of Central Region Asia-Pacific at Continental Tires, emphasized the company's growth strategy in India, saying, "India remains a crucial

market for Continental Tires. Expanding our retail network aligns with our 'In the Market, For the Market' approach, helping us deliver superior products and a seamless experience to customers nationwide." He added that the southern market holds strategic importance and that more CPD stores are planned in the near future to further boost the brand's presence. Baddam Srinivas Reddy, owner of 4 Wheelz and Tyres, expressed enthusiasm about the new partnership, noting the opportunity to provide high-quality tyre solutions and build stronger customer relationships

through the collaboration with Continental. Continental Tires operates over 200 CPD stores across India, focusing on innovative products and services that ensure safer, smarter, and more sustainable mobility. Established in 1871, Continental is a global technology leader in tyre manufacturing, with a 2024 revenue of €39.7 billion and a workforce of around 190,000 people worldwide. The company's Tires group specializes in premium tyres for various vehicles and connected mobility solutions, operating 20 production and 16 development centers globally.

## India, Maldives to review implementation of economic, maritime security partnership on May 26

New delhi  
WUT | May. 26

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Maldivian counterpart Abdulla Khaled will on Monday take stock of the implementation of the India-Maldives comprehensive economic and maritime security partnership. Khaled, accompanied by a high-level delegation, is paying a three-day visit to India beginning Sunday evening. It is his third trip to India this year. The India-Maldives vision document on comprehensive economic and

maritime security partnership was adopted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu in October last year. Foreign Minister Khaled's visit is in continuation of "intensified high-level political exchanges" between India and Maldives, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, announcing his trip. It said Khaled will lead Maldives at the second High Level Core Group (HLCG) meeting to oversee progress in the implementation of the India-Maldives vision doc-

ument on comprehensive economic and maritime security partnership. Foreign Minister Khaled will also hold bilateral discussions with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, it said. "Maldives is India's key maritime neighbour and an important partner in India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and vision MAHASAGAR that is Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions," the MEA said in a statement.

CITY CLICKS

Sisters Set Sixth Consecutive World Record in Karate on Telangana Formation Day



In a remarkable display of skill and dedication, sisters G. Amrutha Reddy and G. Gana Santhoshini Reddy have once again made history by setting their sixth consecutive world record in karate, marking the Telangana Formation Day celebrations in 2025.

The record-breaking feat took place at a special event organized by the GVR Karate Academy in Narayanaguda. The duo performed an astonishing 121 self-defense techniques spanning 11 categories in just 9 minutes and 36 seconds, surpassing their original goal of completing the challenge within 11 minutes.

This achievement earned them official recognition from both the Wonder Book of Records and the Limca Book of Records, further solidifying their legacy. Since 2015, the sisters have been setting new records every alternate year on Telangana Formation Day, making this latest accomplishment their sixth.

The event saw certificates awarded by Bingi Narendra Goud, representing the Wonder Book of Records, and Lions Vijayalakshmi, representing the Limca Book of Records. Several dignitaries and guests were present to congratulate the sisters, including Himayatnagar Corporator Mahalaxmi Ramanna Goud, Kachiguda Corporator Kanney Uma Ramesh Yadav, Nallakunta Corporator Y. Amrutha, Somajiguda Corporator Sangeetha Yadav, Monda Market Corporator Potam Deepika, former Information Commissioner Khaleeluddin, and Dr. Krishnareddy, M.D. of Vivek Hospital, among others.

Dr. G. S. Gopal Reddy, Director of GVR Karate Academy, praised the sisters' extraordinary achievement, highlighting the rarity of such consistent excellence within a single family. The success was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the students, parents, and instructors of the academy, who expressed immense pride in the sisters' continued dedication and accomplishments.

SRH Crush KKR by 110 Runs, Klaasen's Blitz Seals Big Win

NEW DELHI WUT | May. 26

Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) wrapped up an IPL season filled with 'what ifs' and missed opportunities with a commanding batting display, much like how they began the campaign. In a dominant performance at the half-filled Feroz Shah Kotla on Sunday, SRH thrashed Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) by a massive 110 runs, powered by a sensational century from Heinrich Klaasen.

