



WAKE UP



TELANGANA

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Kishan Reddy Asks Party Leaders to Meet Caste Groups : P8

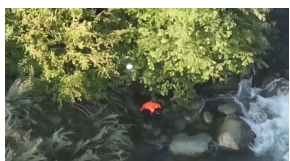
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Brief Insights

Man Alleged To Have Helped Terrorists In J&K Jumps Into River, Drowns



A man who gave food and shelter to terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district drowned after he jumped into a river while escaping from the security forces.

A video taken from a higher ground shows the man, Imtiaz Ahmad Magray, 23, suddenly jumping into the rocky river after scanning the forested area briefly.

Magray was picked up by the police on Saturday, sources said. During questioning, he told the police that he gave food and logistics to terrorists hiding in the forest in Kulgam's Tangmarg, sources said.

The accused agreed to lead the security forces to the terrorists' hideout, sources said.

On Sunday morning, while leading a joint team of the police and the army to raid the hideout, Magray in a bid to flee jumped into the Veshaw River, sources said. The moment of his escape was also captured on camera. There was no one near him when he decided to bolt.

The video showed the man trying to swim, but the strong current carried him away and he drowned. **CONT:P4**

"If Missiles Are Going To Rain...": Experts On "Cost" Of India-Pak War



As emotions run high in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, a former diplomat has warned that public mood should not dictate a war with Pakistan. Ajay Bisaria, former high commissioner to Pakistan, highlighted the key aspects of such an action and said its timing should not be based on what the people feel.

"For any operation to succeed, you need three elements: speed, surprise, and secrecy. There is an issue of choosing our timing, and that should not be dictated by the public mood," said the former diplomat on an ANI podcast. Mr Bisaria, who has headed the Indian mission in Pakistan during 2017-2020, stressed the need to be able to fight the battle on its own if the situation escalates. **CONT:P4**

Revanth Plans Mega Meet on Caste Census

Public meeting in the works to showcase Telangana's pioneering caste census and highlight key welfare initiatives ahead of local body elections.

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

Fresh from receiving praise at the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting in New Delhi for successfully conducting the caste census, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is reportedly planning a major public meeting to celebrate the government's initiative. According to sources, the event is aimed at showcasing the Congress government's achievements

and energizing the party cadre ahead of the upcoming local body elections. The move comes amid growing recognition of Telangana as the first state to carry out a detailed and scientific caste census, with dedicated funding and systematic reporting.

The BJP-led NDA government's subsequent announcement that the national decadal census would include a caste enumeration component is being viewed as a political



win for the Congress, further bolstering the party's stance. Sources said that Revanth Reddy has discussed the proposed public meeting with the party high command and extended an invitation to attend the event. Preparations are al-

ready underway, with invitations being sent to leaders from Backward Classes (BC) communities and representatives of various social organizations.

In a bid to take the government's message directly to the people, Congress MPs and MLAs have been instructed to highlight the caste census achievement in their respective constituencies. They have also been directed to intensify public engagement and create awareness about key

government schemes. These include initiatives such as Bhu Bharati, free bus travel for women, a ₹500 subsidy per domestic gas cylinder, free electricity for eligible sections, waiver of farm loans, and bonuses for sanna biyyam (fine rice) production. The public meeting is intended not just as a celebration, but as a demonstration of the government's accountability and responsiveness to the people, sources said.

Riyan Parag Hits Historic Six Sixes, But RR Lose Last-Ball Thriller to KKR



Kolkata WUT | May. 5

Rajasthan Royals' stand-in captain Riyan Parag created history on Sunday by becoming the first batter in IPL history to hit six consecutive sixes, but his sensational effort wasn't enough to take

his team over the line against Kolkata Knight Riders in a last-ball thriller.Parag's blistering 95 off just 45 balls (6 fours, 8 sixes) nearly pulled off a stunning chase after RR found themselves struggling at 71/5 within eight overs,

chasing a daunting target of 207 at Eden Gardens.

The 23-year-old's historic six-hitting spree came across two overs—five off Moeen Ali and one off Varun Chakravathy—electrifying the crowd and keeping Royals' hopes alive.However, KKR's

experienced campaigners held their nerve in the final moments.

A well-executed final over by Vaibhav Arora and a crucial run-out by Rinku Singh ensured the Royals fell just short at 205/8, giving KKR a narrow 1-run victory. **CONT:P4**

Strategic Europe Visit

India is Looking for Partners, Not Preachers: Jaishankar

The minister further said there should be "sensitivity and mutuality of interests" and a "realisation of how the world works", indicating that this is what India expects of Europe

New delhi WUT | May. 5

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi gears up for his visit to three European nations—Norway, Croatia, and the Netherlands—from May 13 to 17, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar has made pointed remarks about India's expectations from its Western partners.Speaking at the Arctic Circle India Forum ahead of the India-Nordic Summit, Jaishankar emphasized India's preference for "partners, not preachers." He stated, "When we look out at the world, we look for partners. We don't look for preachers, particularly preachers who don't practice at home what they preach abroad."The EAM's comments are seen as a veiled critique of European nations, reflecting New Delhi's growing assertiveness in global diplomacy. He stressed the importance of "sensitivity



and mutuality of interests" and called for a pragmatic understanding of global realities. "Europe has entered a zone of reality check. While some parts of Europe are still struggling, others have changed," he said.Under-scoring India's balanced foreign policy, Jaishankar reiterated that New Delhi has consistently refrained from prescribing solutions in the Russia-Ukraine conflict. "We have not told one or the other party to do this or do that," he said. "That is important to remember because that is a courtesy not always granted to us. We often receive advice on what we should be doing."His remarks also included a broader critique of Western diplomatic behavior, reflecting India's push for equitable **CONT:P4**

"What You Desire Will Happen": Rajnath Singh's Big Hint Amid Tension With Pak

New delhi WUT | May. 5

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today said it is his responsibility to work with the armed forces and give a "befitting reply" to those who cast an evil eye on India.

The comments came amid the tension with Pakistan following the terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam that killed 26 tourists.

India has said the terrorists have cross-border linkages. "I want to assure you that under Prime Min-



ister Modi's leadership, what you desire will certainly happen," the Defence Minister said, alluding to what people across the nation have been talking about the need for a response to Pakistan.

"As the defence minister, it is my responsibility to work with my soldiers and

ensure the protection of the country's borders. And it is my responsibility to give a befitting reply, by working with the armed forces, to those who cast an evil eye on our country," Mr Singh said.

Mr Singh was speaking at an event in Delhi. He said people know Prime Minister Narendra Modi very well and are quite familiar with his working style, his determination and the way he has learned to "take risks" in his life.

India has banned all Pakistani visas and suspended the Indus **CONT:P4**

US Eyes Sweeping Trade Reforms in India Under Proposed Bilateral Deal: GTRI

New delhi WUT | May. 5

As trade negotiations between India and the United States advance, Washington is reportedly preparing to push for extensive policy changes across several sectors of the Indian economy. According to a recent report published by the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), the United States is seeking wide-ranging reforms in India's tariff structure, regulatory sys-

tems, and trade practices—changes that would potentially enhance market access and reduce barriers for American firms and exporters.

The GTRI report, released on Sunday, indicates that the proposed bilateral trade agreement between the two nations could be a vehicle for these sweeping changes, many of which touch on politically and economically sensitive areas in India such as agriculture, dairy, digital commerce,



and the importation of industrial goods.

In the agriculture sector, the United States has long been critical of India's minimum support price (MSP) programs, especially for staple crops like rice and wheat. These government-backed price guarantees, the US argues, distort market

prices and act as trade barriers that disadvantage foreign producers. Washington is likely to demand that India scale back or reform these MSP schemes as part of the trade agreement. Additionally, the US is expected to push for a reduction in agricultural tariffs and the removal of long-standing restrictions on genetically modified (GM) crops and food products. These restrictions, which stem from concerns over food safety and envi-

ronmental impact, have effectively prevented the entry of many American agricultural goods into the Indian market.

However, India views these policy tools as crucial for ensuring food security and protecting the livelihoods of its millions of small and marginal farmers. "The MSP system is central to India's agricultural support framework and food procurement strategy," said Ajay Srivastava, founder of GTRI. **CONT:P4**

Israel's Netanyahu vows response to Iran after Houthi attack on airport

New delhi WUT | May. 5

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has promised to respond to an attack from Yemen's Houthi rebels that hit Ben Gurion International Airport, adding that Iran would also face consequences from the strike.

A ballistic missile

launched by the Iran-allied Yemeni rebel group hit the perimeter of the airport on Sunday, damaging a road and a vehicle and causing air traffic to stop, according to photos and footage verified by Al Jazeera.

The Israeli military confirmed its defence system failed to shoot down the projectile on Sunday morning despite several



attempts to intercept it, adding that an investiga-

tion was under way. Eight people were injured, ac-

cording to paramedics. Israeli media reported that the advanced US-made THAAD system and Israel's long-range Arrow defence system failed to bring down the missile.

Writing on social media, Netanyahu said that attacks from the Houthis ultimately "emanate from Iran".

"Israel will respond to

the Houthi attack against our main airport AND, at a time and place of our choosing, to their Iranian terror masters," Netanyahu wrote.

The Israeli prime minister has been trying to drum up support for a joint attack with the United States against Iran, despite ongoing talks between Washington and Tehran.

Responding to Israel's threats, Iran's Defence Minister Aziz Nasirzadeh said that Tehran would strike back if the US or Israel attacked.

"If this war is initiated by the US or the Zionist regime [Israel], Iran will target their interests, bases and forces – wherever they may be and whenever deemed necessary," Nasirzadeh

told Iranian state television.

Nasirzadeh also said that Yemen's Houthis made their own decisions when conducting attacks.

The rebel group, which has been carrying out attacks against Israel in stated opposition to its war and blockade on the Gaza Strip, claimed responsibility for the missile launched **CONT:P4**

ESTD - 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge
baar baar aoge

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

Charlapalli Entry Closed After Panel Collapse

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Railway authorities closed the entrance to the Charlapalli railway station after some panels collapsed during heavy rain and winds late on Saturday, which caused inconvenience to passengers. No one was injured in the incident, but videos went viral and left passengers scared. A worker who was repairing the collapsed portion reportedly lost consciousness on Sunday. He was safely rescued, sources said. Otherwise, repair works were on at the terminal that was inaugurated with fanfare in January.

