



WAKE UP



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Brief Insights

PM Modi to Launch Agriculture Projects Worth Over ₹42,000 Cr

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch and lay the foundation of projects and schemes worth over ₹42,000 crore in the agriculture and allied sectors on Saturday. The Prime Minister will inaugurate two major schemes with a combined outlay of ₹35,440 crore. This includes the PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (₹24,000 crore), aimed at boosting agricultural productivity, promoting crop diversification and sustainable practices, enhancing post-harvest storage at panchayat and block levels, improving irrigation **CONT:P4**

UK ex-PM Rishi Sunak Cleared for Paid Advisory Roles

Britain's former prime minister Rishi Sunak has been cleared by a UK government watchdog to take on part-time paid advisory roles with tech giant Microsoft and AI firm Anthropic, both based in the US. Sunak, who is now a backbench Conservative Party MP for Richmond and North-allerton, had approached the Advisory Committee on Business Appointments under the government's "Business Appointment Rules for Former Ministers". The committee, which published its decision on Thursday, said Sunak should not draw on any privileged information available to **CONT:P4**

EC Sets 750g Rule for Biryani in Polls

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As the Jubilee Hills Assembly bye-election approaches, the Hyderabad District Election Authority has laid out unusually detailed guidelines to ensure compliance with the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) — right down to the weight of a biryani plate. Each plate of mutton biryani served at campaign events must weigh exactly 750 grams and be priced at ₹180, while chicken biryani must cost ₹170 for the same quantity. Candidates are required to maintain bills and records as proof of expenditure, which must be submitted regularly to the authorities.

Under Election Commission of India (ECI) norms, all expenses must be meticulously logged in an official register, with expenditure statements submitted every three days from the date of nomination. The rules apply not only to catering services but also to food prepared and served by party volunteers, placing the full responsibility of compliance on the contesting candidates. The fixed price list extends beyond non-vegetarian dishes. Egg biryani is capped at ₹135 per plate, vegetarian biryani at ₹115, veg meals at ₹80, and pulihora at ₹40. Snacks and beverages also have set prices — a large samosa is ₹10, a

small one ₹3, coffee ₹11, and tea ₹10. A plate of idli (four pieces) or wada (two pieces) is priced at ₹20 each. Interestingly, despite inflation, the ECI continues to follow the 2014 price list, leaving many accountants juggling old rates with present-day costs. Additionally, there has been little upward revision in rates for hiring vehicles or function halls, further tightening campaign budgets. With poll heat rising in Jubilee Hills, candidates are discovering that success in this high-profile contest may depend as much on keeping the biryani within 750 grams as on winning over the voters.

Relations with Afghanistan moving on right path: Former diplomats



Former Indian diplomats on Friday welcomed Afghanistan Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi's visit to India, highlighting the historic relations between both countries. Former Indian Ambassador to Bangladesh, Veena Sikri termed Muttaqi's visit to India "very important" and welcomed New Delhi's upgradation of Technical Mission in Kabul to the status of Embassy in Afghanistan. Speaking to IANS, Sikri said that India has a special relationship with people of Afghanistan as they come here to study, meet people and do business. **CONT:P4**

Shah Favours SIR Rollout Across India

NEW DELHI
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Supporting the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) drive, Union home minister Amit Shah on Friday said that the inclusion of infiltrators in the voters' list "pollutes the spirit of the Constitution" and asserted that the Centre would continue to follow its long-standing policy of "detect, delete and deport" in dealing with such cases. Delivering a lecture in memory of former editor-in-chief Narendra Mohan of a leading Hindi daily, on the topic "Infiltration (Ghuspaith), Demographic Change and Democracy," the home minister said that voting rights must be reserved exclusively for Indian citizens. "The BJP has adopted the



formula of detect, delete, and deport since the 1950s. We will detect the infiltrators, delete them from the voter list, and deport them from this country as well," he said. Shah asserted that a time would come when even the opposition would not be spared. "The opposition says it is the Centre's responsibility to stop infiltration since the BSF is under its control, but there are areas along the border that cannot be fenced due to difficult topography," he said. He added that the Centre alone cannot curb

infiltration without co-operation from the states. "Some state governments protect infiltrators as certain parties see a vote bank in them," he said, adding that free and fair elections were not possible unless the voter list comprised only Indian citizens who had attained the eligible voting age. Shah stressed that both infiltration and the SIR exercise should not be viewed through a political lens, describing them as "national issues." "I want to ask all citizens — who should decide who becomes the Prime Minister or Chief Minister? Should anyone other than the citizens of the country have that right?" he asked. Underlining that no one should interfere in the SIR process, Mr. Shah accused the Congress of being in **CONT:P4**

NDA Reaches Consensus on Bihar Seat Sharing

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On the day the notification for filing nominations for the first phase of the Bihar Assembly elections was issued on Friday, hectic negotiations were underway within both the NDA and the Mahagathabandhan alliances for the final round of seat-sharing arrangements. In the NDA camp, after a series of meetings among alliance

partners on Friday, BJP insiders indicated that a broad consensus had been reached and that the final list of NDA candidates would be announced within the next two or three days. The breakthrough reportedly came after a marathon meeting at the residence of Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, attended by senior leaders including Bihar BJP in- **CONT:P4**

SC Reserves Order on TVK's Plea to Set Up SIT



NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Friday reserved its order on a plea filed by Tamil actor Vijay's political party, Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam, and others, challenging the Madras High Court order directing that an SIT be constituted to probe the Karur stampede in which 41 people were killed. A bench comprising Justices J K Maheshwari and N V Anjaria heard submissions from senior counsels appearing for the party, victims, Tamil Nadu government and others. On Tuesday, the CJI-headed bench agreed to hear BJP leader Uma Anandan's plea challeng-

ing the high court order refusing a CBI probe into the September 27 stampede. BJP leader from Tamil Nadu, G S Mani, has also filed a petition seeking a CBI probe into the stampede. The TVK has sought an independent investigation under the supervision of the Supreme Court, contending that a fair and impartial probe would not be possible if conducted solely by officers of the Tamil Nadu Police. The plea has objected to the high court constituting a special investigation team (SIT) only with officers of the Tamil Nadu Police. It alleged the possibility of a pre-planned conspiracy by some miscreants that led to the stampede. The plea also took exception to the scathing remarks of the high court against the party and the actor-politician that they abandoned the place after the incident and did not express any remorse.

Nobel Peace Prize Winner Dedicates Award to Trump



Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Venezuelan opposition leader, Maria Corina Machado, said Friday that her compatriots were counting on the United States to help achieve freedom from the authoritarian rule of President Nicolas Maduro. "This immense recognition of the struggle of all Venezuelans is an impetus to conclude our task: to achieve freedom," she wrote on X. "Today, more than ever we count on President Trump, the people of the United States, the peoples of Latin America, and the democratic nations of the world as our main allies to achieve freedom and democracy," she added.

Banakacharla Gets a Maharashtra Block

HYDERABAD
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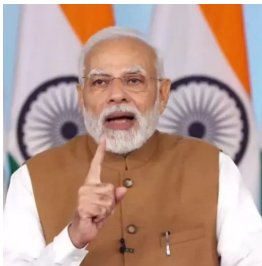
In a major development that could significantly bolster Telangana's opposition to Andhra Pradesh's proposed Banakacharla project, Maharashtra has written to the Union Jal Shakti Ministry challenging AP's plan to divert Godavari waters to the Krishna basin. On October 8, the Maharashtra government told the ministry that if any lower riparian state such as Andhra Pradesh is allowed to use "flood" or "all waters" of the Godavari, then upper riparian states — including Maharashtra itself — reserve the same right. This stance directly complicates Andhra Pradesh's proposal to divert 243 tmc ft of floodwater annually from the Polavaram dam on the Godavari to the Banakacharla regulator on the Srisailem Right Main Canal of the Krishna river

— a project Telangana has staunchly opposed. While Maharashtra's letter did not name Telangana, it referred to Andhra Pradesh as "the then unified AP," making clear that any fresh use of Godavari waters must be reviewed in light of the interests of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha — the upper riparian states. Maharashtra cited the 1980 Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT) award, which granted it rights over "all waters" at various projects in the state, including floodwaters. The state asserted that before appraising any flood-based project like Polavaram-Banakacharla, the Centre must first determine the upper riparian states' entitlement to floodwaters. The letter further demanded a full examination of whether the "flood water" Andhra seeks to divert constitutes unutilised

Modi: Make Mental Health Talk Normal

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday urged people to work towards creating an environment where conversations around mental health become more mainstream, marking the occasion of World Mental Health Day. In a message posted on X (formerly Twitter), the Prime Minister described the day as "a powerful reminder that mental health



is a fundamental part of our overall well-being." "In a fast-paced world, this day underscores the importance of reflection and compassion," Modi said. "Let us also work collec-

tively to create environments where conversations around mental health become more mainstream. My commitments to all those working in this field and helping others heal and find happiness," he added. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the aim of World Mental Health Day is to raise global awareness about mental health issues and to mobilise efforts in support of mental well-being.