Klaasen was in sublime form, smashing an unbeaten 105 runs off just 39 balls, including seven fours and nine towering sixes, many of which landed in the second tier of the stands. The South African's explosive innings was well supported by Travis Head, who played a vital knock of 76 runs from 40 balls, saving his best for the final match of the season.

SRH posted a formidable total of 278 for 3 in their 20 overs, setting the stage for a comprehensive victory.



The Orange Army's aggressive approach in the powerplay was evident as Head and opener Abhishek Sharma (32 off 16 balls) added a quick-fire 79 runs in the first six overs, laying a solid foundation on a track that offered perfect batting conditions.

The Kotla wicket, known for its flat nature, allowed batsmen to confidently play their shots—front-foot drives and powerful pulls through the mid-wicket region were the dominant

theme. Despite the pitch being a paradise for the batsmen, KKR could never find their rhythm. Their bowlers struggled to contain the SRH hitters, who kept punishing deliveries consistently.

Jaydev Unadkat was the only bowler from KKR to make a noteworthy impact early on, taking two wickets for 23 runs in his three overs by using clever variations in pace. However, other bowlers, including Anrich Nortje (0/60 in 4 overs), Harshit Rana (0/40 in 3

overs), Varun Chakravarthy (0/54 in 3 overs), and Sunil Narine (2/42 in 4 overs), were heavily punished on this flat deck.

Harsh Dubey, SRH's left-arm spinner, and Sri Lankan pacer Eshan Malinga also put in strong bowling performances, taking three wickets each and helping to restrict KKR to 168 all out in 18.4 overs. Despite this season ending on a high note, SRH skipper Pat Cummins and the entire team will likely feel a sense of disappointment

when reflecting on their campaign. The team was incredibly strong with the bat on flat tracks, but struggled to adapt on more challenging surfaces, which ultimately cost them crucial games.

Over the season, SRH won six matches, had one game washed out, and lost at least two matches they were favorites to win. Narrow margins and unlucky moments went against the team at critical junctures, which eventually led to them missing out on play-off qualification.

Klaasen's innings was a perfect demonstration of his power-hitting prowess. Coming in after the fall of Abhishek Sharma, Klaasen reached his half-century in just 18 balls and maintained his assault throughout. Travis Head, though less brutal, provided important support early on before falling. KKR's bowling attack, which had been under pressure throughout the season, once again failed to deliver.

Their spinners, Chakravarthy and

Narine, lacked the usual bite on such a smooth wicket, while their pace bowlers, especially Harshit Rana, struggled with the variations they relied on earlier in the season.

Nortje, who was returning from injury and playing only his second game of the season, looked rusty and was unable to find consistent length and rhythm, which only compounded KKR's woes. Vaibhav Arora was the only KKR bowler who managed to limit the damage somewhat, finishing with figures of 1/39 in his four overs.

With this dominant victory, SRH proved why they were capable of explosive batting performances and showed flashes of brilliance throughout the season. However, the inconsistency and failure to adapt in tricky conditions ultimately denied them a spot in the play-offs, leaving fans wondering what could have been in a campaign full of 'what ifs'.

Vincent's journey from being a Ranji all-rounder to shaping the US u-19 team as head coach



For former Andhra Ranji all-rounder Vincent Vinay Kumar, earning a two-year contract as head coach of the USA under-19 team and as assistant coach for the USA Senior team can well be a recognition of his efforts in shaping the young talent having been associated with the USA national teams, including as assistant coach of the senior team, in the last couple of years.

"The assignment essentially is to groom the under-19 talent for the next World Cup and also the seniors for the next World Cup," the 56-year-old Vincent informed 'Telangana Today'.

"The preparations will start first with the selection of the under-19 team after the tour to the West Indies in July, which is essentially an exposure trip," he said.

"Then we have the qualifiers for the Under-19 World Cup in Atlanta. We are confident of putting up an impressive performance in South Africa recently, where we won the Cubbs championship," Vincent said. "It was a big achievement for sure," he added.