Passengers complained about a lack of information at the station. Jothi B, a homemaker who arrived at the station with her family at about noon, said, “We didn’t know about the incident. After we got down at the station, we were stopped near the main exit



and had to walk all the way to the other side of the station with our luggage and kids in this summer heat.” Another passenger, Ganesh M, said, “With the main entrance blocked, people struggled to find cabs and autorickshaws. Because the entrance was blocked, people who landed there are facing trouble. There’s traffic on the other side, and it’s very confusing.”

Some passengers expressed frustration at the incident. One of them said, “So much money is being invested, but where is the

safety and comfort for the public? Incidents like this happen only in India.” However, the incident did not affect railway operations. A railway staffer, who wished not to be named, told Deccan Chronicle, “The incident has not affected trains. There have been no delays.” Passengers also pointed out that there are no clear signboards to guide travellers from the main road to the station. Many of the passenger shelters inside the station were incomplete, and few lifts are not in working condition.

Bandi Sanjay Rules Out Talks with Maoists

Karimnagar
WUT | May. 5

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, firmly dismissed the possibility of peace negotiations with banned Maoist groups, stating that dialogue with such organisations is not a viable option. Speaking at the inauguration ceremony of a Hanuman statue in Kothapalli mandal of Karimnagar district on Sunday, the minister criticized both the Congress-led state government and the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) for suggesting a conciliatory approach towards the outlawed insurgent group.

“There is no question of holding talks with Maoists. They must first lay down their arms, surrender to the police, and adopt a lawful and



peaceful way of life,” Kumar asserted during his address.

Taking a strong stance, the minister lambasted Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao for advocating a social lens to view the Maoist insurgency. He questioned the rationale behind framing violent extremist activities as social issues, especially when the Maoists have a his-

tory of deadly attacks on security forces, politicians, journalists, and civilians.

“These are the same Maoists who have planted landmines, assassinated BJP leaders, police officers, and journalists. Their actions have destroyed countless families. How can anyone call this a social issue? Tribals do not walk around with guns or plant explosives. The violence is being carried

out solely by banned extremist groups,” Kumar stated. He further challenged the Congress party’s credibility on the issue by reminding the public that it was the Congress that had originally imposed the ban on Maoist outfits during its earlier tenure. “Now the same party talks about peace talks. If they truly believe in what they are saying, do they have the courage to lift the ban on the Maoists?” he asked.

In addition to his comments on Maoist insurgency, Kumar also addressed concerns about national security, urging the Telangana government to act decisively against illegal immigration. Referring specifically to illegal Rohingya migrants, he warned that inaction could turn Hyderabad into a safe haven for ter-

rorists. “The Centre has already directed all states to identify and deport foreigners staying without valid documents. The state must take this seriously,” he said. The Union Minister also accused the Congress-BRS combine of attempting to divert public attention from governance failures. “Instead of focusing on the unfulfilled promises such as the implementation of the six guarantees and cracking down on corruption, both parties seem more interested in engaging with Maoists,” he alleged.

Kumar’s remarks reflect the Centre’s hard-line stance on internal security issues and aim to underscore the BJP’s position as tough on terrorism and insurgency, especially in regions historically affected by left-wing extremism.

Shabbir Ali mourns the passing of Maulana Ghulam Mohammad Vastanvi

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Senior Congress leader and Advisor to the Telangana Government, Mohammed Ali Shabbir, has expressed deep sorrow over the demise of Maulana Ghulam Mohammad Vastanvi, a distinguished Islamic scholar and educationist, who passed away on Sunday.

In a heartfelt condolence message, Shabbir Ali hailed Maulana Vastanvi as a visionary reformer who dedicated his life to the service of Islam, the promotion of education, and the upliftment of the Muslim community. “He was a pioneer in integrating traditional Islamic education with modern professional studies. His ef-

forts have created a transformative impact that will guide generations to come,” Shabbir said.

Highlighting the Maulana’s extraordinary legacy, Shabbir Ali recalled his role as the founder and rector of Jamia Islamia Ishaatul Uloom in Akalkuwa, Maharashtra - a groundbreaking institution that went on to establish the coun-



try’s first minority-run, MCI-recognised medical college. “Maulana Vastanvi proved that Islamic institutions can lead the way in both religious and modern

education,” he remarked.

Sharing his personal association with the late scholar, Shabbir Ali said that the Kashiful Uloom, the madrasa he had established in Kamareddy, was inaugurated by Maulana Vastanvi himself. “We often discussed the educational empowerment of Muslims. Our visions were aligned -

we both strongly believed that madarsa students should be grounded in Islamic knowledge but also equipped with modern academic and professional skills,” he recalled.

Shabbir Ali also remembered how Maulana Vastanvi actively sought approval for the medical college by personally approaching the then Union

Health Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, driven by a clear vision to uplift the Muslim community through quality education.

“Maulana Vastanvi was not just a scholar; he was an institution in himself - a symbol of humility, wisdom, and dedication to public service,” Shabbir added.

Extending his con-

dolences to the bereaved family, students, and the thousands who were touched by Maulana Vastanvi’s work, Shabbir Ali prayed for his maghfirah and high rank in Jannah. “His passing is an irreparable loss to the religious, academic, and social fabric of the nation,” he said. “Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji’un.

Ration cards of 11 Telangana families cancelled for selling fine rice to kirana shop

Adilabad
WUT | May. 5

Tandur revenue officials cancelled the food security card holders (ration cards) of 11 families for selling fine quality rice allotted to them, to the local kirana shop owner for Rs 16 per kg in Kuchulapur village in Tandur mandal in Mancherial district. The ration card of one Mahesh, who bought that rice on Saturday was also cancelled. Police booked cases against Mahesh. The incident is first of its kind after the state government started distribution of fine quality rice. Officials

got information from sources that the families sold 1.91 quintals fine fine quality rice. Speaking to Deccan Chronicle, Tandur tahasildar Imran Khan Patan said revenue and civil supply officials conducted an inquiry into the incident and the 11 families confessed to selling the rice to Mahesh, who runs the Kirana shop.He said Mahesh, who bought the rice, also confessed to it and they submitted the report to the district collector, Kumar Deepak. Imran Khan said they cancelled the ration cards on instructions of Mancherial collector Kumar

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

The appointment of political party leaders in the appointment of RTI Commissioners is not appropriate. The names sent to the Governor for the current rules and regulations should be thoroughly examine. United Forum of Public Associations Demanded. On May 4, in the Nalgonda district center, public associations demanded that the names sent by the Telangana state government to the Governor for the appointment of Information Commissioners to be thoroughly examined. Today, in the Nalgonda district center, various associations organized a round table meeting under the aegis of various associations de-



manding a thorough examination of the names of the people in the list of names sent for the appointment of Information Commissioners. Speaking at this event, senior journalist Kotagiri Daivadhanam demanded that people who are independent of politics and have no connection with politics be appointed as Information Commissioners. Former chairman of the joint Nalgonda District Library As-

sociation, Gadhe Vinod Reddy, said that if justice is to be done to the common people in a democracy, information commissioners should be appointed who act legally and the current ones should be reviewed again. M I M Party district president MD Rajivuddin said that transparency should be followed in the appointment of RTI commissioners and ineligible people should not be se-

lected. Dharma Samaj Party district president Talari Rambabu said that if justice is to be done to the weaker sections of the society, people who are knowledgeable about the laws should be appointed. SCST Student Union state president Kattela Shivakumar said that it is the responsibility of the government to appoint commissioners in a way that justice should done to all sections of the society

irrespective of parties and on the contrary, sending names of people belonging to politics to the Governor for appointment is not a suitable policy. Banda-meedi Anjaiah, founder president of the Right to Information Protection Committee, said that everyone should protect the Right to Information Act, which was passed as an act by Parliament after a prolong struggle. To protect this, the government should think in such a way that competent people should be appointed without any connection with politics. They demanded that the Governor should first watch at the qualifications, services and experience of those people and issue appointment orders. Speaking, Dhanamma of the affiliated organization

announced that she would fully support the decisions taken by the public associations. BC Rajyadhikari Samiti District President Karnati Yadagiri demanded that one person to be appointed from each social group in a democracy. In this program, District President Secretaries of Information Rights Vikas Samiti Bairu Saidu Goud Chitra Srinivas RTI activist Kuduthalavinder SC ST Sangam Chairman Gade Yadagiri Shobha, M Shobharani. Amrutha Raju of the Human Rights Protection Organization BC SC ST Joint Action Committee members Seetha Vamsi, K Vinod Kumar and others were participated in the large scale.

Chinnathokatta Crematorium Gets New Development Committee

Hyderabad
Dp srinivas rao
WUT | May. 5

A new committee has been established to oversee the development of the Chinnathokatta Hindu Crematorium, with the goal of preventing encroachments and improving essential facilities. The initiative took shape during a community meeting held on Sunday, where six residents from different bastis came together to elect the committee members. Former Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap attended the gathering and



emphasized the urgent need to safeguard the crematorium land from encroachments. He also called upon local MLA, MP, and Cantonment Board officials to allocate necessary funds for the development, urging that the efforts remain free from political influence.

In a significant show of support, the Sada Kutumbham pledged ₹30 lakh towards the crematorium’s development. Pratap expressed gratitude for this generous contribution and encouraged the newly formed committee to identify priority needs and submit a comprehen-

sive development plan within a week to accelerate progress. The newly elected committee will be led by Kondal Yadav as President, with M. Baburao and G.S. Yadava Rao serving as Chief Advisors. D.M. Ashok Kumar, B. Sadanand, and Nagesh Yadav have been appointed as Vice Presidents, while Vijay Babu will serve as General Secretary. The positions of Joint Secretary and Treasurer are yet to be announced. Several others have also been included as Organizing Secretary and committee members, representing a broad

Grand Idol Installation Concludes in Jayagiri

Hyderabad
Dp srinivas rao
WUT | May. 5

The three-day-long grand festival dedicated to the installation of the idols of Goddess Amma — Nalla Pochamma, Mahankali, and Yellamma — concluded on Sunday with great devotion and celebration in Jayagiri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Nagar. The spiritual atmosphere was filled with faith, traditional rituals, and collective participation from devotees and local leaders alike. The festivities, which began three days ago, were marked by various religious events and pujas aimed at invoking the blessings of the revered deities. On the con-



cluding day, a large number of devotees gathered to witness the final rituals and offer their prayers. Special pujas were performed with devotion by the attendees, creating a spiritually vibrant environment. Prominent leaders, including Malkajgiri MLAs and Rajasekhar Reddy, along with local Corporator Mekala Sunitha

Rama Yadavulu, graced the occasion. They offered their respects to the deities and participated in the puja ceremonies. Speaking on the occasion, the dignitaries conveyed their heartfelt wishes for peace, prosperity, and well-being for all, invoking the divine blessings of Nalla Pochamma, Mahankali, and Yellamma for every

household. Later, the General Secretary of the Gopal Nagar Welfare Association paid a visit to the residence of Nagesh, acknowledging his contributions to the community and the festival arrangements. The event saw enthusiastic participation from various local leaders and committee members. Notable among them were temple committee members Pandurangan, Satyanarayana, Sadhu Paramesh, Shyam Goud, and Raja Mallesh. Community leaders from the local Joint Action Committee (JAC), including Venkanna, Siddhiramulu, Hemant Patel, Kittu, Narsingh, and Lakshman, also played an active role in organizing and managing the event.