Sari Drive

Telangana to Complete Distribution of 65 Lakh Indiramma Saris by November 15, Ensuring Employment and Support for 18,000 Weavers

Telangana Plans to Complete 65 Lakh Indiramma Sari Distribution by Nov 15

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The state government announced that the distribution of 65 lakh 'Indiramma saris' to women members of self-help groups (SHGs) across Telangana will be completed by November 15. The process, which had been halted due to the local body election code, has resumed following the High Court's stay on government order for 42 per

cent BC quota in the elections. Textiles and Handlooms Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao reviewed the implementation of the sari distribution programme with senior officials, including principal secretary Shailaja Ramaiyer and TSCO Telangana Handloom authorities, at the Secretariat on Friday. The minister said the Congress government was committed to ensuring prosperity for handloom weavers, who play a key



role in the scheme. He said the scheme requires 4.34 crore metres of fabric for the production of 64.69 lakh saris, of which 3.65 crore metres had already been woven by powerloom workers. So far, 33.35 lakh saris have been supplied to district warehouses under

TSCO's supervision. About 6,900 handloom weavers have gained six to eight months of steady employment under this programme, earning monthly wages between Rs 18,000 and Rs 22,000. Minister Nageswara Rao directed officials to complete the production and supply of sarees to district godowns by November 15 to ensure timely distribution. He also instructed them to expedite the handloom weavers' loan

waiver process, with verification to be completed soon so that funds could be credited directly to beneficiaries' accounts. Around 6,780 weavers will benefit from a loan waiver of up to Rs 1 lakh each. The minister said the government had launched the Telangana Handloom label to promote quality handloom products under a unified state brand. Under the 'Nethanna Bhima' and 'Nethanna

Bharosa' schemes, Rs 48.80 crore has been allocated this year to provide incentives, which include Rs 18,000 to each weaver and Rs 6,000 to associated workers, in two instalments annually. Nageswara Rao said 13,371 weavers have registered under the Nethanna Bharosa scheme so far, while another 3,966 applications are under scrutiny. About 18,000 weavers are expected to benefit from the scheme.

ESTD - 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge
baar baar aaooge

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

Harish Rao Demands Rescue of Gulf Workers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister Harish Rao has called on Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Union Ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay to take immediate action to bring back 12 Gulf workers from Jordan, who are stranded while seeking employment abroad. Rao described the situation as “shameful,” highlighting that despite repeated appeals, both the central and state governments have ignored the plight of these migrant workers. The stranded individuals, hailing from Nirmal, Kamareddy, Nizamabad, Jagtial, and Siddipet, are facing severe hardships, including lack of money for survival, and



Former Minister Harish Rao urges CM, Union Ministers to rescue 12 Gulf workers stranded in Jordan.

Says, HARISH RAO

their employer has not granted permission for their return. “The government has a responsibility to support its citizens

abroad,” Rao said, noting that while migration had slowed during the BRS regime, it has now increased due to local employment shortages, forcing many to seek work in Gulf countries. Rao also criticized the Congress party, accusing it of failing to fulfill promises regarding the welfare of Gulf workers and NRIs. “The advisory committee, NRI Welfare Board, and Gulf Welfare Board mentioned in the manifesto are inactive, and the toll-free helpline for migrant workers is still not functioning,” he said. He urged the authorities to take immediate steps to ensure the safe return of the stranded workers and address the broader welfare needs of Gulf migrants.

Vinod Kumar slams Congress over BC reservations

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former MP B. Vinod Kumar criticized Congress for its “insincere” stance on BC reservations in Telangana following the High Court’s stay on local elections GO No. 9. He said no one in the state believed Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s assurances, and people had already anticipated that elections would not be held during the Dussehra festival. Vinod Kumar noted that



while Bhatti Vikramarka criticized both BJP and BRS, only BJP deserved scrutiny. He defended BRS, pointing out that KCR had already passed a BC reservation bill in the assembly in 2011, which remains pending at the Centre. He contrasted this with Congress’ history,

citing the constitutional amendment for Indira Gandhi and the lack of action for BCs despite Supreme Court rulings, including the Krishnamurthy case. He questioned why Rahul Gandhi and other Congress leaders had not raised BC reservation is-

sues in Parliament and criticized the party’s “deceitful words.” He also challenged BJP for not amending the Constitution to increase BC quotas, despite having amended it for other interests and bypassing Supreme Court orders on the BC caste census. Vinod Kumar called for Congress and BJP to include BC reservations in the Ninth Schedule, saying BRS would cooperate, and urged an end to political theatrics that exploit BC issues.

Congress Plays Caste Card to Regain Lost Ground in Jubilee Hills Bypoll

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Zaffer abedi

The Congress has launched an intensive caste-based campaign strategy to reclaim the Jubilee Hills Assembly seat, where a bypoll is scheduled for November 11 following the death of sitting BRS MLA Maganti Gopinath in June. The party has fielded V. Naveen Yadav, a Backward Classes (BC) leader from the Yadav community, in a calculated bid to consolidate the BC vote — the largest share of the constituency’s electorate. Of the 3.99 lakh voters in Jubilee Hills, 1.4 lakh belong to the BC community, while Muslims account for 1.12 lakh. Scheduled Castes number 28,000, Scheduled Tribes 12,000, and voters from

other states 35,000. Among the general voters (66,000), Reddys constitute 13,500, Kammas 17,500, Kapus and Balijas 14,200, and Velamas and Marwadis about 12,000. Christians and other minorities total around 22,000. Within the BC segment, Munnuru Kapus dominate with 22,000 voters, followed by Yadavs (15,000), Mudirajs (13,500), Padmashalis (12,000), Vadderas (15,000), Goudas (15,000), Vishwabrahmanas (13,000), Kumaris (9,600), and Rajakas and others (13,000). Among the Scheduled Castes, Malas (15,000) and Madigas (13,000) form key blocs. To strengthen its caste arithmetic, the Congress high command has appointed three ministers —

Ponnam Prabhakar, Tum-mala Nageswara Rao, and Gaddam Vivek — as by-poll incharges. The trio has conducted a micro-level study of voter demographics to design a targeted outreach plan focusing on community-based mobilization. The party has begun door-to-door campaigns and booth-level interactions to highlight welfare initiatives introduced by the Revanth Reddy government, aligning schemes with the aspirations of various caste groups. “Our campaign is focused on caste-based and community-specific outreach to secure a decisive swing in our favour,” said party sources. The Congress’ move is seen as an attempt to reverse its losses in the 2014, 2018, and 2023 Assembly elections, when

Jubilee Hills remained a BRS stronghold. The ruling party is banking on Naveen Yadav’s BC credentials to counter the BRS candidate Maganti Sunitha, widow of the late MLA and a member of the Kamma community. The BJP, meanwhile, has not yet announced its candidate. As per the final voter rolls released by the Election Commission, Jubilee Hills has 3.99 lakh voters, marking a 3.49% increase from 3.85 lakh in 2023. The revised list adds 6,976 new voters and deletes 663 names. With caste alliances, welfare politics, and micro-targeted mobilization shaping the contest, the upcoming Jubilee Hills bypoll is poised to be a battle of social coalitions and legacy loyalties.

Ram Koti Joins Telangana Jagruti, BC Fight Intensifies

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Prominent Backward Classes (BC) leader Ram Koti from Mansurabad in LB Nagar constituency joined Telangana Jagruti on Friday, along with more than 350 activists, at the Jagruti office in Banjara Hills. Telangana Jagruti President Kalvakuntla Kavitha led discussions with BC leaders and UPF representatives on key issues, including the 42% reservation for BCs in local bodies, the High Court stay on GO 9, and



the State Election Commission gazette suspending local body elections. Strategies and movement activities to secure BC reservations

were also deliberated. Speaking at the event, Kavitha emphasized the need for persistent struggle: “Joining Jagruti is like celebrating Bathukamma; similarly, you must fight with determination.” She criticized the current government for failing to deliver on promises to women and children, including the Rs. 2,500 monthly support for girls, the KCR kits for childbirth, and gold for poor children’s marriages, and stressed the importance of fighting for BC rights and employment.

Banakacharla Gets a Maha Block

FROM PAGE 1

The letter further demanded a full examination of whether the “flood water” Andhra seeks to divert constitutes unutilised water from upper sub-basins. Maharashtra insisted that the total planned use of all projects — not just the current utilisation — must be factored in to calculate available water. Crucially, Maharashtra also linked the issue to the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-I (KWDT-I), which governs water-sharing between Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh. Since Andhra intends to transfer Godavari water into the Krishna basin, both Maharashtra and Karnataka would gain a legitimate claim to por-

tions of the diverted flow. Citing precedent, Maharashtra recalled that when 80 tmc ft of Godavari water was diverted earlier to the Krishna delta, Karnataka and Maharashtra were allotted 14 and 21 tmc ft respectively, leaving 45 tmc ft for Andhra (including Telangana). Applying the same logic, the 243 tmc ft diversion under the new project would similarly need to be proportionally shared among the three states. The move by Maharashtra thus places Andhra’s Banakacharla project under fresh scrutiny — while offering Telangana a significant legal and policy breather in its ongoing battle to protect its rightful share of the Godavari’s waters.

BJP Blames Congress For BC Quota Stay

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The BJP blamed the Congress government for the High Court stay on 42 per cent BC reservations in local body polls, calling it proof of the administration’s incompetence and deceit. It said the Congress had misled the public with false promises while implementing contradictory schemes like fare hikes and free bus travel for women. At a meeting of party leaders from GHMC and HMDA limits in Bhagyanagar, BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao said both Congress and BRS had failed Hyderabad by neglecting basic civic infrastructure. “They promised a world-class city but left it with



potholes, overflowing drains and flooding,” he said. He recalled recent deaths of children who fell into open manholes and others electrocuted during the rains, describing them as tragic examples of civic collapse. He also accused Congress and BRS of “competing to ally with the Majlis party for vote-bank politics” and vowed that the BJP would expose their “secret deals” with AIMIM during the campaign. Rao said Hyderabad deserved better governance, accountability and infrastructure, not “empty slogans from corrupt parties.”