"Later in October, I will be with the senior team in Dubai for a three-nation series as part of the preparations for the ODI World Cup," the Hyderabad-based cricketer with coaching experience of about two decades said. Fresh from his recent assignment with the USA senior team, which won the championship in Grand Cayman (Caribbean Islands) featuring Canada, Cayman Islands, Bermuda and Bahamas with five wins from six matches.

Brevis, Conway script Chennai win, Titans go down by 83 runs

Ahmedabad WUT | May. 26

Gujarat Titans' hopes of a top-two finish in the IPL suffered a massive dent when they went down by 83 runs to Chennai Super Kings, who were powered by fifty-makers Devon Conway and Dewald Brevis, here Sunday.

The Titans have 18 points after a full set of 14 league matches and are still on top of the table despite the Net Run Rate taking a nose dive after this big defeat.

To maintain their position inside the top two, GT now require Royal Challengers Bengaluru (17 points) to go down to Lucknow Super Giants in their final league match. It's important because either Mumbai Indians (16) or Punjab Kings (17 points) will overtake GT with a win from their face-off.

Cutting back to the match, once asked to chase a stiff 231, the Titans floundered badly losing



in-form skipper Shubman Gill, Jos Buttler and Sherfane Rutherford in the Power Play passage itself with just 35 runs on the board.

The Gujarat side was bowled out for 147 in 18.3 overs.

Pacer Anshul Kamboj did the early damage, claiming the wickets of Gill and Rutherford.

Sai Sudharsan (41, 28b), the latest entrant into the India Test squad, and his Tamil Nadu team-mate M

Shahrukh Khan (19) added 55 runs for the fourth wicket to infuse some interest into the chase.

But left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja returned for his second spell to dismiss both Sudharsan and Shahrukh in the space of four balls in the 11th over, and the match effectively ended at that point.

CSK finished their IPL 2025 engagements at the bottom of the pile with eight points from 14

matches, the five-time champions' worst ever finish in the 10-team league.

Earlier, seasoned Conway and promising Brevis produced fifties of contrasting character, laying the foundation for Chennai Super Kings' healthy 230 for five.

Once the Super Kings elected to bat on a super hot afternoon, Conway and Brevis led the charge with a 52 off 35 balls, and a 23-ball 57 on a smooth pitch.

But Conway's knock was put to shade a bit by cameos by Ayush Mhatre (34, 17b) and Urvil Patel (37, 19b), who made runs at a respective strike rate of 200 and 194, ensured runs came at a fast clip for CSK.

The CSK raced out of the paddock, making 44 in just 3.4 overs, courtesy Mhatre's brutal assault on pacer Arshad Khan.

Mhatre carved Arshad for 2, 6, 6, 4, 4, 6 in the second over to milk 28 runs and Chennai rarely let that momentum slip.

Mhatre, who was recently appointed as the India U19 skipper, soon fell to Prasidh Krishna, skyking him to Mohammed Siraj in the deep.

But Urvil continued the aggressive ways, while adding 63 runs for the second wicket with Conway.

The highlight of his innings was a pick-up shot he played against veteran spinner Rashid Khan that sailed over his head for a six.

It's one thing to play that

shot against pacers, but to impart timing and power to it against a spinner is totally another thing.

However, Urvil perished to left-arm spinner Sai Kishore immediately after hammering him for a six.

On the other hand, Conway showed a rare moment of aggression, launching Rashid for a six over long-on but was clean bowled in the very next ball.

But Brevis, who smashed India pacer Siraj for 6, 6, 4, justified his 'Baby ABD' tag to perfection, smashing GT bowlers all around the park.

The South African played a belligerent knock of his own to raise 74 runs for the entertaining fifth wicket alliance with Jadeja in which the latter contributed just 21 off 18 balls.

It was the CSK's young batters' final innings of this IPL, and it might have given a note of optimism for the management too for the next season.

"We Have Political Differences But...": A Owaisi On Indian MPs In Bahrain

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) MP Asaduddin Owaisi, part of the all-party delegation led by BJP MP Baijayant Panda, referred to Pakistan as a "failed state" during an interaction with prominent figures in Bahrain.