Telangana Launches Bhu Bharathi Land Reform Scheme Across 28 Mandals

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Sunday announced the launch of the Bhu Bharathi scheme, a new land reform initiative aimed at protecting farmers' land rights and providing quick solutions to land-related issues. The scheme is set to be implemented in a phased manner across 28 mandals—one in each district of the state—starting from May 5. As part of this rollout, revenue meetings will be held in these mandals between May 5 and May 20, during which officials will receive applications and grievances from the



public, particularly farmers, concerning land disputes and technical problems. The minister emphasized that every district collector must personally attend these meetings to address questions and offer immediate resolutions after thoroughly examining the concerns. Highlighting the hardships faced by thousands of farmers under the pre-

vious BRS government due to glitches and inefficiencies in the Dharani portal, Reddy pointed out that land disputes often forced people to go to court. To address this, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy introduced the Bhu Bharathi Act with the vision of restoring farmers' trust and ensuring they receive on-the-spot solutions through a transparent

and accountable system. The government aims to implement the scheme effectively with active cooperation from the public, elected representatives, and administrative officials. The 28 mandals selected for the first phase of implementation include Bharoj in Adilabad, Sujathanagar in Bhadradri Kothagudem, Nadikuda in Hanamkonda, Buggaram in Jagtial, Ghanpur in Jangaon, Regonda in Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Itikyal in Jogulamba Gadwal, Saidapur in Karimnagar, Penchikalpet in Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Dhanthapala in Mahbubabad, Moosapet in Mahbubnagar, Bhimaram in Mancherial, Chilpichid in

Medak, Keesara in Medchal-Malkajgiri, Pentlavalli in Nagarkurnool, Nakrekal in Nalgonda, Kuntala in Nirmal, Mendora in Nizamabad, Eligade in Peddapalli, Rudrangi in Rajanna Sircilla, Kunduru in Rangareddy, Kondapur in Sangareddy, Akkannapet in Siddipet, Garidepalle in Suryapet, Dharur in Vikarabad, Gopalapet in Wanaparthi, Vardannapet in Warangal, and Atmakur in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri. The government's objective with the Bhu Bharathi initiative is to make land administration more accessible, responsive, and efficient, thereby bringing relief and confidence to the farming community.

INTUC Leader Jeevan Kumar Honored with Best Trade Union Award

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Jeevan Kumar, secretary of the INTUC-affiliated Municipal Sahakhar Mazdoor Union and an employee of the GHMC Advertisement Wing, has been conferred with the prestigious Best Trade Union Award. The award was presented as part of the 78th Foundation Day celebrations of the Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC). The award was presented to Kumar by the union's working president, Adil Sharif, who praised the relentless efforts of the union in safeguarding the rights and welfare of GHMC workers and employees. "Our union continues to be a leading voice for workers, addressing their issues even before they are officially raised," said Sharif. He highlighted that due



to the proactive role played by the union, 35 of its labor leaders have previously received the Shramika Shakti Awards. Sharif also took the opportunity to criticize the former BRS-led government, accusing it of neglecting GHMC workers after initially promising permanent employment status before the formation of Telangana. He appealed to the present Congress-led state government to act swiftly in recognizing and addressing the longstanding issues of GHMC workers. Sharif

specifically demanded an increase in the GHMC employees' health card limit to ₹15 lakh and the allocation of 150-square-yard house plots for each employee. He also urged the government to sanction Indiramma houses to sanitation workers who have served the GHMC faithfully for decades. Several union leaders including AVS Gandhi, K. Shivakumar, L. Mercy, Y. Yadagiri, K. Raju, G. Srinivas, M. Ramakrishna, and K. Ramesh were present during the award ceremony.

Efforts Underway to Enhance Infrastructure in Cantonment Colonies

Hyderabad
Dp srinivas rao
WUT | May. 5

The Cantonment Board has taken a significant step toward infrastructure development with the inauguration of a new cement road in Amardeep Colony, Ward 6, Boinpally. The project, launched on Sunday by Civil Nominator Member Bhanuka Narmada, is valued at ₹25 lakh and aims to improve road conditions and connectivity in the area. Speaking at the event, Bhanuka Narmada emphasized the Board's commitment to phased and inclusive development across all colonies. "We are committed to improving infrastructure across the cantonment. This road is just one example of our focus on enhancing residents' quality of life," she said. She added that future projects would be prioritized based on community needs outlined in the upcoming budget. The event saw participation from GHMC Corporator Suchitra, BJP Telangana State Executive Committee Member Banuka Mallikarjun, and Ward 6 President Prati Jain. All leaders praised the initiative and stressed



the importance of continued collaboration to address local issues. Residents of Amardeep Colony expressed appreciation for the new development, noting that improved infrastructure would lead to better living standards. The Cantonment Board also assured the public that additional projects addressing water supply, sanitation, and road maintenance are in the planning stages. This road project reflects the Board's broader vision of transforming cantonment colonies into modern, well-equipped communities. Narmada urged residents to stay engaged and provide input to ensure comprehensive and need-based development across the region.

Under the aegis of BJP's Nittu Srisailam, Milk Anointed to Modi Ji Portrait for Caste Census Announcement

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

On Sunday, May 4, in the Ibrahimpatnam constituency, Rachakonda Dandu Mailaram, under the aegis of BJP OBC Morcha State Spokesperson Nittu Srisailam, it was announced that the Union Cabinet has decided to conduct a caste census along with a population census. The portrait of Prime Minister Modi ji was milk anointed. The central government, led by Modi, has announced that a caste census will be conducted at the national level. In thanks to Narendra Modi for taking this historic decision for social justice. In this program, BJP Veerapatnam Mandal President Godala Shekhar Reddy, Rachakonda Mailaram Agricultural Cooperative Society Member Narra Ayyappa Reddy, Rachakonda Dandu Mailaram Booth President Jangam Venkat Reddy, Chintala Krishna Mudiraj, Potla Cheruvu Madhu Rajaka, Tunkoji



Mamata Chari, BJYM District Executive Member Tunkoji Saikumar Chari, BJP Senior Leaders Rasala Sattaiah Yadav, Chinnoji Mallikarjuna Chari, Elaka Raju Naresh Rajaka, Praveen Reddy, Elaka Raju Ganesh Rajaka, Kumar App, Guthikonda Khalil Rao, Elaka Raju Ashok Rajaka, Bal Chetti Mallikarjun Goud, Eedulakanti Shiva Goud, Bal Chetti Yashwanth Goud, Eedula Kanti Shravan Goud, Kayala Babbit Reddy, Bhaskar, and others participated in the large-scale event.

Pakistani Nationals Must be Sent Back: Rakesh Jaiswal

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Congress-ruling states must take the initiative to deport the Pakistani nationals, said Rakesh Jaiswal, the attitude of Congress governments shameful. He criticized that while efforts are being made across the country to cancel the visas of Pakistani citizens and deport them back to their home, Congress-ruling states are not taking the initiative. In protest



against this negligence, a protest march was conducted under BJP's ranks on Sunday, from Charninar to Gulzar House in

the Hyderabad's Old City. Speaking at this juncture Jaiswal demanded that even Congress-ruling states like

Telangana and Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh must immediately cancel the visas of Pakistani nationals and deport them. He urged Congress governments to act swiftly and send back all Pakistanis residing both legally and illegally in India. He criticized the indifference shown by Telangana and Karnataka governments on this serious issue. He noted that all states are welcoming the decision taken by the BJP-led union govt in the

interest of national security, but it is unfortunate that Congress-ruling states are failing to implement it. He demanded that even now, Congress governments must change their stand and contribute to national security by acting responsibly. Umamahendhar President Golconda Zilla Organised The Programme, Lal Singh Corporation, Senior BJP Leaders And cadre Attended The programme in the large scale

Thalassemia & Sickle Cell Society (TSCS) Hosts Special Awareness Event in Khammam

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

The Thalassemia & Sickle Cell Society (TSCS), in collaboration with the Indian Academy of Pediatrics Khammam, organized a significant Thalassemia awareness event to mark World Thalassemia Day. The event was aimed at raising awareness and honoring individuals dedicated to the cause, including 15 children who were presented with Excellence Awards for their courage and accomplishments. Additionally, the



event recognized the valuable contributions of Voluntary Blood Donation camp coordinators.

Over 250 attendees, including patients, families, doctors, volunteers, and dignitaries, participated in the celebration. Member of Parliament

Raghurama Reddy addressed the gathering, highlighting the importance of special attention for Thalassemia. "Thalassemia is an issue that requires focused attention, and we are committed to increasing awareness and working towards its eradication. We are actively discus-

sing it in Parliament and will ensure that the Chief Minister and Health Minister are informed of the situation, reflecting strong support for this cause," he said. The event was led by Ratnavali Kottapalli, Vice President of TSCS, and her team, who organized a memorable occasion featuring cultural performances by Thalassemia children, along with fun games and engaging activities, bringing joy and positivity to everyone present. Ratnavali expressed

her gratitude, saying, "We are deeply thankful to all the participants and stakeholders who made this event a meaningful success. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the Indian Academy of Pediatrics, Khammam, and the Indian Medical Association (IMA) for their ongoing support. A special thank you to Dr. Pradeep for his tireless efforts in organizing and coordinating the event, and to Kiran and Shivratan for their active involvement and contribution."

Tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Other Leaders at Gnanmala Programs

Hyderabad
Dp srinivas rao
WUT | May. 5

Arjun, leader of the Malkajgiri SC Welfare Association, recently praised Dr. B.R. Ambedkar for being a beacon of hope for the weaker sections of society, especially the Badugu community. During a Gnanmala program, organized every Sunday, Arjun paid tribute to Dr. Ambedkar's statue and highlighted his contributions to the upliftment of the poor and margin-



alized. The program, held in Chintal Basti, marked the 17th week of the tribute. Floral garlands were placed at the statues of Dr. Ambedkar, the world-re-

nowned intellectual and father of the Indian Constitution, and former Deputy Prime Minister Babu Jagjivan Ram. Leaders including Upender, Kuma-

raswamy, Neelam Satish, Raju, and others participated, shouting slogans supporting the flourishing of the Indian Constitution. In Lotkunta, the 113th Gnanmala program was conducted, where construction worker A. Rakesh garlanded Dr. Ambedkar's statue. Committee members of the Gnanmala management, including Asa Sriramulu, also participated in the tribute. The 67th Gnanmala program in Yapralla was successfully conducted by the

Yapralla Ambedkar Sangam. Both male and female members of the Sangam attended, making the program a success. Additionally, in Kaukur village, the Jai Bheem Sena organized the 67th Gnanmala program. Leaders such as Darupalli Sarvesh, Raoula Viran Kumar, and Ambedkar women leader Donthu Lakshmbai participated, paying tribute to Dr. Ambedkar with floral garlands and slogans of "Jai Bhim."

Juluri Ramesh Receives Best Journalist Award

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Senior journalist Juluri Ramesh, who has made significant contributions to the field of journalism for over three decades, was honored with the Best Journalist Award by the Telangana Intellectuals Forum. The award was presented by Justice Vaman Rao, who recognized Ramesh for his outstanding role as a bridge between society and the government. Throughout his career, Juluri Ramesh has written impactful articles in several prominent newspapers, contributing immensely to society. Currently working as a senior journalist at Sakshi Daily, Juluri Ramesh has previously worked with Vartha and



Andhra Jyoti. He also serves as the state general secretary of the Journalists Association of Telangana (JAT). The award was presented on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, where Justice Vaman Rao and Telangana Intellectuals Association State President Dr. Raju Narayana Mudiraju felicitated Juluri Ramesh for his exemplary services in the field of journalism.

Isro Lines Up Major Space Missions from May to July 2025

Nellore
WUT | May. 5

The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) is all set for a series of high-profile missions between May and July 2025, marking advances in Earth observation, human space-flight preparedness, and international collaboration in space research. Leading the line-up is the scheduled spaceflight of Group Capt. Shubhanshu Shukla of the Indian Air Force to the International Space Station (ISS) on May 29, 2025, as part of Axiom Space's Ax-4 mission. This mission marks a significant step in India's global space collaboration efforts and serves as a precursor to the country's own Gaganyaan crewed mission.

A decorated test pilot, Group Captain Shukla was shortlisted under Isro's Human Spaceflight Programme (HSP) and is among the top contenders

for Gaganyaan, which is India's first indigenous orbital crewed flight. His journey aboard the Ax-4 mission will offer vital hands-on training in spaceflight operations, launch protocols, micro-gravity adaptation, and emergency procedures, forming a crucial foundation for India's long-term human spaceflight ambitions.

The announcement was made by Union minister Dr Jitendra Singh, who chaired a high-level review meeting held recently on Isro's upcoming mission plans. Isro chairman Dr V. Narayanan provided detailed updates on several critical launches scheduled over the next three months. Among the major launches, Isro will lift off the PSLV-C61 rocket on May 18, carrying the EOS-09 Earth observation satellite. Originally slated for May 19, the launch has been advanced by a day.

"What You Desire Will Happen": Rajnath Singh's Big Hint Amid Tension With Pak

New delhi
WUT | May. 5

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today said it is his responsibility to work with the armed forces and give a "befitting reply" to those who cast an evil eye on India.

The comments came amid the tension with Pakistan following the terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahal-gam that killed 26 tourists. India has said the terrorists have cross-border linkages.

"I want to assure you that under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, what you desire will certainly happen," the Defence Minister said, alluding to what people across the nation have been talking about the need for a response to Pakistan.

"As the defence minister, it is my responsibility

to work with my soldiers and ensure the protection of the country's borders. And it is my responsibility to give a befitting reply, by working with the armed forces, to those who cast an evil eye on our country," Mr Singh said.

Mr Singh was speaking at an event in Delhi. He said people know Prime Minister Narendra Modi very well and are quite familiar with his working style, his determination and the way he has learned to "take risks" in his life. India has banned all Pakistani visas and suspended the Indus Waters Treaty, among other measures, as a response to the neighbouring country's policy of sending terrorists to attack Indian forces and civilians in Jammu and Kashmir.

"If Missiles Are Going To Rain...": Experts On "Cost" Of India-Pak War

New delhi
WUT | May. 5

As emotions run high in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, a former diplomat has warned that public mood should not dictate a war with Pakistan. Ajay Bisaria, former high commissioner to Pakistan, highlighted the key aspects of such an action and said its timing should not be based on what the people feel.

"For any operation to succeed, you need three elements: speed, surprise, and secrecy. There is an issue of choosing our timing,

and that should not be dictated by the public mood," said the former diplomat on an ANI podcast.

Mr Bisaria, who has headed the Indian mission in Pakistan during 2017-2020, stressed the need to be able to fight the battle on its own if the situation escalates.

"We have to fight this battle on our own. When you escalate, you have to be prepared for the worst-case scenario, which is an uncontrolled escalation where you could even be fighting a full-scale war. And have the capacity, intent, political will, and national will

Israel's Netanyahu vows response to Iran after Houthi attack on airport

Mumbai
WUT | May. 5

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has pledged a forceful response after a ballistic missile launched by Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi rebels struck near Ben Gurion International Airport, injuring eight and disrupting air traffic. The attack has heightened tensions in the region, with Israel blaming Iran and hinting at broader military retaliation. The missile, which landed on a road within the airport perimeter early Sunday, damaged infrastructure and a civilian vehicle. Israeli air defense systems, including the U.S.-supplied THAAD and Israel's Arrow missile system, failed to intercept the projectile.



The Israeli military confirmed the failed interception and said an investigation is ongoing. Prime Minister Netanyahu, posting on social media, directly accused Iran of orchestrating the attack through its Houthi allies. "Israel will respond to the Houthi attack against our main airport AND, at a time and place of our choosing, to their Iranian terror

masters," he wrote. The Houthis, who claim their actions are in retaliation for Israel's war in Gaza, took responsibility for the attack and warned that Ben Gurion Airport is now a target. Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Saree said airlines should consider avoiding Israeli airspace as the group intends to impose an "air blockade." The strike led to a tempo-

rary suspension of operations at the airport, with major international airlines — including Lufthansa, Air France, Wizz Air, and Air India — cancelling or rerouting flights. Train services and road access to the airport were briefly halted. In Iran, Defence Minister Aziz Nasirzadeh warned of dire consequences if Israel or the United States retaliates. "If

this war is initiated by the US or the Zionist regime, Iran will target their interests, bases and forces — wherever they may be," Nasirzadeh said on state television, while maintaining that the Houthis act independently. Israel's political and military leaders have presented a united front, warning of a harsh counterstrike. Defence Minister Israel Katz vowed, "Whoever attacks us, we will hit back sevenfold," invoking a biblical reference. Opposition and coalition leaders alike pointed to Tehran as the ultimate source of the attack. Meanwhile, tensions remain high in Gaza, where over 52,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's 18-month-long campaign, according to Palestinian officials.

Among the dead are at least 57 who reportedly starved under the Israeli blockade enforced since March. As Netanyahu continues to seek support for a joint U.S.-Israeli operation against Iran, U.S. forces have escalated air raids in Yemen. Following the missile attack, American warplanes struck multiple locations in Yemen's al-Jawf, Marib, and Saada governorates. A recent U.S. strike on a migrant detention center in Saada killed dozens, highlighting the intensifying humanitarian toll of the ongoing conflict. With both the Houthis and Israel exchanging threats and military actions, the region braces for what could be a major escalation involving multiple fronts.

Man Alleged To Have Helped Terrorists In J&K Jumps Into River, Drowns

New delhi
WUT | May. 5

A 23-year-old man from Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district drowned in the Veshaw River on Sunday after attempting to flee from security forces during a counter-terrorism operation. The man, identified as Imtiyaz Ahmad Magray, had allegedly confessed to providing food and logistical support to terrorists operating in the forested region of Tangmarg in south Kashmir's Kulgam district. According to security sources, Magray was detained by the police on Saturday for interrogation. During questioning, he admitted to aiding militants by supplying essential items and facilitating their stay in the forest area. Acting on his disclosure, security forces arranged a joint

operation involving both police personnel and the army to track down the terrorists' hideout. On Sunday morning, Magray accompanied the team to lead them to the suspected location. However, in a sudden turn of events, and while traversing a rugged area near the Veshaw River, he broke away from the group and ran towards the riverbank. A video filmed from a higher vantage point shows Magray briefly scanning the terrain before leaping into the river in an apparent escape attempt. The video, which has since surfaced online, shows Magray struggling to swim in the strong current of the rocky river. Despite his efforts, he was quickly swept away by the water and is believed to have drowned. No security personnel were near him at the moment of his escape,

sources emphasized, and the entire sequence was captured on camera. The incident has sparked political and public debate in the region. While security officials have asserted that there was no foul play involved and condemned what they termed as "misinformation" being circulated about the incident, some local political figures have raised concerns. Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti took to social media to express suspicion over the circumstances surrounding Magray's death. In a post on X (formerly Twitter), she stated: "Yet another body has been recovered from a river in Kulgam raising serious allegations of foul play. Local residents allege that Imtiyaz Magray was picked up by the army two days ago and

now mysteriously his body has surfaced in the river." Security forces have responded by urging the public not to jump to conclusions or disseminate baseless claims, stating that the video evidence clearly shows Magray acting independently when he chose to jump into the river. They reiterated that no coercion or mistreatment occurred and emphasized that his death, though tragic, should not be attributed to the actions of the personnel involved. This is not the first incident involving local individuals accused of aiding terrorists in the region. Authorities continue to face challenges in counter-insurgency operations, especially in areas with known militant presence and logistical support networks. Investigations into the matter are ongoing, and officials.

US Eyes Sweeping Trade Reforms in India Under Proposed Bilateral Deal: GTRI Report

New delhi
WUT | May. 5

As trade negotiations between India and the United States advance, Washington is reportedly preparing to push for extensive policy changes across several sectors of the Indian economy. According to a recent report published by the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), the United States is seeking wide-ranging reforms in India's tariff structure, regulatory systems, and trade practices—changes that would potentially enhance market access and reduce barriers for American firms and exporters. The GTRI report, released on Sunday, indicates that the proposed bilateral trade agreement between the two nations could be a vehicle for these sweeping changes, many of which touch on politically and economically sensitive areas in India such as agriculture, dairy, digital commerce, and the importation of industrial goods.