Misty Mornings, Clear Skies for Hyderabad



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The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Hyderabad has issued a yellow alert for several Telangana districts, forecasting thunderstorms, lightning and squalls until October 13. The alert covers Bhadradi-Kothagudem, Khammam, Mahabubabad and Mulugu districts, where thunderstorm activity is expected from after-

noon to night through the weekend. According to the IMD, these regions are likely to experience scattered heavy spells, while most other parts of the state, including Hyderabad, will remain largely dry until Monday. Lightning and squalls may occur in isolated pockets. Hyderabad experienced its first cool morning of the season on Thursday, with the University of Hyderabad recording 18.4°C and BH&EL registering

19.8°C. Minimum temperatures in several districts, including Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, Kamareddy, Adilabad, and Asifabad, ranged between 17°C and 19°C. Weather analyst T. Balaji said the state is currently experiencing a short cool spell. “More cool mornings are expected over the next few days before rainfall returns after October 14,” he said. The IMD has urged residents in thunderstorm-prone areas to remain indoors during lightning activity and avoid open fields and elevated places. Hyderabad is likely to see misty mornings and clear skies through the weekend before intermittent rains make a comeback next week.

Tourism Pavilion Shines at Property Show

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Tourism pavilion emerged as one of the most visited attractions at the 15th Naredco Telangana Property Show held at Hitec on Friday. The pavilion, inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and tourism minister Jupally Krishna Rao, showcased the state’s rich cultural, historical, and natural heritage. The stall’s visual exhibits highlighted the diversity of Telangana’s tourism landscape — from the Ramappa Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to the tiger reserves, Somasila on the Krishna River, Laknavaram Lake, Bhongiri Fort, Buddhavanam at Nagarjuna Sagar, and the rock



formations of Pandavula Gutta. The installations captured the architectural, ecological, and spiritual dimensions of these destinations. The tourism department described the display as a “window into Telangana’s diverse tourism offerings,” reflecting the government’s vision of promoting tourism as a key driver of economic growth. “The event opened opportunities for real estate developers to invest in tourism projects such as resorts, conven-

tion centres, and heritage hotels that will boost Telangana’s appeal to domestic and international visitors,” Krishna Rao said. Industry leaders, builders and visitors appreciated the department’s innovative approach of linking tourism with the real estate sector under the Telangana Tourism Policy 2025–2030, calling it a thoughtful initiative that celebrates the state’s heritage while inviting partnerships for world-class tourism infrastructure.

Telangana Seeks Citizens’ Ideas on Growth

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government on Friday launched the ‘Telangana Rising Vision 2047 Citizen Survey’, inviting citizens to share their ideas, suggestions, and aspirations for the state’s future. The online survey, accessible at <https://www.telangana.gov.in/telanganarising/>, will remain open from October 10 to 25. Officials said the exercise

aims to make policy-making more participatory and people-driven, capturing the views of residents on how they envision Telangana in 2047. The survey is a part of the larger ‘Telangana Rising Vision 2047’ initiative, developed under the ‘Viksit Bharat’ framework. The initiative seeks to create a long-term roadmap to transform Telangana into a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable state by the time India celebrates 100 years of



Independence. Officials highlighted that the vision document will guide strategic planning and policymaking for the state over the next two decades. The initiative focuses on defining priorities and strategies across critical sectors, including economic growth, skilling and employ-

ment, women empowerment, farmers’ welfare, innovation, sustainable development, and improvement in overall quality of life. By seeking input from citizens, the government aims to ensure that the vision reflects the collective aspirations of people from every village, district, and city in Telangana. Officials appealed to all sections of society — youth, farmers, women, entrepreneurs, students, professionals, and sen-

ior citizens — to actively participate and share their ideas. “Every opinion is valuable and will help shape a blueprint for a developed, equitable, and inclusive Telangana,” they said. The government emphasized that public participation in the survey will provide a foundation for policy decisions, development plans, and long-term initiatives, aligning with the state’s vision for the future. The feedback will play a crucial role in creating a com-

prehensive, citizen-informed strategy that balances economic growth with social inclusion and sustainability. Citizens can participate in the survey until October 25 through the official Telangana government portal. The initiative represents a significant step toward engaging people in governance and ensuring that the state’s progress over the next two decades is shaped by the voices of its residents.

BJP Prepares for Jubilee Hills By-Poll, Targets Congress and BRS Governments

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

BJP President N. Ramchander Rao on Friday asserted that the people of Telangana are ready to support the party in the upcoming elections. Addressing party leaders from eight districts of Hyderabad under GHMC jurisdiction at the BJP office, Rao outlined strategies for the Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election. He emphasized the importance of collective work, booth-level coordination, and un-

ified effort among leaders and activists to ensure a BJP victory.

Rao sharply criticized the previous BRS government, alleging it had promised to transform Hyderabad into a “World City” but instead turned it into a “City of Tragedy.” He said the current Revanth Reddy-led government also failed in planning, citing the state’s inability to address emergency needs during floods and heavy rains. Rao accused the Congress government of neglecting infrastructure

development, including poor maintenance of main roads, drainage systems, and city roads, asserting that both Congress and BRS have consistently ignored Hyderabad’s development.

He highlighted public safety concerns, recalling incidents where children died due to open manholes and six people lost their lives to electrocution in Ramanthapur, attributing these tragedies to government negligence. Rao alleged that Congress and BRS were attempting to align with AIMIM purely for vote-



bank politics and called for exposing the “dark ties and secret agreements” between the three parties.

On public transport, Rao criticized the government’s

contradictory policies, pointing out that while free bus travel for women was being announced, RTC bus fares were simultaneously increased, placing a financial burden on common citizens. He also condemned the BRS regime for neglecting RTC employees, saying unresolved issues and poor working conditions led to employee suicides during strikes.

Rao accused the Congress party of continuing an anti-Hindu agenda, citing recent attempts to allocate Defence

Ministry land for a Muslim graveyard in Hyderabad while allegedly threatening the existence of Hindu temples. He argued that Hindus lack protection under the current administration and stated that neither Congress nor BRS has a moral right to comment on development in Jubilee Hills.

He underlined that the BJP candidate for the Jubilee Hills by-election would be announced in the next two to three days and called upon all party leaders and workers to ensure a BJP victory in the

constituency. Rao framed the victory as a gift to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging activists to work collectively and strategically to achieve this goal.

The party chief’s remarks reflected BJP’s intent to capitalize on public dissatisfaction with Congress and BRS, emphasizing governance failures, corruption, and neglect of citizens’ safety and infrastructure, while positioning the BJP as the party capable of delivering development and accountable governance.

BC Leaders Demand 42% Reservation Now



HYDERABAD

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Former Minister V. Srinivas Goud and former Council Speaker & Leader of Opposition Madhusudana Chari addressed a media conference organized by the National BC Welfare Association and MP R. Krishnaiah at Basheer Bagh Press Club in Hyderabad on 42% BC reservations.

They demanded that the state ensure elections are conducted only after implementing the promised

42% reservation for BCs. Goud emphasized that the Congress government had committed to providing this quota, and any deviation undermines BC rights. He urged all BC associations and caste groups to unite and strengthen the movement, calling for proactive measures similar to the Telangana statehood agitation. The leaders warned that if their demands are ignored, intensified agitation and collective action will be necessary to secure 42% reservation for BCs across the state.

Power Utilities Prepare To Meet Rising Demand In Telangana

HYDERABAD

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With power demand rising steadily, Telangana’s Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL, southern discom) and Transmission Corporation (Transco) have launched an extensive upgrade drive to ensure an uninterrupted electricity supply during the upcoming summer. At a review meeting held at the corporate office, Southern discom CMD Musharraf Faruqui stressed the need for advance preparation, noting that peak demand is expected to increase from 19,500 MW to 20,000 MW next year, with Greater Hyderabad alone projected to touch 5,000 MW.

To meet this surge, the utilities



will install 3,866 new distribution transformers (DTRs) and upgrade 431 power transformers (PTRs) across the southern network. For the first time in Telangana, 1,000 kVA transformers will replace existing 500 kVA units operating beyond 70 per cent capacity, mainly in Greater Hyderabad. Additionally, high-capacity 16 MVA power transformers will be set up

at key substations in Jubilee Hills, Madhapur, Manikonda, Gachibowli and other high-load zones to handle growing urban demand efficiently and address space constraints.

Faruqui directed officials to coordinate closely with field engineers, conduct detailed assessments in high-demand areas and finalise implementation plans within a week. He instructed that repair and maintenance works begin by the end of October and all summer action plan works be completed before December. Transco directors Sampath Kumar and Latha Vinod, southern discom directors Dr Narasimhulu and Shivaji, and several chief engineers and superintending engineers attended the meeting.

Peddapalli MP Vamsi Represents India At UNGA

ADILABAD

Wakeup telangana

Peddapalli MP Gaddam Vamsi Krishna of the Congress, who is part of the Indian Parliamentary delegation attending the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), delivered India’s statement during the Second Committee’s general discussion on Macroeconomic Policy Questions and Outcomes of International Conferences on Financing for Development. Gaddam Vamsi is the only Lok Sabha member from the Congress in the Parliamentary delegation representing India at the UNGA.

Vamsi said, “I feel hon-



oured to represent India at the United Nations General Assembly as part of the Parliamentary delegation.” He added that delivering his first international speech reminded him of his grandfather, the late G. Venkatswamy, who represented India at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Geneva in 1982. “Decades later, with the blessings of the people of Peddapalli, I stand here continuing that legacy for India on the global stage,” he said.