During the interaction, Mr Owaisi said, "Our government has sent us over here...so that the world knows the threat India has been fac-

ing since last so many years. Unfortunately, we have lost so many innocent lives. This problem emanates from Pakistan only. Unless and until Pakistan stops promoting, aiding and sponsoring these terrorist groups, this problem won't go away."

He further added, "Our government has taken all the steps to protect the lives of every Indian. This government has made very clear next time you (Pakistan) take up this misadventure, it will be beyond what they are expecting..." Mr Owaisi noted



that India has repeatedly exercised maximum restraint despite grave provocations. Recalling the Pahalgam attack in which 26 tourists were killed, he emphasised the human cost of terrorism.

"Please reflect on the human tragedy of this massacre. A woman married six days ago became a widow on the seventh day. Another woman,

married just two months ago, also lost her husband in this attack," he said.

Asserting India's defensive strength, Mr Owaisi added, "India has all the where-withal, and we have every means necessary to ensure the safety of not only Indian citizens, but also every individual residing in India."

AIMIM leader stated that India's air defence systems had effectively intercepted threats emanating from across the border. "The government and the media, our air defence system, our technology and

warfare capabilities, successfully intercepted and neutralised everything that was launched by a failed state like Pakistan," he said.

Mr Owaisi stressed the need for international cooperation in curbing terror financing and urged the Bahrain government to support efforts to bring Pakistan back to the FATF grey list, stating that such funds have been used to support terrorist activities.

"There is unanimity in our country, irrespective of whatever political affiliations we belong to. We have our political differences, but when it comes to the integrity of our country, it is high time our neighbouring country understands...I request and hope that the Bahrain government will help us in bringing Pakistan back to the grey list of FATF because this money has been used to support those terrorists," Mr Owaisi said.

The delegation, led by BJP MP Baijayant Panda, includes Mr Owaisi, Nishikant Dubey MP, BJP; Phangnon Konyak, MP, BJP; Rekha Sharma MP, NJP; Satnam Singh Sandhu MP; Ghulam Nabi Azad; and

Ambassador Harsh Shringla. The delegation aims to brief international partners on India's response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack and its broader fight against cross-border terrorism while engaging with leaders in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Algeria.

The multi-party delegation, consisting of seven groups led by one MP each, has been initiated to counter global misinformation and highlight India's zero-tolerance policy on terrorism.



Zepto Workers Strike Over Blocked IDs, Poor Work Conditions

The indefinite strike by Zepto delivery workers in Hyderabad entered its sixth day on Sunday, May 25, with growing tensions between the company and the Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Union (TGPWU). The union has accused Zepto of retaliatory practices aimed at suppressing the ongoing protest.

Delivery partners from several key dark store locations, including Ramanthapur, Boduppall, and other areas, have been boycotting services since the beginning of the week. They are demanding better working conditions, reinstatement of blocked IDs, and protection of their fundamental labour rights.

In a formal complaint submitted to Additional Labour Commissioner E. Gangadhar, TGPWU alleged that Zepto permanently blocked the app IDs of several workers who participated in the strike or spoke to the media. The union described this as a clear case of "union-busting" and condemned it as an "unlawful and fabricated attempt to silence dissent."

TGPWU founder president Shaik Salauddin strongly criticized the company's actions, saying, "Targeting workers for exercising their right to protest is a serious violation of labour rights. Blocking their IDs and involving the police to intimidate workers is unacceptable. If Zepto continues this approach, we will escalate the matter both nationally and internationally."

The union also accused Zepto of using strike-breaking tactics by offering special incentives and higher per-order payments to certain workers who continue deliveries during the strike, undermining the collective movement. Additionally, TGPWU has alleged police intimidation, claiming that officers are pressuring workers to resume duties. The union is calling for the immediate reinstatement of blocked IDs, an end to coercive practices, and the initiation of tripartite talks involving the Labour Department, Zepto management, and the union.

Zepto has yet to issue an official response regarding the ongoing strike and the serious allegations raised by TGPWU.