In the agriculture sector, the United States has long been critical of India's minimum support price (MSP) programs, especially for staple crops like rice and wheat. These government-backed price guarantees, the US argues, distort market prices and act as trade barriers that disadvantage foreign producers. Washington is likely to demand that India scale back or reform these MSP schemes as part of the

trade agreement. Additionally, the US is expected to push for a reduction in agricultural tariffs and the removal of long-standing restrictions on genetically modified (GM) crops and food products. These restrictions, which stem from concerns over food safety and environmental impact, have effectively prevented the entry of many American agricultural goods into the Indian market.

However, India views these policy tools as crucial for ensuring food security and protecting the livelihoods of its millions of small and marginal farmers. "The MSP system is central to India's agricultural support framework and food procurement strategy," said Ajay Srivastava, founder of GTRI. "The government is unlikely to roll back such a cornerstone policy without significant domestic consultations."

Dairy Industry: Religious Sensitivities and Trade Barriers
The dairy sector is another flashpoint in the trade discussions. According to the GTRI report, the United States has raised objections to India's strict import protocols, particularly its requirement that dairy imports come from animals fed on a vegetarian, GM-free diet. This includes bans on dairy products from animals that have consumed animal-derived feed—a condition rooted in India's religious and cultural sensitivities,



EDITO -

TECH TRASH, GROWING E-WASTE CRISIS

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

Have you ever wondered where your old smartphone goes after you toss it? That tiny device — filled with valuable metals and toxic chemicals — doesn't just vanish. More often, it ends up in landfills or is dismantled under hazardous conditions in developing countries.


With technology evolving rapidly, devices are being replaced at an alarming rate, fueling a growing e-waste crisis. E-waste, or electronic waste, includes discarded gadgets like smartphones, computers and TVs. While no universal definition exists, it generally covers expensive, durable products used for data processing, communication and entertainment.

As lifespans shrink due to rapid innovation, global e-waste surged to 62 million tonnes in 2022 and is projected to hit 82 million tonnes by 2030 (Statista, 2025). Poor recycling rates,

informal processing and weak regulations intensify the crisis, posing severe environmental and health risks. Per Capita e-waste Per capita production is the average amount of e-waste each person in a country produces. In 2022, the average per capita e-waste production was 7.8 kilograms. While Asia generated the largest quantity of e-waste overall, Europe and Oceania had the highest per capita rates, producing 17.6 kilograms and 16.1 kilograms per person, respectively. This shows that e-waste is not evenly distributed worldwide, and different regions handle it in different ways.

Within this vast waste stream, valuable metals such as gold, silver and platinum can be found in recoverable amounts. Valuable metals in e-waste were worth \$9.6 billion in 2022 and could reach \$13.6 billion by 2029. However, only 22.3% was properly recycled, while 48 million tonnes were informally handled, with 29%

likely ending up in landfills. Weak enforcement of laws, such as the 2016 Municipal Solid Waste Rules (Turaga & Bhaskar), allows illegal e-waste exports in low to middle-income countries, where workers, including women and children, face toxic exposure. Poverty forces many communities to rely on e-waste scavenging despite serious health risks. Pregnant women and children are especially vulnerable, facing higher risks of neurodevelopmental disorders, respiratory diseases and toxic exposure. Studies link informal recycling to premature birth, stillbirth, and cognitive impairments. Addressing this crisis requires stronger regulations, safer recycling practices and technological innovations. Toxic Wasteland In Ghana, one of the world's largest e-waste dumps, children as young as ten can be seen rummaging through mountains of discarded electronics, hoping to find valuable metals like copper and gold. Their hands, often bare, are cov-



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

Fire Breaks Out at Patny Centre in Secunderabad

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

A major fire broke out on the fourth floor of the State Bank of India (SBI) administrative building at Patny Centre in Secunderabad on Sunday evening. Fortunately, no casualties were reported as the building was unoccupied at the time of the incident. The fire, which started



around 6:47 p.m., led to significant property damage. Burning debris from the SBI building fell onto an adjacent structure, gutting four parked

vehicles. "We received the fire alert at 6.47 p.m. and responded immediately with eight fire tenders," said B. Venkat Swamy, Senior Fire

Officer, Secunderabad. Over 30 firefighters, along with two Bronto sky lifters and smoke exhausters, were deployed to bring the blaze under control. Firefighting efforts were hampered by strong winds and dense smoke, which made it difficult for personnel to access the fourth floor. The team used sky lifters to enter the floor directly, while powerful

exhausters helped clear the smoke and improve visibility inside the building. Mahanakali police, assisted by senior officials, cordoned off the area, diverting traffic and keeping onlookers at a safe distance. Power supply to the building was cut off on the orders of Station House Officer K. Parashuram. It took more than three hours for the fire

to be completely extinguished. Officials confirmed that several files and pieces of furniture were destroyed in the incident. Preliminary investigations suggest that a short circuit may have triggered the fire. A case of fire accident has been registered by the Mahankali police, and further investigations are underway.

Supreme Court to Hear Pleas Challenging Constitutional Validity of Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 on May 5

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

The Supreme Court is set to hear on Monday a batch of petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. The hearing comes in the wake of the Central government's assurance to pause key provisions of the newly amended law, following intense scrutiny by a bench headed by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna. On April 17, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, told the bench — also comprising Justices Sanjay Kumar

and K.V. Viswanathan — that the government would not denotify waqf properties, including those recognized under "waqf by user", nor make any appointments to the Central Waqf Council or Waqf Boards until May 5. The government had opposed the court's suggestion for an interim order halting the denotification of waqf properties and a contentious provision allowing non-Muslims to be appointed to the Central Waqf Council and boards. The court, however, recorded the Centre's submissions and directed that waqf properties already reg-




istered or notified, including "waqf by user", should remain undisturbed until the next hearing. The bench had also granted the Centre a week's time to file a preliminary response to the batch of petitions. A total

of five petitions, now collectively titled In Re: The Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, are scheduled to be heard, including one filed by AIMIM chief and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi. In a 1,332-page affidavit filed

on April 25, the Ministry of Minority Affairs defended the amendments and cautioned the court against issuing any blanket stay on the law. The Centre argued that the legislation, passed after "due deliberations" in Parliament, enjoys a presumption of constitutionality. Defending the provision on "waqf by user", the government stated that any interference by the court would effectively result in a "legislative regime by judicial order". The affidavit also noted that mandatory registration of waqf properties, including those recognized

through continuous religious use, dates back to 1923. The Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 was signed into law by President Droupadi Murmu on April 5, and the Centre formally notified it soon after. The Act has drawn criticism over several provisions, including expanded powers for waqf boards and the inclusion of non-Muslim members in key bodies. The Supreme Court's ruling on the issue could have significant implications for the administration of religious endowments and property rights across the country.



Justice Maturi Girija Priyadarsini Passes Away at 61

Justice Maturi Girija Priyadarsini of the Telangana High Court passed away on Sunday at the age of 61 after a prolonged illness. She is survived by her husband, Dr. K. Vijay Kumar, a retired public sector employee, and their sons, Nikhil and Akhil. Her last rites will be performed on Monday at Mahaprasthanam, Jubilee Hills. Justice Priyadarsini was appointed as a judge of the Telangana High Court on March 24, 2022. Due to health issues, she had been conducting online hearings in recent months. Acting Chief Justice Sujoy Paul, fellow High Court judges, and Telangana Judges Association leaders K. Prabhakar Rao and K. Murali Mohan expressed deep condolences to her family. Born to Maturi Appa Rao, a commercial tax officer in the Telangana region, Justice Priyadarsini pursued higher education after her marriage. She earned master's degrees in sociology, public administration, and political science from Andhra University, followed by an LLB from NBM Law College, Visakhapatnam, in 1995. She completed her LLM in labour and industrial law in 1997, standing first in Constitutional Law. Beginning her legal practice in Visakhapatnam, she handled civil, criminal, labour, and matrimonial cases, often taking on pro-bono work through the District Legal Services Authority. She joined judicial services as an Additional District Judge in 2008 and later served as Principal District Judge in Ongole, Adilabad, and Karimnagar. Under her leadership, the District Legal Services Authority of Prakasam and Adilabad districts topped national rankings between 2016 and 2019. Her passing marks a significant loss to the judiciary.

Vedantu Launches Learning Centre in Tirupati, Marking CEO Vamsi Krishna’s Inspiring Homecoming

Tirupati
WUT | May. 5

Vedantu, a leading Indian edtech platform, has inaugurated a new Vedantu Learning Centre (VLC) in New Maruthi Nagar, Tirupati, further advancing its mission to make high-quality education affordable and accessible. The launch marks a special milestone for Vedantu Co-founder and CEO Vamsi Krishna, who returns to his hometown as part of the company’s rapid offline expansion. The VLC model, which blends traditional classroom learning with technology-enabled ac-



ademic support, is aimed at students preparing for JEE, NEET, and State Board exams. With this opening, Vedantu now operates offline centres in over 35 cities, including Chennai, Hyderabad, Patna, and Coimbatore. “This is where my journey began. Returning to Tirupati with a vision to empower local students through the same edu-

cation that changed my life is incredibly fulfilling,” said Krishna, an alumnus of IIT Bombay. To celebrate the launch, Vedantu hosted its flagship event, Vedantu Vidya Yatra, at Kachchapai Auditorium. The event featured an inspirational session by Vamsi Krishna, interactions with top Master Teachers, academic

strategy discussions, and student felicitations. Vedantu’s offline model emphasizes deep personalization, offering students a robust three-tier academic support system—Master Teachers, Student Academic Mentors (SAMs), and 24x7 Doubt Experts—augmented by its proprietary WAVE platform for real-time learning analytics. Students also benefit from curated resources like Tatva books, VDPPs (Daily Practice Problems), and regular assessments. Parents stay updated through the Vedantu Parent App. “Our unique promise—the Vedantu Improve-

ment Promise (VIP)—backs this model. If a student doesn’t show measurable improvement despite active participation, we refund the fee. That’s how confident we are,” said Anand Prakash, Co-founder and Head of Academics. Vedantu’s commitment to transforming education continues to scale with every new learning centre. With Tirupati now part of its growing network, the platform is one step closer to making personalised, high-impact education a reality for every student in India.