Adilabad’s Mahua Laddus Become Popular After Modi’s Endorsement

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

The Mahua Laddu of Adilabad has received a remarkable boost in popularity and sales after an unexpected endorsement from Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Sales of the laddus surged several times over after the Prime Minister spoke about Mahua Laddus made by Adivasi women during his Mann Ki Baat address in March 2025. Adivasis consider the Mahua tree and its flowers sacred and refrain from cutting it. The laddus, prepared using jaggery, sesame, cashew nuts, cardamom (yala-



kulu), and dried Mahua flowers (ippa puvvu), have become a sought-after nutritious delicacy in Telangana for their distinctive taste and quality. Following the Prime Minister’s mention, demand skyrocketed, with online orders pouring in from Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, and Vijayawada. The local Mahila Sangam, which

produces the laddus, is also supplying them to tribal hostels. Members of the Sangam expressed joy and pride over the Prime Minister recognising their work. Kumram Bagu Bai, president of the Adivasi Bheem Bai Sahakara Sangam, which has 14 women engaged in making Mahua Laddus, said that daily counter sales had risen from 7 kg to about 60 kg since the Prime Minister’s remarks. “We now sell around 2,000 kg of Mahua Laddus every month,” she said, adding that the laddus are supplied to 60 government hostels across the erstwhile Adilabad district to

improve students’ nutrition. The laddus are sold under the brand Adivasi Aharam at ₹400 per kg, compared to ₹200 in 2019. Bagu Bai explained that production costs have increased because they began using higher-quality ingredients like cashew nuts, cardamom, and jaggery to enhance flavour and nutrition. The Sangam directly procures dried Mahua flowers from Adivasi farmers in nearby villages. “We purchased 100 quintals of dry Mahua recently, paying ₹50 per kg, to meet rising demand,” she said.

BC Leaders Slam Arvind, BRS

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

Telangana leaders supporting Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on the Backward Classes (BC) reservation issue on Saturday accused BJP and BRS figures, including MP Dharmapuri Arvind and MLC Balmoor Venkat, of betraying BC interests and obstructing passage of the BC bill. The leaders demanded urgent action in Delhi to secure approval and warned that continued opposition would provoke strong public anger. Speakers at the rally said the BC bill remains stuck with the President and Governor, and accused Arvind of failing to push the Centre for approval. They questioned why earlier complaints about alleged corruption in the



Kaleshwaram project were not pursued when Revanth led the PCC, and suggested that political ties between the BJP and the Kalvakuntla family had muted accountability in the past. Senior leader Balmoor Venkat accused Arvind of hypocrisy and ridiculed his public statements, saying Arvind “had no hair on his head till now, but it seems he doesn’t even have any brains.” The speakers claimed Arvind’s criticisms of the state government over Kaleshwaram and alleged phone tapping were opportunistic and came too late.

The crowd was urged to pressure national leaders: speakers demanded that anyone who truly represents BC interests should press the Centre to approve reservations and — short of that — “start a fast in Delhi.” They also warned that continued attacks on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy would provoke direct action from party workers; organisers framed those comments as expressions of anger at perceived betrayal. The debate follows long-running demands for BC quota implementation in local bodies. Leaders referenced earlier remarks by national figures and alleged longstanding political friendships that, they say, hindered accountability over projects like Kaleshwaram.

First Month After Work Starts To Be Challenging



The resumption of work on the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel, on the cards sometime soon, is expected to be a steep learning curve for all those involved with the decision to go ahead with the tunneling using the ‘drill and blast’ method, especially as engineers will need to ensure quick evacuation of toxic fumes from the blasts and dust. “There will be challenges, and the first one month after resumption of work will be a steep learning curve on blast design, and all other aspects of tunneling,” a source familiar with the planning of work for restarting of work. Once completed, Telangana will have the longest tunnel in the world to be built without intermediate ducts, which are typically dug either for evacuation of tunnelling muck and for ventilation. The SLBC tunnel, once completed, will be 43.3 km long, longer than the 37-km Wordsmith mine tunnel in North Yorkshire, UK, being dug using a tunnel boring machine (TBMs). Though the SLBC tunnel too used two TBMs, one from the outlet side in Nalgonda district, and the other from the inlet side near the Srisailem dam in Nagarkurnool district, work was halted in the inlet section after the roof collapse accident.

Laxman Accuses Congress Of Betraying BCs

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

BJP OBC Morcha national president and Rajya Sabha member Dr K. Laxman accused the Congress government of betraying Backward Classes (BCs) by mishandling the reservation issue. He said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and the Congress lacked genuine commitment to BC welfare and knowingly pushed the matter into legal trouble. Speaking at a press conference, Dr Laxman said Revanth Reddy had politicised BC reservations under Rahul Gandhi’s influence during the Bihar elections while ignoring constitutional procedures. He questioned why the government

failed to give the BC Sub-Plan legal status as promised in the Kamareddy Declaration and asked which court stopped it from allocating the pledged Rs 20,000 crore a year for BC welfare, when less than 4 per cent of the budget had been spent so far. He alleged that the Congress continued to favour contractors who had prospered under the BRS regime in the name of protecting local interests. He also accused the government of manipulating court rulings to mislead BC voters, failing to meet the Supreme Court’s “triple test” — setting up commissions, gathering empirical data, and respecting the 50 per cent cap — and showing

“legal ignorance and deliberate deceit.” Dr Laxman said the government was concealing caste survey data, ignoring public opinion, and delaying reservation benefits despite being in power for 22 months. He called on BC organisations and intellectuals to unite and expose both Congress and BRS for their deception. BJP Telangana vice president Dr Kasam Venkateshwarlu said the Congress government’s poor legal understanding had created uncertainty over BC reservations. He contrasted it with Tamil Nadu’s Ambashankar Commission, which relied on scientific surveys, and said Congress was hiding caste census data to escape accountability.

Raidurg Land Auction Proves Soaring Land Values In Hyderabad: Dpty CM Bhatti

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said that the recent record-breaking Raidurg land auction fetching ₹177 crore per acre reflected the soaring real estate market in Hyderabad. He said 25 builders had participated in the auction, quoting bids up to ₹150 crore per acre, which proved the confidence investors have in the city’s growth. Bhatti was speaking at the 15th National Convention of Naredco held on Friday. He said the Congress government was firmly



committed to the integrated development of Hyderabad, which is fast emerging as one of India’s most livable cities. He urged builders to become partners in tourism development by promoting the state’s natural assets such as forests, waterfalls and tiger reserves. The Deputy CM said the government was allocating ₹10,000 crore annually towards urban development, and projects worth ₹20,000 crore had already been

taken up, visibly transforming Hyderabad’s landscape. Around ₹11,927 crore is being spent on sewerage and drinking water facilities, while another ₹13,704 crore worth of works are under consideration, taking the total investment to ₹25,631 crore. Bhatti said an elevated corridor from Paradise Junction to the National Highway (Rajiv Rahadari) was under construction at a cost of ₹1,487 crore, and road widening works worth ₹3,619 crore were underway in Shamirpet. He credited Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for convincing the Union defence minister to allow

the use of defence land for public projects. Hyderabad, he said, was the only city in India offering uninterrupted 24-hour power and water supply, supported by reservoirs like Manjeera, Gandipet and the Godavari river project. The government, he added, was protecting lakes, rocky formations, and parks for future generations. He said the ‘BuildNow’ digital platform was ensuring quick building permissions, while the shift to electric buses and tax exemptions for electric vehicles (EVs) reflected the government’s commitment to a ‘Clean and Green’ Hyderabad.

PM Modi to Launch Agriculture Projects Worth Over ₹42,000 Cr

FROM PAGE 1

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch and lay the foundation of projects and schemes worth over ₹42,000 crore in the agriculture and allied sectors on Saturday. The Prime Minister will inaugurate two major schemes with a combined outlay of ₹35,440 crore. This includes the PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (₹24,000 crore), aimed at boosting agricultural productivity, promoting crop diversification and sustainable practices, enhancing post-harvest storage at panchayat and block levels, improving irrigation facilities, and facilitating access to long-term and short-term credit in 100 selected districts. He will also launch the Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses (₹11,440 crore), designed to increase pulse productivity, expand cultivation areas, strengthen the value chain from procurement to processing, and reduce post-harvest losses. In addition,

PM Modi will inaugurate projects worth over ₹5,450 crore in agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, and food processing sectors, while laying the foundation stone for projects valued around ₹815 crore. Key projects include Artificial Insemination Training Centers in Bengaluru and J&K, IVF Lab in Assam under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission, milk powder plants in Mehsana, Indore, and Bhilwara, a fish feed plant in Tezpur, Assam, and infrastructure for agro-processing clusters, integrated cold chains, and value addition facilities. Foundation stones will be laid for initiatives such as Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure in Krishna (Andhra Pradesh), trout fisheries in Uttarakhand, an integrated aqua park in Nagaland, a smart fishing harbour in Karaikal (Puducherry), and a state-of-the-art aquapark in Hirakud (Odisha).

UK ex-PM Rishi Sunak Cleared for Paid Advisory Roles

FROM PAGE 1

The committee, which published its decision on Thursday, said Sunak should not draw on any privileged information available to him from his time in the prime ministerial office. He is also constrained from lobbying the government on behalf of either of the firms for at least two years. "As the former prime minister, you will have been privy to a range of high-level sensitive information on more or less all government-related matters. Further, during your time in office, you had extensive industry engagement with companies and organisations within the AI and tech sector, reads the committee's advice. "The committee recognised the risks associated with your access to

information are somewhat limited due to the passage of time and political and economic changes. It also considered it likely you will be seen to have privileged insight from your dealings with the tech and AI sector as prime minister, albeit some months ago. Consequently, a condition has been imposed to limit your role and reduce the scope for risks under government rules, it stated. Sunak told the watchdog that all proceeds from his new roles will be donated to The Richmond Project, an education charity he founded with his wife, Akshata Murty, to tackle numeracy issues among children in the UK. I have long believed that technology will transform our world and play a key part in determining our future, said Sunak.