Modi Government Sets Precedent with Strikes on Terror Bases: Kishan Reddy

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Telangana BJP president and Union minister G. Kishan Reddy said that the Narendra Modi government at the Centre had set a new precedent by striking deep inside enemy territory and targeting terror bases whenever Pakistan-sponsored terror elements attempted any misadventure in the country. "The days of holding peace rallies and lighting candles in response to terrorist attacks are over," Kishan Reddy said. He was speaking at an event organised to listen to



the 122nd episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' programme alongside party workers at Sanathnagar.

Kishan Reddy said that if terrorists kill even a single innocent citizen, the armed forces now have the free-

dom to carry out retaliatory actions aimed at eliminating over 100 terrorists. "This retaliatory response, with over 100 times the intensity, is the firm stance set by the government to crush cross-border terrorism." Highlighting Pakistan's role in supporting terrorism and its involvement in numerous bomb blasts across the country, including at Lumbini Park, Gokul Chat, Saibaba Temple, and Dilukhnagar, Kishan Reddy said that Operation Sindoor, targeting nine terror bases, had sent a strong message to Islamabad. He added that the

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Flags Off Haj Pilgrims



**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar flagged off the buses of Haj pilgrims at the Haj House in Nampally, Hyderabad, and extended his heartfelt wishes to the devotees embarking on the sacred journey. He stated that the Telangana government has made all necessary arrangements to ensure a smooth and safe pilgrimage for the Hajis.

Addressing the pilgrims, the minister said, "Not everyone is blessed with this opportunity. You have received this chance by the grace of Allah. I request you to go on the Haj pilgrimage and pray for the well-being of the people of

Telangana."

Expressing his own devotion, the minister announced that he, too, would be undertaking the 40-day Haj pilgrimage starting today. "I pray to Allah that our state prospers and that every citizen lives in happiness and harmony," he added.

He also urged the pilgrims to use this spiritual experience as an opportunity for personal growth. "Whatever your mindset was before, I request you to return with a renewed heart. Be kind to your relatives, be good to your neighbours, and serve society selflessly," he said, wishing them a safe and fulfilling pilgrimage.

JNTU Students Seek Pedestrian Link To Metro Station

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Despite a station being located next to its boundary wall of JNTUH, a Metro Rail ride is not helpful for university's staff or students as the varsity's entrance is located 2 km away from the station — a detour that many say is leading to missed morning classes, fatigue, and safety concerns. The reason? Vastu concerns. "I use the Metro every day, but the long walk eats into my class time. I've missed several first-hour lectures because of this," said Rohith Ch, a final year student. "Even when I make it on time, I'm too drained to focus properly."

The situation worsens at the university's main gate, which opens to a congested road with no foot overbridge. Students and employees are left to cross multiple lanes of heavy traffic without a safe crossing point. "Crossing the

road there is risky. There are buses, autos, two-wheelers — everyone's rushing. I've had a few close calls," said Brahmam Jain, another student. These concerns were raised once again in a formal representation submitted to the university earlier this week, urging the administration to set up a revolving gate at the metro side to provide direct campus access, and to construct a foot overbridge near the main gate to reduce the risk of accidents. It pointed out that the lack of a direct access point was contributing to unnecessary time loss and physical strain, especially for students attending morning classes under tight schedules. "We're not asking for luxuries, just the basic infrastructure to reach class on time without putting our safety at risk," said one of the students who signed the appeal.

Hyderabad woman loses over Rs 8 lakh in online job scam, 4 held

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

Four individuals have been arrested for allegedly duping a woman of Rs 8,75,148 through a fake work-from-home scheme. The accused has been identified as Manoj Diwakar, Nagiri Vijay, Sanapathi Kishore Babu (all residents of Hyderabad), and Thirunagari Santosh Kumar from Ranga Reddy. They reportedly facilitated the scam by operating multiple bank accounts and payment systems to launder the victim's money. According to the police, the victim was contacted on January 2 via Telegram by someone impersonating an HR executive from "Accor Advantage Plus Marketing (India) Pvt. Ltd" using a fake website. She was initially assigned trial tasks involving online hotel bookings and promised a daily income of Rs 17,000 to Rs 18,000. The

victim was persuaded to invest small amounts and received minor returns, which increased her trust. Subsequently, she was manipulated into depositing larger sums under the pretext of "minus balances" caused by high-value tasks such as "Gold Suit Bookings" and "Anniversary Offers". Ultimately, she transferred Rs 7.91 lakh as a "security deposit" to claim alleged earnings of Rs 15.82 lakh, which never materialised. Based on the complaint, Cybercrime police of Hyderabad arrested the accused and seized 4 mobile phones, 8 debit cards, 7 bank passbooks and cheque books, 1 tab, and 1 swiping machine. A case has been registered under Sections 66C and 66D of the IT Act, along with several sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Further investigation is ongoing.