CII unveils guidebook on effective adoption, governance of AI for board leaders

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Industry body CII has released a ‘guidebook on effective adoption and governance of AI for board leaders’, amid the rising use of Artificial Intelligence in businesses and the essential role of board engagement in supporting effective and meaningful AI governance. AI requires careful governance to fully harness its potential while mitigating the risks and challenges it presents, CII said

in a release, adding that the guidebook aims to serve as an effective tool for the board of directors to navigate the intricate landscape of AI governance and drive better business outcomes. It encompasses basic concepts related to AI, its use in various business functions, criticality of AI governance and its framework, risks and challenges and its governance and liabilities of directors associated with deployment of AI in businesses. It outlines the essential role of board engagement



in supporting effective and meaningful AI governance, and underlines the importance of aligning strategies with corporate objectives, recognising associated risks, and establishing accountability and transparency in deployments. “This balanced approach is crucial for sustainable,

ethical AI adoption in business contexts. It aims to serve as a valuable tool for Boards as it suggests effective and practically feasible steps for creating a structured framework for governance and responsible use of AI in businesses,” CII said. The guidebook underlines that as AI continues to transform industries and business environments, board members play a crucial role in steering organisations towards responsible and ethical AI adoption. “It emphasises on criti-

cality of establishing and upholding clear and enduring values for maintaining accountability in use of AI within business operations. It focusses on adoption of values such as integrity, responsibility, security, fairness, accountability, transparency, which can serve as a moral compass, guiding the decision-making processes and ensuring that the use of AI aligns with organisation’s ethical standards, legal obligations, and the broader interests of all stakeholders,” CII said.

Samsung Launches AI-Powered QLED & 4K UHD TVs

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Samsung has unveiled its latest AI-powered QLED and Crystal Clear 4K UHD TV series in India, now available on Amazon, Flipkart, and Samsung.com starting May 1, 2025. The new lineup includes the QLED QE1 series and UHD models (UE81, UE84, UE86), designed to offer a superior home entertainment experience. The QLED QE1 series incorporates Real and Safe Quantum Dot Technology, delivering 100% Color Volume for vibrant and accurate visuals. These models are free from harmful Cadmium, ensuring a safer viewing experience. Powered by the Q4



AI Processor, these TVs enhance both picture and sound in real-time, offering lifelike clarity and immersive depth. The integration of Samsung Vision AI further improves the viewing experience by recognizing scenes, objects, and faces, adjusting visuals accordingly. Additionally,

Pantone Validation guarantees accurate color reproduction, making the experience more authentic. The Crystal Clear 4K UHD models (UE81, UE84, UE86) deliver exceptional 4K resolution with the Crystal Processor 4K, which upscales content for sharp and vi-

brant visuals. These models are equipped with PurColor technology to bring true-to-life colors, ensuring an immersive viewing experience. The Object Tracking Sound Lite (OTS Lite) technology tracks on-screen action, providing virtual top-channel audio for dynamic

sound. Both the QLED and UHD models offer access to a wide variety of free entertainment channels, eliminating the need for additional subscriptions. Additionally, Samsung’s SmartThings integration allows users to control and automate connected devices like lights, appliances, and security cameras directly from the TV. To celebrate the launch, Samsung offers up to 35% discounts, no-cost EMI options, and instant cashback up to INR 3,000. With cutting-edge AI, stunning visuals, and immersive sound, Samsung’s new TV lineup is set to elevate home entertainment in India.

Actress Ananya Nagalla Graces Visista Jewellers’ Grand Bumper Draw Event with Dazzling Presence

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

Visista Jewellers hosted a grand Bumper Draw event on May 4, 2025, at its flagship store near Ashtalakshmi Arch, Pillar No. 1616, Kothapet, Hyderabad, creating an atmosphere of excitement and celebration. The highlight of the evening was the presence of acclaimed actress Ananya Nagalla, who graced the occasion as the chief guest. Expressing her delight, she shared, “It was heartwarming to see the joy and excitement among the winners. Visista Jewellers truly represents elegance and customer appreciation.” The event saw a tremendous turnout, with customers eagerly awaiting the results of the much-anticipated lucky draw. Shoppers who had collected coupons through recent purchases had the



chance to win an exciting range of prizes, including an electric bike, television, cooler, fridge, and over 30 other gifts. The grand prize—an electric bike—was awarded to Swarna Latha, while other lucky winners included Prasanna Anjenyul, Deepika Sai Krishna, Kavya, and Pavani. Founder Mr. Palabatlal Anand Babu expressed gratitude for the overwhelming participation, emphasizing that the event was not just about prizes but about celebrating loyal customers and creating last-

ing memories. In line with its commitment to customer value, Visista Jewellers also promoted its popular Golden Saving Scheme, which allows members to save ₹2,000, ₹5,000, or ₹10,000 per month for 11 months. The scheme offers attractive monthly draws, zero making charges on select jewellery, and special bonuses for non-winning members across all draws. This initiative encourages smart saving while offering customers the joy of receiving precious gifts and benefits.

Tollywood Stars Illuminate the Grand Launch of Epithelia Clinic in Hyderabad

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

The skyline of Hyderabad shone a little brighter on Saturday evening as Epithelia Clinic, a cutting-edge dermatology and trichology center, celebrated its grand opening in the city’s Financial District, Nanakramguda.

The exclusive launch event was graced by Tollywood actress Regina Cassandra, whose elegance and heartfelt remarks on the importance of holistic skincare captivated the audience. Joining her were several prominent figures from the Telugu film industry, turning the occasion into a glamorous red carpet affair.

The event attracted an elite crowd of Hyderabad’s top doctors, wellness experts, and high-net-worth individuals (HNIs), all eager to experience the unveiling of a clinic that promises to set new



standards in personalized skin and hair care. Guests were treated to curated tours of the facility, live demonstrations of advanced treatments, and engaging conversations with the expert team behind Epithelia. During the event, the clinic’s founders shared their vision of blending advanced medical aesthetics with a patient-centered approach. “Epithelia Clinic is not just about beauty—it’s about confidence, science, and self-care.

We are excited to bring world-class technologies to Hyderabad,” they said. The evening was filled with celebration, insightful discussions, and a collective commitment to raising the standard of dermatological care in the city. With its luxurious interiors, expert staff, and comprehensive treatment offerings, Epithelia Clinic is set to become the ultimate destination for those seeking premium skin and hair solutions.

ROADWAYZ Theatre Presents ‘SANDHYA, Tum Kahaan Ho’: A Groundbreaking Play on Alzheimer’s Disease

Hyderabad
WUT | May. 5

ROADWAYZ Theatre Group is set to present "SANDHYA, Tum Kahaan Ho," a captivating play that sheds light on Alzheimer’s disease. Written and directed by Capt. Ahmed SN, this emotionally impactful production explores the struggles faced by individuals and families affected by Alzheimer’s. The play will debut on May 16th, 2025, at T-HIVE, eGalleria Mall in Hi-Tech City, Hyderabad, and will continue with performances at various venues, including special shows for Army Veterans and Senior Citizen Townships. In India, forgetfulness in

older age is often dismissed as a natural part of aging, causing early symptoms of Alzheimer’s to be overlooked. This cultural norm results in many elderly individuals suffering in silence, with the disease often misdiagnosed, leaving families to bear the emotional and physical burden. Capt. Ahmed SN, moved by personal experiences with his fellow Army colleagues grappling with Alzheimer’s, decided to raise awareness through theatre. Drawing from real-life experiences, he scripted and directed "SANDHYA, Tum Kahaan Ho," blending poignant moments with humor to create an engaging yet informative piece. The play focuses on



(L-R) Lokesh as sibling Sonu, Capt. Ahmed as Sharma Ji, Zoya as sibling Monu & Seema Khan as Shrimatee ji, enacting a role in Hindi comedy show Baasira Maata Ki Jai.

the emotional toll Alzheimer’s takes on patients and their families,

urging society to recognize the struggles of those affected.

Through a combination of humor, empathy, and storytelling, the production in-

vites audiences to reflect on the challenges of caregiving and the importance of providing support to the elderly. The play’s delicate balance of laughter and serious themes allows it to entertain while educating, making it both an enjoyable and thought-provoking experience for viewers. ROADWAYZ Theatre has a history of using its platform to tackle important social issues through entertaining performances. Previous productions, such as "Baasira Mata Ki Jai," which addressed food wastage with humor, and "Ismat aur Manto ki Chuhalbaaziyaan," which brought to life the banter of literary legends, have been met with critical

acclaim. These plays have successfully combined humor and social commentary, proving the group’s ability to inform and entertain. "SANDHYA, Tum Kahaan Ho" continues ROADWAYZ Theatre’s tradition of raising awareness through impactful performances. By highlighting the realities of Alzheimer’s, the play hopes to foster greater understanding and compassion within society. With its emotionally charged and humorous approach, this production is not just entertainment, but a call to action for more awareness and support for those affected by Alzheimer’s.

CITY CLICKS

Riyan Parag Hits Historic Six Sixes, But RR Lose Last-Ball Thriller to KKR



Rajasthan Royals' stand-in captain Riyan Parag created history on Sunday by becoming the first batter in IPL history to hit six consecutive sixes, but his sensational effort wasn't enough to take his team over the line against Kolkata Knight Riders in a last-ball thriller.Parag's blistering 95 off just 45 balls (6 fours, 8 sixes) nearly pulled off a stunning chase after RR found themselves struggling at 71/5 within eight overs, chasing a daunting target of 207 at Eden Gardens. The 23-year-old's historic six-hitting spree came across two overs—five off Moeen Ali and one off Varun Chakravarthy—electrifying the crowd and keeping Royals' hopes alive.However, KKR's experienced campaigners held their nerve in the final moments. A well-executed final over by Vaibhav Arora and a crucial run-out by Rinku Singh ensured the Royals fell just short at 205/8, giving KKR a narrow 1-run victory.Earlier, Andre Russell powered KKR to 206/4 with a fiery unbeaten knock of 57 off 25 balls, roaring back to form after a quiet season. His explosive finish—along with crucial contributions from other batters—helped the Knight Riders plunder 85 runs in the final five overs.Despite Parag's heroics, clever captaincy from Ajinkya Rahane, including timely bowling changes and a sharp field adjustment in the last over, turned the tide. With RR needing 22 off the final over, Impact Player Shubham Dube struck two sixes and a four, but Arora held firm. The final twist came on the last delivery when Jofra Archer was run out at the non-striker's end trying to steal a third run.With this win, KKR move to sixth on the points table with 11 points from 11 matches, keeping their slim playoff hopes alive. They must now win all three of their remaining fixtures to stay in contention.