Relations with Afghanistan moving on right path: Former diplomats

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Former Indian diplomats on Friday welcomed Afghanistan Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi's visit to India, highlighting the historic relations between both countries. Former Indian Ambassador to Bangladesh, Veena Sikri termed Muttaqi's visit to India "very important" and welcomed New Delhi's upgradation of Technical Mission in Kabul to the status of Embassy in Afghanistan. Speaking to IANS, Sikri said that India has a special relationship with people of Afghanistan as they come here to study, meet people and do business. She also recalled

how India offered help to Afghanistan following the recent earthquake. "Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi's visit is very important. Afghanistan is our neighbouring country. It is a member of SAARC. The relations between India and Afghanistan are centuries old and the Afghan people have a special relationship with the Indians. They have always come to study, to meet people and to do business here. The friendship between people of India and Afghanistan is centuries old. That's why the people (of Afghanistan) are with us. Taliban government came for the second time. Following this, all the nations cut their ties with the Taliban. In present time, only Russia is a country that has recognised the Taliban government. Despite this, the relations between India and the people of Afghanistan have continued to prosper and the developmental and infrastructural work continued. India continues to help them in building schools,



hospitals, and sending humanitarian aid," said Sikri. "Recently, an earthquake occurred in Afghanistan and we were the first to help them. There were tents, medicines, blankets, everything. We gave them food and water. We know that the people of Afghanistan will be waiting for

this. So, to do all this, to develop infrastructure and to provide humanitarian aid, our small technical mission was there, through which, the talks with the Taliban government, arranging all this, was done and that's why our relations kept growing," she added. Earlier in the day, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held a meeting with Muttaqi in New Delhi where both ministers discussed India's support for Afghanistan's development, bilateral trade, territorial integrity and independence, people-to-people ties and capacity-building besides several other issues. Recalling recent meetings between Taliban and India, Sikri said, "Re-

cently, there was a Moscow format meeting on Afghanistan. Foreign Minister Muttaqi participated in the meeting for the first time as a member. And India was also there in that meeting. EAM Jaishankar had also spoken on the telephone with Muttaqi. After that, our government has arranged a bilateral visit. It has also been decided that India will now have an Embassy there. This is a very important step, through which our relations with the Afghan government and the Afghan people will now move on a good path." On the impact of Muttaqi's visit on India's foreign policy and relations with the neighbouring countries.

NDA Reaches Consensus on Bihar Seat Sharing

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The breakthrough reportedly came after a marathon meeting at the residence of Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, attended by senior leaders including Bihar BJP in-charge Dharmendra Pradhan, co-in-charge Vinod Tawde, JD(U) leaders Sanjay Jha and Lalan Singh, and other state leaders. The meeting focused on working out a seat-sharing pact and accommodating partners seeking a larger share. According to sources, Chirag Paswan's LJP (Ram Vilas), Union minister Jitan Ram Manjhi's HAM, and Upendra Kushwaha's RLSP have more or less agreed to the formula offered to them. Details of the seats allocated to each party under the NDA fold are expected to be announced at a joint press conference in Patna. The LJP (RV), which had

been adamant about contesting no fewer than 40 seats, reportedly softened its stand after a separate discussion between Chirag Paswan and Union Minister Nityanand Rai on Thursday. Though the exact number of seats allotted has not been revealed, sources confirmed that the party agreed to a lower figure. Meanwhile, the BJP has finalised the process of selecting its candidates at the state level. Panels of three potential candidates have been prepared for each constituency, and the names will now be discussed in New Delhi at the Central Election Committee (CEC) meeting, sources added. They also hinted that the BJP's Bihar core group is likely to meet in Delhi on October 11, followed by the CEC meeting on October 12. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP president J.P. Nadda, and other senior

leaders are expected to attend these crucial deliberations. In the Opposition I.N.D.I.A. bloc, discussions between the RJD and the Congress are still continuing, with both parties staking claim to a few key constituencies — Baisi (Purnea), Bahadurganj (Kishanganj), Raniganj (Ariaria), Kahalgaon (Bhagalpur), and Saharsa. In the 2020 Assembly elections, the RJD contested Raniganj, Saharsa, and Baisi, while Kahalgaon and Bahadurganj were allotted to the Congress. Neither party managed to win these seats. Strategists within the Mahagathbandhan indicated that this dispute would likely be resolved by Monday. Another constituent, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), has expressed interest in contesting at least 12 Assembly seats in Bihar as part of the INDIA bloc, a party leader said on Friday.

Shah Favours SIR Rollout Across India

FROM PAGE 1

"I want to ask all citizens — who should decide who becomes the Prime Minister or Chief Minister? Should anyone other than the citizens of the country have that right?" he asked. Underlining that no one should interfere in the SIR process, Mr. Shah accused the Congress of being in denial on the issue, saying the same exercise had been carried out during Congress rule as well. "The Opposition is opposing the exercise because their vote banks are being cut. It is the Election Commission's constitutional responsibility to clean the voters' list. If anyone has objections, they can approach the courts," he said. The home minister also referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's August 15 announcement from the Red Fort regarding the creation of a high-powered Demographic Mission to study illegal migration, its impact on social and religious life, unusual settlement patterns, and its implications

for border management. "This mission may spark controversies, but the BJP is determined to protect democracy and the country's culture. The BJP will always choose the nation, no matter what controversies arise," he declared. Drawing a distinction between infiltrators and refugees, Mr. Shah said refugees come to India seeking safety for their religion, while infiltrators cross borders illegally for economic or other reasons. "Who are infiltrators? Those who have not faced religious persecution but enter India illegally for economic or other motives. If everyone is allowed to come here freely, our country will turn into a dharamshala," he said. Shah recalled that Hindus in Pakistan were promised refuge in India by former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru under the Nehru-Liaquat Pact. "Dividing this country in the name of religion was a huge mistake. By cutting off the arms of Mother India, you fulfilled the British conspiracy," he remarked.

He said successive governments failed to honour that promise, and it was only after the Modi government came to power in 2014 that the pledge was fulfilled through the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). He added that the Act faced unjust criticism and even triggered riots despite the fact that it did not take away anyone's citizenship. "The CAA is simply a means to grant citizenship to persecuted religious minorities from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh — a promise pending since 1951," he said. Citing data, Mr. Shah pointed out that in Assam, the Muslim population's decadal growth rate in the 2011 Census was 29.6 per cent. "This is not possible without infiltration. In several districts of West Bengal, the growth rate is 40 per cent, and in some border areas, it has reached 70 per cent. This clearly proves that infiltration has occurred," he said. He alleged that some political parties have turned infiltration into a vote-bank strategy.

Maratha Quota Order Limited to Hyderabad Gazette: Bawankule

MUMBAI Wakeup telangana

In a major announcement, Maharashtra revenue minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule on Friday made it clear that the order issued by the State Government regarding the Maratha reservation is limited only to the Hyderabad Gazette. Bawankule, who is also the chairman of the cabinet OBC sub-Committee, said, "Confusion is being created that injustice is being done to the OBC communities in Maharashtra by creating a ruckus against State Government's decision. But the government order is limited only to the Hyderabad Gazette. The State Government's GR, issued on September 2, allows Marathas, who can prove their Kunbi lineage through old records such as the Hyderabad gazetteer, to apply for Kunbi caste certificates. Following this, the Maharashtra government has also begun implement-

ing the Gazette Resolution allowing Marathas who can prove Kunbi lineage to apply for OBC certificates. However, OBC communities have strongly opposed the GR contending that granting Kunbi certificates to Marathas will effectively include them in the OBC category, reducing reservation benefits for existing OBC communities. The OBC communities led by Congress leader Vijay Wadetiwar on Friday also staged a large morcha in Nagpur demanding higher reservation, following the Telangana model. During the morcha, Wadetiwar challenged the state government saying "If you have the will, increase the OBC quota to 42% like Telangana. Come what may, we will protect the OBC quota and will not allow it to be diluted." The Congress leader claimed that the state government's move effectively gives Marathas 'backdoor entry' into the OBC

quota. "This decision is unjust and discriminatory. We will fight it both legally and through street protests," he said. Commenting on it, Bawankule said, "The government, while issuing GR, has taken care that no person should be deprived of OBC reservation. It has made every effort to protect the interests of 353 castes of OBCs. The Mahayuti government is committed to protecting the rights of OBCs." In a setback to the OBCs, the Bombay High Court, last week, had refused to grant an interim stay on petitions filed by representatives of the Kunbi and Other Backward Class (OBC) communities challenging the State government's decision to allow Marathas from Marathwada to obtain Kunbi caste certificates under the Hyderabad Gazette. The petitioners had requested the High Court to immediately stop the government from carrying out its September 2 GR.