Hyderabad Metro joins Miss World promotions

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

The Hyderabad Metro Rail has launched an awareness drive for Miss World 2025, being hosted by the Telangana government.

The Hyderabad metro is promoting the event by displaying banners highlighting Telangana's tourism attractions and the grandeur of Miss World across Metro pillars, stations, and railings from Hitec City to Nagole and from Miyapur to LB Nagar.

The campaign also includes digital screens inside metro trains and display boards at metro platforms and concourses, all reflecting the festive spirit of Miss World. Metro stations in Hyderabad have got decorative arches with cultural motifs at their entrance. In a statement, HMRL director, NVS Reddy said, "Hyderabad Metro, which caters to 4.5 to 5 lakh commuters daily, is proud to be part of this major cultural initiative that highlights Telangana's heritage."

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Telangana's groundwater crisis deepens; 500 villages face severe depletion

**Hyderabad**  
WUT | May. 26

In Vattipalli village (Marigudem Mandal) of Nalgonda district, farmer Ananta Reddy's desperate quest for water ended in heartbreak. After sinking over 130 borewells to save his 10-acre orchard, he drew a blank. With groundwater proving elusive, Reddy was forced to sell his land at a throwaway price. "Today, each acre is worth Rs 70 lakh, but water remains a distant dream," he lamented. Similarly, in Koppole village of Gurampode mandal, farmers drilled over 70 borewells in vain

as groundwater levels plummeted, leaving crops and livelihoods in peril. These stories are not isolated. According to the Telangana Groundwater Department sources, about 500 villages across the State are grappling with excessive groundwater extraction, threatening the region's water security. Districts such as Vikarabad, Nagarkurnool, Yadadri Bhongir and Medchal-Malkajgiri are among the worst hit, with over-exploitation soaring by 36 per cent statewide. The Groundwater Department's latest report, based on 1,771 piezometers monitored in April

across all 33 districts, paints a grim picture. The average groundwater level in Telangana stood at 10.17 m below ground level (mbgl), ranging from 5.57 m in Jagtial to a staggering 16.60 m in Vikarabad. While 18 districts recorded levels between 5 and 10 m, 11 reported 10-15 m and four districts — Vikarabad among them — saw dangerously low levels exceeding 15 m. Despite a marginal 0.34-m rise in groundwater levels compared to April 2024, 16 districts experienced a decline, with Siddipet recording the steepest drop at 2.54 m. Nalgonda, however, saw

a 2.92-m rise, offering a glimmer of hope. Compared to May 2024, the State's groundwater level rose by 0.19 m, but Siddipet again reported the largest fall at 2.78 m. Excess rainfall, yet no respite

Telangana received 1,083 mm of rainfall in the 2024-25 water year, 22 per cent above the normal 891 mm. Fifteen districts saw excess rainfall, ranging from 20 per cent to 69 per cent above average. Yet, this surplus has failed to curb groundwater depletion. The area under extreme depletion — where groundwater levels exceed 20 m — grew from

3,452 sqkm in April 2024 to 4,714 sqkm in April 2025. While this is a slight improvement from the decadal average of 5,527 sqkm (2015-2024), the situation remains dire.

The State's borewell count, which was over 26.97 lakh in 2022, went on surging year after year. In Nalgonda's Koppole village, farmers drilled over 70 borewells to save crops, while Vikarabad's groundwater levels dropped to 11.98 mbgl in 2024, the deepest in the State. Nagarkurnool saw a 3.57-m decline, prompting farmers to dig deeper wells.