We have the desire to finish the season well, says Sunrisers head coach Vettori



Sunrisers Hyderabad head coach Daniel Vettori said that despite what was going on so far for his team, there would always be a desire to finish the season well. “We understand that finishing the season well can give a lot of optimism to the franchise going forward. So, we know that it hasn’t been the season that we’re after, the expectations were quite high for the team coming in,” Vettori said on the eve of the IPL league match against Delhi Capitals here on Sunday. “We still believe that there are 11 really good players that will take the park and that they’ve all had huge amounts of success, whether it be in IPL or at some stage in their international careers and also at some stage throughout the season,” he said. “Like I said before, at some stage, individually, they have delivered. It’s just us putting that collective performance together,” Vettori said. “It’s been a consistent struggle throughout the season,” he added. “There are no fitness concerns from our end, I think Shami has trained and prepared as well as he can, and I know that he had high expectations coming into the tournament based on how well he bowled in the Champions Trophy,” Vettori said. “The remaining four games could produce a different story, and we’re able to talk positively about more players depending on what they’re able to do but I think if I just take off the top of my head, I think Aniket Verma has been incredible this season,” the SRH head coach said. “The goal for us is obviously to put a performance together that incorporates all three disciplines, and that’s what’s been missing so far, but for me in particular, if we can field well, then I think that’ll have a huge bearing on the game,” he said.

Prabhsimran, Arshdeep power Punjab to 37-run victory against Lucknow

Dharamsala WUT | May. 5

Rishabh Pant lost the grip on his bat and the match simultaneously as Punjab Kings rode on heroics from the two ‘Singhs’ — Prabhsimran and Arshdeep — to literally push Lucknow Super Giants to the brink of elimination with a 37-run win in an IPL match here on Sunday.

It was Prabhsimran’s 48-ball 91 that formed the cornerstone of Punjab Kings’ unassailable 236 for 5 and any hopes of a remarkable chase was nipped in the bud by Arshdeep’s (3/16 in 4 overs) now familiar Powerplay spell which summarily destroyed the opposition top-order.

This time, he got the three top run-getters — Mitchell Marsh (0), Aiden Markram (13) and the ever-dangerous Nicholas Pooran (6) — to swing the match decisively in Punjab’s favour. Ayush



Badoni’s (74 off 40 balls) effort was a good one albeit it came for a losing cause. LSG were finally restricted to 199 for 7 in 20 overs and even if they win their last three games and get to 16 points from 14 games, their net run-rate can make things difficult for them.

Punjab Kings are now placed second with 15 points from 11 games and one more win could possibly clinch a place in top four for them.

But what is becoming an eyesore is LSG’s Rs 27 crore worth skipper Pant’s inexplicable ap-

proach which has fetched him a dismal 128 runs in 11 innings at a sub-100 strike-rate (99.22).

On the day, he scored 18 off 17 balls and that he is completely out of sync was evident in the manner he tried to throw the proverbial kitchen sink at an Azmatullah Omarzai delivery.

There was no control in his shot as the bat took off on parabolic curve towards square leg and the ball went towards deep point.

Pant’s misery was a testimony of LSG’s wretched campaign that was lost at the auction table when

the owner decided to go with a sub-stand-ard bowling attack based on a half-fit talented pacer Mayank Yadav.

Mayank has already lost at least 10-15 yards of pace post-rehabilitation under the watch of Nitin Patel at the National Cricket Academy.

On Sunday, he went for 60 runs off four overs with half a dozen of sixes struck off his bowling.

The pint-sized Prabhsimran packed a mean punch in his strokes as he blasted his way to a 48-ball 91 with the help of six fours and seven sixes.

The Punjab keeper-batter should have got his second IPL hundred but an ambitious switch hit off Digvesh Rathi saw him head back to the pavilion, nine runs short of what would have been a deserving milestone.

Towards the end, Shashank Singh scored 33 off 15 balls to take PBKS to what looked like an unassailable total. There were 16 sixes hit by Pujab Kings with 13 coming off pacers.

Prabhsimran was initially a passive partner as it was Australian Jos Inglis who launched the first attack with a hat-trick of sixes off Mayank Yadav, whose speed has decreased by at least 15 kmph post his intense rehab under Nitin Patel at the BCCI’s erstwhile National Cricket Academy to recover from back injury.

However, once Inglis was dismissed, Prabhsimran, along with skipper Shreyas Iyer (45 off 25

balls), took control of the game. They were only helped by some atrocious fielding from Avesh Khan, who would probably go down as the worst fielder in the 18-year history of IPL.

Adding insult to injury, Prabhsimran took the tall MP fast bowler to the cleaners as he was pulled over mid-wicket for back-to-back maximums. Khan went for 57 in four overs and if around 15 runs due to his misfielding is added, he caused the maximum damage for his team.

The duo of Prabhsimran and Iyer added 78 runs in 7.5 overs before Rathi, LSG’s best bowler on view, became the first spinner in the current season to account for Punjab Kings skipper’s wicket.

But Prabhsimran continued like a man possessed and LSG bowlers were guilty of feeding to his strengths throughout the innings.

Knight Riders win thriller: Parag knock in vain, Rajasthan goes down fighting

Kolkata WUT | May. 5

Andre Russell roared back to form with a blistering unbeaten fifty as Kolkata Knight Riders resisted Riyan Parag’s stunning 95 to edge out Rajasthan Royals by one run in an IPL thriller that kept the defending champions’ slim playoff hopes alive here on Sunday.

Russell, who had been under scrutiny for his indifferent form this season, smashed a 25-ball 57 as KKR smashed 85 runs in the last five overs to post a commanding 206/4.

In reply, Rajasthan found themselves in tatters at 71/5 inside eight overs, and they needed 105 runs from the last 48 balls before stand-in skipper Parag kept their hopes alive through his knock off 45 balls (6×4, 8×6).

But smart bowling changes from skipper Ajinkya Rahane ensured that Parag got out five short of his maiden IPL century, before Vaibhav Arora held his nerves under pressure in the final over, keeping RR down to 205/8.

The Royals required 22 runs off the last over, but Impact Shubham Dube launched Arora for two sixes and a four to bring the equation down to three runs off the final delivery.

But a smart field switch by Rahane, placing Rinku Singh at long-off, proved decisive as his



sharp throw found Arora at non-striker’s end, who ran out Jofra Archer to seal the thrilling win.

KKR now have 11 points from as many games and have moved up to sixth on the points table but still need to win the remaining three matches to have a sniff at the play-offs.

Before the tense finale, RR’s chase began in ominous fashion. Vaibhav Suryavanshi (4) departed in the first over, and Kunal Singh Rathore followed for a duck, leaving the Royals reeling at 8/2 in the second over.

However, Parag injected urgency with three crisp boundaries and two sixes. Yashasvi Jaiswal (34 off 21 balls) unsettled Varun Chakravarthy with back-to-back fours as Royals recovered to maintain a healthy

run-rate of just under 10 in the Power Play.

While Harshit Rana leaked 28 runs in two overs and Arora too was expensive, KKR turned to spin twins Moeen Ali and Chakravarthy, who turned the game around, sharing four wickets between them to reduce the Royals to 71/5. Moeen broke the rhythm of RR, dismissing Jaiswal. Rinku sprinted in from long-on and completed a sharp diving catch to give KKR the breakthrough.

Rahane then made a smart call to bring back Chakravarthy from the other end and it paid off immediately. The mystery spinner bowled a game-changing over, striking twice in three balls, cleaning up Dhruv Jurel and Wanindu Hasaranga with googlies. But what followed was abso-

lute carnage with Parag launching into Moeen in the 13th over, smashing the off-spinner for five consecutive sixes in a jaw-dropping 32-run over.

In the process, Parag raced to his maiden fifty of the season in just 27 balls and added 92 runs for the sixth wicket with Shimron Hetmyer. But Narine’s tidy last over heaped pressure on both the batters as Rana dismissed Hetmyer with a lifter in the next over. With 38 runs needed off the last 18 balls, Parag went big but holed out to Arora at long-on.

Earlier, coming into the match with just 72 runs from seven innings at an average of 10.28, Russell changed the ordinary script. The 37-year-old Jamaican recovered from a slow start (2 off 9 balls) to finish with a staggering strike rate of 228.00. Russell unleashed his fury in the final five overs, transforming a middling KKR total into a formidable one.

In the 16th over, Russell tore into pacer Akash Madhwal, smashing him for 4, 6, and 4.

Russell found a reliable partner in young Angkrish Raghuvanshi, who made 44 off 31 balls (5×4), as the pair stitched together a 61-run stand from just 33 balls. Rahane (30 off 24) and Rahmanullah Gurbaz (35 off 25) earlier added 56 runs off 33 balls. Score card

Rajasthan Royals: (Target: 207 runs from 20 overs)

Yashasvi Jaiswal c Singh b Ali 34, Vaibhav Suryavanshi c Rahane b Arora 4, Kunal Singh Rathore c Russell b Ali 0, Riyan Parag c Arora b Harshit Rana 95, Dhruv Jurel b Varun 0, Wanindu Hasaranga b Varun 0, Shimron Hetmyer c Narine b Harshit Rana 29, Shubham Dube not out 25, Jofra Archer run out 12; Extras: 6 (LB-1 NB-1 W-4); Total: 205 (For 8 wickets in 20 overs); Fall of wickets: 1/5 2/8 3/66 4/71 5/71 6/163 7/173 8/205; Bowling: Vaibhav Arora 4-0-50-1, Moeen Ali 3-0-43-2, Harshit Rana 4-0-41-2, Varun Chakravarthy 4-0-32-2, Sunil Narine 4-0-27-0, Andre Russell 1-0-11-0

Kolkata Knight Riders: Rahmanullah Gurbaz c Hetmyer b M Theekshana 35, Sunil Narine b Yudhvir Singh 11, Ajinkya Rahane c Dhruv Jurel b Riyan Parag 30, Angkrish Raghuvanshi c (sub)Ashok Sharma b Jofra Archer 44, Andre Russell not out 57, Rinku Singh not out 19; Extras: 10 (B-1, LB-2, W-7); Total: 206 (For 4 wkts, 20 Overs); Fall of Wickets: 13-1, 69-2, 111-3, 172-4; Bowling: Jofra Archer 4-0-30-1, Yudhvir Singh Chakrak 2-0-26-1, Maheesh Theekshana 4-0-41-1, Akash Madhwal 3-0-50-0, Wanindu Hasaranga 4-0-35-0, Riyan Parag 3-0-21-1