India-Afghan talks: Muttaqi faces flak over women journalist 'ban' at press meet

MUMBAI Wakeup telangana

Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi held a restrictive press conference in the Afghan Embassy premises in New Delhi on Friday, while no women journalists were allowed, who were informally invited to a press interaction. The banning of the women journalists led to a massive backlash on social media. Muttaqi arrived in the capital on Thursday and held talks with EAM Jaishankar, where they held discussions on India's support for Afghanistan's development, bilateral trade, territorial integrity and people-to-people ties and capacity-building, besides several other is-

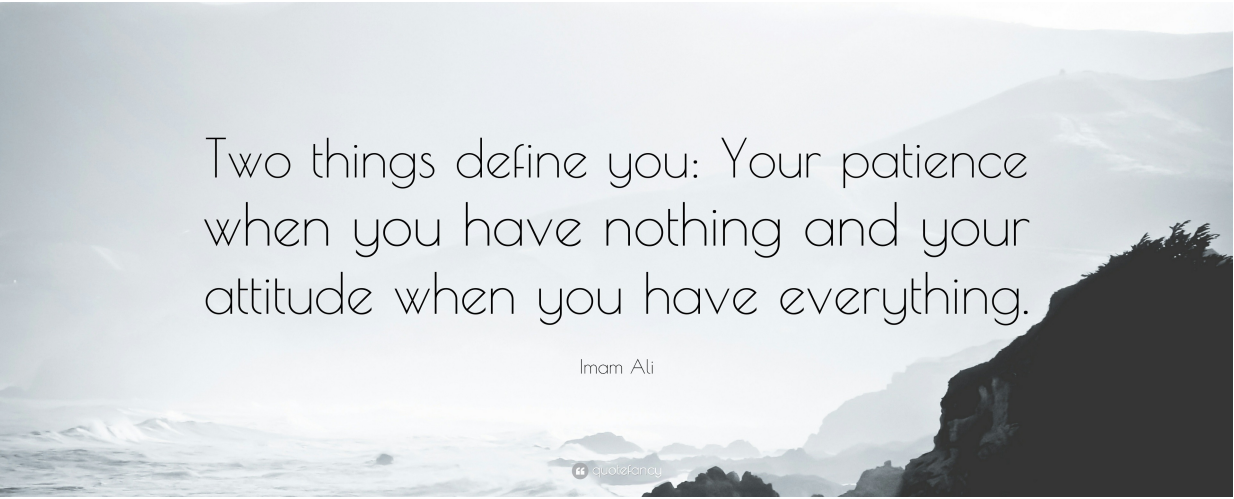


sues. However, the press conference by Muttaqi held later at 3.30 PM at the Afghan Embassy was not open to a wider media fraternity, and excluded women journalists too.

Despite being a significant diplomatic engagement- especially given India's cautious stand on the Taliban, wherein EAM Jaishankar announced India's upgradation of the Technical Mission in Kabul to the

status of Embassy, most journalists were neither notified nor given access. The Afghan Embassy in Delhi continues to be run by Charge d'Affaires Mohammad Ibrahimkhail from the erstwhile Ashraf Ghani administration, while consulates in Mumbai and Hyderabad are already under Taliban control. Journalists who did not wish to be named and attended this press interaction told IANS that they were informed about this press conference only in the morning. Similarly, questions have also emerged over the restrictive media access given to journalists, as only 15-16 media personnel attended this conference.

According to the information, Taliban official Ikramuddin Kamil, who heads the Afghanistan's Mumbai consulate since last year, reached out to these selected journalists himself via a phone call and gave them the informal invitation. Similarly, women journalists have also expressed their anger at not inviting any female reporter. The selective outreach, along with the aid of cherry-picking of journalists by Muttaqi's media team, has sparked criticism within press circles, who argue that restricting coverage of such a crucial development undermines transparency and prevents wider media scrutiny of India's evolving engagement with the Taliban leadership.



EDITORIAL

AMID GLOBAL FLUX, SELF-RELIANCE THE WAY FOR INDIA

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Trump-Putin Alaska meeting does not appear to have brought significant benefits to India. Although the meeting was held to resolve the Russia-Ukraine war issues, at a time when both the US and Russia are considered friendly nations by India, it is disappointing that there seems to be no indication of any change in the US tariff policies affecting India.

It appears the meeting was primarily aimed at securing economic advantages for Russia and the US in the coal and oil sectors, rather than resolving the Ukraine crisis. The ceasefire promise vanished from Trump's lips. When Russia insisted on a resolution, President Donald Trump predictably re-

verted to his usual habit of altering statements, which was diplomatically unsurprising to those familiar with his approach.

With Trump and Putin revealing such tactics in Alaska, it is hard not to wonder if Ukraine is being sacrificed as a pawn. The emerging cordial atmosphere between the US and Russia might be seen by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a potential relief for the economic pressures on India. Since India has always considered Russia a trustworthy friend, there is nothing wrong with the Prime Minister thinking along those lines.

Reality of Alaska Summit However, the reality of the Alaska summit was quite different! While it may help restore US-Russia relations, it will clearly not improve ties with

India. Since Trump assumed the American presidency, efforts have been under way not only to enhance ties with Russia but also to boost Russia exports. Meanwhile, imports of Chinese oil from Russia are rising more than those from India — a fact no one can deny!

While the US troubles India with tariffs, it simultaneously strengthens relations with Russia and ignores China's assertive actions — making it obvious that Washington looks down on India. America's double standards are evident: Trump repeatedly claims responsibility for a ceasefire between India and Pakistan, yet hosts grand dinners with Pakistan's Army Chief, showing excessive friendliness and granting wide publicity to such events.

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The Editor

HC Sends Murder Convict Back To Jail

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court dismissed a criminal appeal filed by an accused convicted for offences under Sections 302 and 307 of the IPC, which deal with murder and attempt to murder. The panel comprising Justice K. Surender and Justice J. Anil Kumar was dealing with the appeal filed by Kommu Anil. The appellant questioned his conviction for murder, in connection with the killing of four persons and injuries caused to two others in Karimnagar district in March 2012. He argued that there was no test identification parade and that the incident occurred in a sudden fight without premeditation, attracting Section 304 IPC, which covers culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The panel observed that the appellant stabbed six persons indiscriminately, killing four of them, and that the act was cruel and unusual. Holding that Exception 4 to Section 300 IPC, which applies to sudden fights without intent, did not cover the case, the panel dismissed the appeal and directed that the accused, who is on bail, be sent back to prison to serve the remaining sentence. A separate appeal by the state seeking to bar the accused's parole till his natural death was also dismissed, with the panel noting absence of any report from jail authorities that he misused bail or posed a continuing threat.

Telangana HC Issues Notices to HYDRAA, GHMC, Others in BJP MLA's Petition

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has issued notices to the state government, HYDRAA, GHMC, HMDA, RERA, and other authorities in a writ petition filed by BJP Kamareddy MLA Katipally Venkatarama Reddy. The petition alleges widespread encroachments of lakes, ponds, and public lands by private real estate developers and challenges the state's failure to take action against such violations.

According to the petitioner, several private developers have unlawfully occupied water bodies in the Hyderabad region. The Vajram Ixora Group allegedly encroached upon the lake area at Gopanpally in Serilingampally mandal



and obtained a fraudulent no-objection certificate (NOC) from the irrigation department. Similarly, Pra-neeth Pranav Grove Park is accused of encroaching the lake area at Gagillapur in Dundigal, Gandimaisamma mandal, while Phoenix 285FD allegedly encroached upon the Mukkasankunta lake in Narsingi, Gandipet mandal. Venkatarama Reddy stated that he had repeatedly approached the HYDRAA, HMDA, GHMC, and other authorities with complaints and representations be-

tween December 2024 and January 2025, urging action against unauthorised constructions that had taken over public roads and water bodies. Despite these efforts, officials failed to act, prompting the MLA to move the High Court. His earlier attempt to file a public interest litigation (PIL) was advised to be converted into a writ petition, as he was not personally affected.

During the hearing, Justice B. Vijayans Reddy questioned the petitioner's counsel on why the MLA had not raised the matter on the floor of the Legislative Assembly. The counsel replied that, being a member of the Opposition, the petitioner's representations had not received any response from the authorities. The High Court, taking

note of the allegations, issued notices to the state government agencies and respective district collectors. The court also permitted the petitioner to serve personal notices to the real estate firms named in the petition.

The case highlights growing concerns over unauthorised construction and encroachment on public lands and water bodies in Hyderabad. With political and administrative authorities allegedly failing to act despite repeated complaints, the High Court's intervention aims to ensure accountability and prevent further illegal encroachments by private developers. The notices signal that both the government agencies and private real estate firms will now have to respond to the allegations in court.

Most Fake News Was On Politics, Religion, Finds ISB Chief

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Over 500 fake news items were shared between 2022-24, with 60 per cent of them being on politics and religion, according to a study shared by Indian School of Business. The numbers were roughly calculated after extracting data from sources like Alt-News and Boomlive and a survey by the ISB. Prof. Manish Gangwar, executive director of Institute of Data Sciences (IDS), ISB, on Thursday organised a workshop titled 'Cyber First Responders: Fighting Misinformation & Fake News in the Digital Age', at its Hyderabad campus.

According to the data, 43.6 per cent of the fake news consisted of political news, followed by 33.6 per cent of general news and 16.8 per cent of the

fake news being related to religion. Among these, 35.60 per cent of the fake news was found to be circulated in the form of text and video, and platform X (twitter) was found to be the biggest source of fake news (61 per cent). Speaking at the event, Major Vineet Kumar (ret'd), founder and global president, CyberPeace, underlined that fake news, AI-generated misinformation and deepfakes weren't just tech problems — they were trust problems. "With ISB, we're equipping journalists, content creators and influencers with fast, practical detection and verification to spot synthetic media and stop harm before it spreads. The goal: faster truth, fewer harms, and a stronger information ecosystem for India," he said.

Telangana HC Rejects Pleas Against MBBS Local Quota Rule

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A division bench of the Telangana High Court, comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin, on Thursday dismissed a batch of writ petitions challenging Government Order (GO) 33, dated July 19, 2024. The order had amended Rule 3(a) of the Telangana Medical and Dental Colleges Admission Rules, 2017, which governs admissions into MBBS and BDS courses.

The amendment introduced a four-year consecutive study or residence requirement in Telangana as the basis for determining local candidature under the competent authority quota. The petitions were filed by several students who contended that the amended rule was arbitrary, violated constitutional principles, and contradicted earlier division bench judgments. Previous rulings had held that such a residence-based criterion lacked a

rational nexus to the objectives of the Admission Rules. The petitioners sought directions for being treated as local candidates for MBBS/BDS admissions in the 2025-26 academic year in accordance with those earlier judgments.

During the hearing, T. Sharath, standing counsel for Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences, Warangal, informed the court that the state had issued GO 150 after the Advocate General made a statement be-



fore the Supreme Court. The statement clarified that children of parents serving in Central Government services, including IAS, IPS, and IFS officers, would also be

considered under the local category. The Supreme Court took note of this submission and upheld GO 33. Subsequently, GO 150 was issued by the state government to en-

sure that candidates from Central Government service families were protected and not disadvantaged by the amendment.

Earlier, the petitions in the High Court had been adjourned sine die, pending the Supreme Court's decision on the state government's appeals against High Court rulings relating to the 2023-24 and 2024-25 admission years. With the apex court upholding the Government Order of July 2024 and the subsequent GO 150,

the Telangana High Court division bench dismissed all pending writ petitions challenging the amendment.

However, the bench clarified that the university must still examine the cases of candidates seeking the benefit of GO 150. Each case is to be considered on its own merits, ensuring that eligible students from Central Government service families receive due consideration under the local category. This ruling reinforces the state government's au-

thority to determine local candidature criteria while balancing the rights of specific groups of candidates who may otherwise face exclusion under the amended rules. The decision marks a significant development in the ongoing disputes over Telangana MBBS/BDS admissions and reaffirms the state government's regulatory powers, while providing clarity on the applicability of local candidature for students with parents in Central Government service.

Ranveer Singh cheers for Deepika Padukone as she becomes first Mental Health Ambassador

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Bollywood superstar Deepika Padukone, on the occasion of World Mental Health Day on October 10th, announced that she has been appointed as the first mental health ambassador by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

She shared a picture where she was seen with JP Nadda and Punya Salila Srivastava. Her husband, Ranveer Singh, reacted in the comment section, writing, 'So proud of you,' with a heart emoticon. In the caption, she wrote, "On World Mental Health Day, I am deeply



honoured to be appointed as the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's first-ever Mental Health Ambassador."

She further added, "Led by our honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi, our nation has taken meaningful steps to place mental health at the heart of public health. Through my own journey and the work we have done over

the past decade, I have seen how much is possible when we come together to build a mentally healthy India. I look forward to working under the guidance of Sri JP Nadda to strengthen India's mental health framework further," she concluded. Deepika has been a strong advocate for mental health for years. She first spoke about her own

battle with depression nearly a decade ago, breaking the silence around an issue that was often considered a taboo in the industry back then. Deepika herself grappled with depression a decade ago and fought the mental health issue for years, especially after her breakup with Bollywood superstar Ranbir Kapoor. On the work front, Deepika Padukone was last seen in 'Singham Again', directed by Rohit Shetty, which also starred Ajay Devgn, Ranveer Singh, Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Kareena Kapoor, and Arjun Kapoor.

The film grossed around

Rs. 372 crore worldwide. The actress, who recently embraced motherhood, will be next seen in Shah Rukh Khan's King and in Allu Arjun's upcoming film directed by Atlee. The film, which features Anupama Parameswaran as the female lead, also stars Lal, Pasupathy, Rajisha Vijayan, Hari Krishnan, Azhagam Perumal, Aruvi Madhanand and Kalaiyarasan in pivotal roles. 'Bison', short for 'Bison Kaalamaadan', has cinematography by Ezhil Arasu K. The film has editing by Sakthi Thiru and is jointly produced by Sameer Nair, Deepak Saigal, director Pa Ranjith and Aditi Anand.

BB 19: Gauahar Khan lauds Gaurav Khanna for his loyalty towards his group

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Former Bigg Boss winner Gauahar Khan has been actively voicing her views on the ongoing season of the reality show. The Bigg Boss Season 7 winner recently praised Big Boss 19 contestant Gaurav Khanna while simultaneously being extremely loyal to his group despite losing the task against Ashnoor Kaur, whom he considers a good friend.

Sharing a story on her social media account, Gauahar lauded Gaurav's sportsmanship during a recent task and wrote, 'Task haarkar bhi jeet gaya, loyal to the



group.' She also highlighted how even in defeat, Gaurav showed loyalty to his group, with fans dubbing him as a man with a heart of gold.

The post comes after a task in which Gaurav did not emerge victorious and lost to his own groupmate Ashnoor Kaur. De-

spite the loss, he chose to cheer for Ashnoor despite the fact that he lost and was seen telling his group who was trying to console him that "wo jeeti na apne hi group ki hai – she won; it's okay, she's a part of our group."

His calm approach and advice to his group, not only to not overreact, earned appreciation from Gauahar, who has consistently supported him for playing what she describes as a clean and loyal game. While applauding, Gauahar Khan has been extremely vocal about every contestant and their personality and game tactics in Bigg Boss Season 19. During her Weekend Ka Vaar appearance a few weeks

ago, she had criticised music composer and BB19 contestant Amaal Malik for his tone and personal words and even called him double-faced.

She also urged him to be mindful of his language. Malik, however, had appeared indifferent and was later seen telling housemates Baseer Ali and Zeishan Quadri that Gauahar was unnecessarily lashing out, remarking, 'Faltu ka chad rahi hai.' To this, Gauahar, through her social media account, had responded strongly, writing, 'Battameez se kya hi expect kar sakte hain. Tammeez sikhai nahi jaa sakti' (What can you expect from a rude person?).

Mommy-to-be Parineeti Chopra observes Karwa Chauth fast for husband Raghav Chadha

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Bollywood actress Parineeti Chopra, who is expecting her first child with husband and politician Raghav Chadha, marked her first Karwa Chauth after her pregnancy announcement with heartfelt posts on social media.

The mommy-to-be observed the traditional fast for her husband, calling him the love of her life. Sharing pictures from the celebration, Parineeti wrote on her social media post, 'My chaand, the love of my life.' Happy Karwa Chauth.'

The photos gave fans a glimpse of the intimate festivities. In one of the frames, the actress was seen performing the customary ritual of sighting her husband through a sieve, while Raghav held a pooja thali. Another candid moment showed the couple sitting together, sharing a warm exchange, capturing the essence of their first Karwa Chauth as parents-to-be.

Parineeti also shared stories that highlighted personal details from the occasion. In one, she gave fans a glimpse of her cute baby bump while dressed in a pastel pink and yellow outfit,



adding a half-moon and heart emoticons to the picture. Another story showed a close-up of a pair of customised jutees with the initials "P" and "R" and their wedding date, September 24, 2023, beautifully inscribed on them. The couple had announced their pregnancy in August this year, with the actress confirming that they are expecting their first child by the end of 2025.

For the uninitiated, Parineeti and Raghav tied the knot in an intimate but grand ceremony in

Udaipur, Rajasthan, in September 2023, which was attended by close family, friends and political dignitaries. The two had dated for several months before making their relationship official earlier in 2023. A few days ago, Paritnee announced the revamping of her YouTube channel, where she would interview different people from different walks of life and make it a fun watch overall. The first guest on her podcast was none other than her husband, Raghav Chadha.

BUSSINESS

India's first Large Language Model slated for launch by year end



NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

With 38,000 GPUs available at just Rs 65 per hour and 12 companies developing foundation models, the country aims to launch an Indian Large Language Model (LLM) by year-end, reducing dependence on foreign systems, the government said on Friday. According to Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary MeitY, CEO of IndiaAI and DG-NIC, the IndiaAI Mission, approved last year, is addressing key gaps by enabling affordable compute, creating a national data platform, supporting foundation models, advancing AI skilling, and ensuring safe and trustworthy AI. MeitY hosted a set of

pre-summit events for the upcoming India-AI Impact Summit 2026 at the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025 here. These events mark a pivotal step in the journey toward the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, scheduled to be held on February 19-20, 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

In the inaugural address, S. Krishnan, Secretary MeitY, said, "We have adopted innovative means by learning from the experiences of others to build viable projects and products that will truly make a difference for us. "In partnership with the private sector, accessible to the public sector - ensuring a level-playing field for all providers, is both innovative and fruitful. It ensures that with

the least amount of resources we are able to ensure availability for all. A number of international agencies have also found our approach very appealing, to build a model which can be used for the rest of the global South," he highlighted.

The pre-summit events brought together leaders from government, industry, academia, and global institutions to explore how AI can drive inclusive, safe, and sustainable growth across the digital and telecom ecosystem. The discussions reflected India's vision of leveraging AI for societal good, economic resilience, and inclusive growth, aligning with the upcoming Summit's theme - "From Action to Impact." Participants explored India's growing AI ecosystem, advances under the IndiaAI Mission, and opportunities for partnerships that democratise AI access and innovation. The India-AI Impact Summit 2026 will convene global leaders to advance the responsible design, development, and deployment of AI, guided by the sutras of "People, Planet, and Progress".

Celebrate Diwali with the Goodness of California Almonds

DUBAI
Wakeup telangana

This Diwali, make celebrations joyful and healthy by including California Almonds in your festive spread. Naturally rich in protein, fibre, and heart-healthy fats, almonds are a wholesome choice that fits seamlessly into sweets, snacks, and gifts—allowing families to enjoy the festival without compromising wellness.

Almonds, often called the "king of nuts," provide 15 essential nutrients including protein, calcium, magnesium, zinc, vitamin E, and dietary fibre. They



support heart health, blood sugar regulation, weight management, and muscle recovery. Their versatility makes them perfect for festive recipes or as thoughtful gifts that combine taste and nutrition.

Bollywood actress Soha Ali Khan highlights mindful celebration, sharing, "I engage my daughter Inaaya in learning about healthier food choices. By incorporating almonds, rich in fibre and protein, we feel fuller longer and

reduce mindless snacking during festivities. This Diwali, we celebrate the light of health and happiness with every wholesome bite."