NEET-UG 2025 Held Smoothly Across TG

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) UG 2025 was successfully conducted across Telangana on Sunday, with thousands of aspiring medical students appearing for the crucial exam under stringent security arrangements and monitoring. The examination, held from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 190 designated centres across the state, saw an incident-free execution thanks to coordinated efforts by the National Testing Agency (NTA), the state health department, and the local police. At most centres, students and their parents began arriving well ahead of the scheduled gate closure time of 1:30 p.m. to avoid delays during the registration and biometric verification processes. Many parents were seen waiting patiently outside



examination venues, offering emotional support and reassurance to their children. Despite the largely smooth conduct of the exam, a few isolated incidents were reported. At the Osmania University's science and mathematics centre, two students were denied entry after arriving post the gate closure time. In another case, a student who had been allotted the centre at Kanchanbagh mistakenly arrived at the RCI School in Balapur. Alert police personnel present at the venue quickly intervened and ar-

ranged for her to be transported to the correct centre, ensuring she did not miss the exam. Strict protocols were enforced at all examination centres. Students were permitted to carry only essential items, including their NEET UG admit card, a valid government-issued ID proof, and passport-sized photographs. In addition, the state health department had deployed nodal officers, ambulances, and medical teams to remain on standby for emergencies. The NTA had appointed chief

superintendents and independent observers to oversee the conduct of the examination. Speaking to the media, North Zone Traffic ACP Shankar Rao said that law enforcement had deployed personnel at all 11 centres in his jurisdiction, which saw a turnout of 5,520 candidates. Temporary 'no parking' zones were established to ensure smooth traffic flow and hassle-free access to exam centres. Students and faculty members had mixed reactions regarding the difficulty level of the NEET UG 2025 paper. While the Biology and Chemistry sections were considered manageable by many, the Physics section drew criticism for being especially lengthy and complex. A. Rishika, one of the candidates, shared her experience: "I attempted Physics last and ran out of time. The questions were very lengthy and difficult to under-

stand." Similarly, Kalpana Gaharwar noted that while she found Biology straightforward and Chemistry doable, the Physics section was both tough and tricky. "Thankfully, I focused on the NCERT syllabus, which helped me handle most of the questions," she added. Another candidate, M. Namratha, expressed her concern, stating that she found some questions unfamiliar and was eagerly awaiting the release of the official answer key to assess her performance. Subject experts echoed students' sentiments. V. Purushotham Rao, a Chemistry faculty member at a private institute, stated that four to five questions in the Chemistry section were beyond the NCERT syllabus. "Out of 45 questions, about 25 were easy, 10 moderate, and 10 quite difficult. A score of 120 or above in Chemistry will be considered good," he explained.

Kishan Reddy Asks Party Leaders to Meet Caste Groups

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

With the Centre deciding to conduct the caste enumeration along with national census next year, the state BJP has decided to take the issue to the masses and explain how the survey to be carried out by the Centre would bring a sea change in their lives. Future policies and schemes will be framed in accordance with the outcome of the caste survey, the party will tell the people. The issue was discussed at the Telangana BJP office-bearers meeting here on Monday. Telangana BJP president and Union minister G. Kishan Reddy, BJP OBC Morcha president Dr K. Laxman and BC Welfare Association president R. Krishnaiah, party MP from AP, were



present. Kishan Reddy asked the party leaders to meet leaders from different caste groups and explain how the Centre was going to conduct a comprehensive caste survey, enlisting every single detail. The government would get approval from Parliament to conduct the caste enumeration along with the national census, he said. Later speaking to media, Krishnaiah said that the era of BC communities had begun in the country. In fact, the big change in the lives of the

Backward Classes had started ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who also hails from the community, took over the reins of the country, he said. On the claims of Congress leaders taking credit for Central government conducting caste enumeration, Krishnaiah asked why the Congress, which has been in power for over 60 years, had not conducted the caste census. Phase-wise changes will come in the lives of the Backward Classes in the near future. The government will frame policies based on the outcome of caste enumeration and it would make a big positive impact in the socio, political, educational and employment conditions of the community, Krishnaiah said.

Crucial meeting on May 7 on Krishna river water sharing

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

The Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II award, delivered way back in December 2010, has fuelled intense legal battles, rather than bringing resolution to the complex inter-State water sharing disputes. The meeting of Irrigation Ministers from the Krishna basin States convened by the Ministry of Jal Shakti on May 7 is intended to facilitate gazette publication of the award and putting in place a stable water-sharing framework for the next two-and-half decades. But the conflict situation is unlikely to fade if the demand for an equitable share of water is not fulfilled. Following the formation of Telangana in

2014, the Tribunal's scope expanded in 2023 (with the issue of further terms of reference) to the water-sharing disputes between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. A key issue is project-wise allocations from the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh's share of 811 TMC under KWDT-I and additional allocations. The tribunal is currently deliberating on these disputes, with a revised deadline set for July 31, 2025. Telangana's demand for a 70 per cent share is based on basin area conflicts with Andhra Pradesh's reliance on the existing 512:299 TMC allocation. Karnataka and Maharashtra also have stakes in protecting their shares, which could lead to a deadlock if concessions are not made. Decades of disputes, in-

cluding Telangana's claims of neglect under the undivided Andhra Pradesh and its accusations of unauthorised water use by Andhra Pradesh have eroded trust on each other. The KWDT-II award divided the Krishna river's water based on a 65 per cent dependability threshold, derived from 47 years of water flow data. The allocation granted 1,001 TMC (thousand million cubic feet) to Andhra Pradesh, 911 TMC to Karnataka and 666 TMC to Maharashtra, with a total dependable yield of 2,293 TMC. The previous KWDT-I ruling allowed Andhra Pradesh to utilise surplus water without formal claims, KWDT-II assessed surplus flow at 285 TMC and redistributed it among all three States.

Hyderabad Police nab six automobile theft offenders

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

The Hyderabad Police Task Force apprehended six individuals involved in multiple automobile thefts across the city. Among those arrested are habitual offenders who systematically stole vehicles and sold them at nominal prices to known associates. Additionally, five others, including three juveniles, were detained for purchasing the stolen property. According to DCP (Task Force) Y V S Sudheendra, the gang operated in a planned manner, targeting two-wheelers and autos parked in isolated areas. After stealing the ve-

hicles, they sold them at throwaway prices, mainly to acquaintances. The police have recovered three Honda Dio scooters, one Activa, and an auto-rickshaw as part of the seized stolen property. Two more vehicles used by the gang during their criminal activities were also confiscated. The arrests and recoveries were made following an investigation into recent vehicle theft cases reported across various parts of the city. The police have urged citizens to ensure proper locking mechanisms and parking in secured areas to prevent such incidents. Further investigation is underway to identify other.

Cow Should Be Recognized as National Animal: Vishwa Hindu Mahasangh

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

The Vishwa Hindu Mahasangh Telangana branch organized a grand Cow Maha Aarti program at the Hyderabad Public Garden on Sunday, under the leadership of State President Vaibhav Surya and Secretary Dr. Samatha. The event, which ran from morning to evening, featured a series of activities celebrating the significance of cows. The day began with a cow walk through the premises of the Public



Garden, with notable participants including television actor Prabhakar Kaushik and others. The walk was a show of unity and devotion, highlighting the cultural and spiritual importance of cows. Later in the day, a cow

homam was conducted, further honoring the sacred status of cows in Hindu tradition. The event was a significant display of devotion, attracting participants and guests from various walks of life.

Traffic Police North Zone Ensures Smooth Transit for NEET-UG 2025 Candidates

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

In view of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (Undergraduate) 2025 scheduled for Sunday, 4 May 2025, the Traffic Police of North Zone has made comprehensive arrangements to facilitate smooth and timely arrival of candidates at their examination centres. There are 11 examination centres in the North Zone, with a total of 5,520 candidates expected to appear for the exam. To manage the increased movement,



adequate traffic personnel have been deployed at key junctions and on roads leading to all exam centres. Temporary "No Parking" zones will be in effect around the centres. Necessary traffic diversions have also been implemented, and designated parking

facilities have been arranged to avoid congestion. The Traffic Police extends best wishes to all NEET-2025 aspirants and is fully committed to ensuring safe, smooth, and timely transportation for every candidate.

Kavitha granted permission for US visit by CBI court

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

BRS MLC K Kavitha is set to visit the United States from May 16 to 23 to attend her son Aditya's graduation ceremony. She will be accompanied by her husband Anil. The couple is scheduled to depart from Hyderabad on May 16 and return after the family event on May 23. Ahead of the trip, the Rouse Avenue Special CBI Court in New Delhi granted official permission for her travel, as legal proceedings involving her required court approval for any foreign visit. The court issued the necessary orders on Sat-



urday, allowing Kavitha to leave the country for the short duration. The travel is strictly personal, with no political or public programs lined up during the visit. The court's approval ensures that Kavitha can participate in her son's important academic milestone without any legal hurdles. The development has drawn public interest due to her ongoing legal challenges and political profile.

Thunderstorms lash Hyderabad, surrounding districts on Sunday

Hyderabad WUT | May. 5

Hyderabad witnessed sudden and intense weather activity on Sunday evening, as thunderstorms accompanied by lightning, gusty winds, and hailstorms swept across several core areas of the city and its surrounding districts. The unseasonal spell of weather brought temporary relief from the rising temperatures but also caused disruptions in several localities. Moderate rains lasting be-



tween 10 to 15 minutes were reported in multiple parts of the city, including Tellapur, Serilingampally, Miyapur, Gachibowli, Nankramguda, Narsingi, and BHEL Township. These areas experienced showers along with strong gusty

winds and thunder, according to the Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDDS). The brunt of the rainfall activity was recorded in parts of the Rangareddy district, particularly in Serilingampally, RC Puram,

Patancheru, and Amberpet mandals. While rainfall in most areas ranged from 2 mm to 4.3 mm by Sunday afternoon, the sudden downpour led to a noticeable dip in day temperatures across the region. The India Meteorological Department (IMD), Hyderabad, has forecasted that thunderstorm activity is likely to continue in Hyderabad and nearby districts for the next 24 hours. According to the forecast, citizens can expect further spells of thunder, lightning, and strong winds, prompt-

ing authorities to advise precautions, particularly during evening hours. Residents in the affected areas reported brief power outages and traffic slowdowns due to reduced visibility and slippery roads. The weather department has urged the public to stay indoors during lightning episodes and to avoid taking shelter under trees or near electric poles. The sudden change in weather comes as a part of the broader pre-monsoon climatic shifts affecting several parts of Telangana.

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