Ayurveda expert Dr. Madhumitha Krishnan adds, "Almonds have long been valued in traditional wellness, balancing doshas and supporting vitality. Unlike heavy sweets, they provide satiety without harm and even benefit skin health. Adding them to festive plates or gifting them is a simple way to honor holistic wellness."

Nutritionist Ritika Samaddar recommends almonds as a smart swap during indulgent celebra-

tions: "A handful keeps you full and regulates blood sugar, making it easier to enjoy festive foods responsibly." Nutrition consultant Sheela Krishnaswamy stresses, "Small adjustments like adding almonds to recipes or enjoying them as a snack allow full enjoyment of Diwali without compromising long-term health." This festive season, celebrate the Festival of Light with moments that nourish both body and spirit. With California Almonds, every Diwali gathering becomes delightful, wholesome, and memorable.

3 key Indian ports recognised as Green Hydrogen Hubs: Minister

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The government on Friday said it has formally recognised three major ports — Deendayal Port Authority (Gujarat), V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority (Tamil Nadu), and Paradip Port Authority (Odisha) -- as Green Hydrogen Hubs under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM). This recognition marks a significant step towards creating an integrated hydrogen ecosystem and advancing India's transition towards clean energy, said the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). "This recognition marks a defining

moment in India's maritime journey as we transition to become a modern, capable and leader in the global maritime segment. Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are working towards building an ecosystem of sustainable development that will power India towards realising the vision of becoming net zero by 2070," said Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal.

This recognition has been issued with the approval of the competent authority, said the ministry. Ports are an important nodes in this transition. As Green Hydrogen hubs,



ports will act as catalysts of clean energy innovation.

"As a maritime leader, India's ports will not only empower their own country but also leverage its strategic positions along the eastern and western trade routes to drive the region towards sustainable logistics," he mentioned.

The National Green Hydrogen Mission aims to

position the country as a global hub for the production, utilisation, and export of green hydrogen and its derivatives.

The Mission promotes the development of large-scale hydrogen hubs to serve as focal points for production and consumption, thereby facilitating the establishment of a sustainable and competitive hydrogen economy. Recognising the logistical and technical challenges associated with long-distance hydrogen transport, the Mission adopts a cluster-based development model. This approach enhances early-stage project viability, enables infrastructure convergence, and helps

achieve economies of scale in identified regions. The revised scheme guidelines for setting up Hydrogen Valley Innovation Clusters (HVIC) and Green Hydrogen Hubs, issued on June 27, 2025, provide the framework for identifying and supporting potential regions capable of large-scale hydrogen activity.

"The recognition of these ports is expected to catalyse industrial participation, attract green investments, and promote innovation in clean fuel technologies, supporting India's broader vision of achieving energy self-reliance and net-zero emissions by 2070," the ministry noted.

Campus Launches Trendy Sneakers, Women’s Range

Campus Unveils Bold Sneaker Portfolio, Expands Women’s Line at Retailer Meet 2025



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Campus Activewear Ltd., a leading Indian sports and athleisure brand, hosted its Annual Retailer Meet 2025 in Hyderabad, gathering over 243 retail partners in collaboration with channel partner Snethlatha Associates. The event, themed “Move Together, Grow Together,” emphasized Campus’ commitment to co-creating growth with its retail network and reinforcing its brand philosophy, “Move Your Way.” The meet highlighted Campus’ latest product innovations, including fash-

ion-forward sneakers, women’s sneakers, and the flagship Air Capsule Pro technology. Retailers gained insights into evolving consumer preferences, enabling them to better serve the growing demand for stylish, functional, and comfortable footwear. “Every pair we design reaches its full potential only when it reaches the consumer, and our retailers make that possible,” said Mr. Nikhil Aggarwal, Whole-Time Director and CEO, Campus Activewear Ltd. “This meet celebrates shared momentum, consumer insight, and the journey we are on together.”

Campus showcased a diverse sneaker portfolio blending bold, maximalist designs with minimalist essentials, along with trend-forward women’s styles, open footwear for all genders, and durable kids’ collections. The event featured live demos and interactive sessions, reinforcing the brand’s focus on design innovation and everyday movement. Following earlier events like Shoeease 2025—Campus’ largest distributor gathering—the retailer meet underlined the company’s dedication to shared growth, with representatives engaging directly with partners. With a presence across 23,000+ retailers and a growing digital footprint, Campus continues to strengthen its position as a trusted lifestyle companion in India, leveraging technology, design agility, and deep consumer insights to drive future-ready, market-leading offerings.

Ajit, Sandeep, and Sunil star as U Mumba beat Bengal Warriorz

It was a historic day for Devank Dalal in the final match of the Chennai leg, who became the fastest to 500 raid points in the PKL, but his 12th straight Super 10 was negated as he did not get any support from his teammates.

MUMBAI Wakeup telangana

Super 10s from Ajit Chouhan and Sandeep, and seven points for Sunil Kumar led U Mumba to an emphatic 48-29 win over the Bengal Warriorz in Season 12 of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) at the SDAT Multi Purpose Indoor Stadium on Friday. It was a historic day for Devank Dalal in the final match of the Chennai leg, who became the fastest to 500 raid points in the PKL, but his 12th straight Super 10 was negated as he did not get any support from his teammates. U Mumba made a strong start in their clash as their raiding duo of Ajit Chouhan and Sandeep looked sharp from the outset, consistently breaching the Warriorz defence to build an early five-point cushion. The defensive unit, led by Sunil and Zafardanesh, complemented the attack well, keeping the Warriorz raiders under

pressure and forcing errors at crucial moments. The biggest highlight in the early phase was Devank’s historic milestone — he became the fastest player to reach 500 raid points in PKL history. However, despite Devank’s individual brilliance and a few spirited raids from Himanshu Narwal, the Warriorz struggled to find rhythm against U Mumba’s compact setup. U Mumba maintained their dominance through the first half, steadily consolidating on their early lead. Ajit led the charge, ably supported by Sandeep, as U Mumba’s attack kept their opponents on the back foot. Their defence, anchored by Sunil Kumar, stayed compact and disciplined. The highlight came when Zafardanesh’s timely tackle on Manjeet resulted in an All Out, pushing U Mumba ahead. For the Warriorz, Devank continued to be the lone bright spark, adding cru-



cial raid points and showing his class after crossing the 500-raid-point milestone. Himanshu Narwal offered brief support, but the defence faltered against U Mumba’s assault. At the end of the first half, U Mumba led Bengal Warriorz 24-13. U Mumba carried their first-half momentum into

the second, tightening their grip on the contest. A defining moment came when Sunil’s perfectly timed tackle on Vishwas S. produced another All Out, extending U Mumba’s advantage. Their all-round dominance reflected a side playing with rhythm and confidence.

Devank and Himanshu Narwal showed flashes of resistance with a few spirited raids, but they struggled to find sustained momentum. Manjeet’s Super Tackle briefly lifted the team, yet U Mumba’s defence quickly reasserted control. Bengal’s defence lacked coordination, allowing.

Fresh Bus Launches Bengaluru to Chennai with Money-Back Guarantee

HDYERABAD Wakeup telangana

Fresh Bus, India’s leading all-electric intercity bus brand, has expanded its network to the Bengaluru–Chennai corridor, offering both sleeper and seater buses. Alongside this launch, the company introduced “The Fresh Promise”, the nation’s first automated money-back guarantee for intercity bus passengers, ensuring instant compensation for delays, cancellations, or incomplete journeys. Under The Fresh Promise, passengers facing delays of over 90 minutes automatically receive



₹1,000. Trips canceled within three hours of departure qualify for ₹500 plus a full ticket refund, while incomplete journeys earn ₹1,000 in addition to the ticket refund. All payouts are processed automatically within 24 hours, with no manual follow-ups required. Real-time

GPS tracking and the consolidated “My Journey View” platform ensure transparency and make the process user-friendly. Speaking about the launches, Sudhakar Chirra, Founder & CEO of Fresh Bus, said, “With the Bengaluru–Chennai expansion and The Fresh

Promise, we’re raising the bar for intercity travel in India. This initiative reflects accountability, automation, and respect for our customers’ time. Every Fresh Bus journey represents reliability, comfort, and trust.” The new route will feature Fresh Bus’s premium electric fleet, offering zero-emission, quiet, and flight-like travel experiences with reclining seats, personal charging ports, complimentary snacks, CCTV-enabled safety, and IoT-powered fleet monitoring. The Fresh Promise automatically applies to all bookings via the app, website, or travel partners.

New Research Highlights Child Sexual Exploitation Risks in South Asia

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

A new study by the Childlight Global Child Safety Institute reveals that roughly one in eight children in South Asia experience sexual assault before 18, equating to about 54 million children in India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. Girls are slightly more affected (14.5%) than boys (11.5%). The research also highlights rising online abuse, including AI-generated “deep fake” sexual material involving children. The findings, part of Childlight’s Into the Light study, are being presented



at c0c0n in Kerala, Asia’s largest cybersecurity conference, and at a trust and safety summit in Delhi. India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan report the highest volumes of child sexual

abuse material (CSAM) in South Asia. In 2024, India accounted for over 2.25 million reports, Bangladesh 1.11 million, and Pakistan 1.03 million. When adjusted for population,

the Maldives leads in CSAM prevalence, followed by Bangladesh and Pakistan. Childlight CEO Paul Stanfield emphasized that abuse is preventable and urges proactive legislation, rapid removal of CSAM by tech firms, and educational programs for children and caregivers. The organization is working with Indian police across 20 states to identify victims and perpetrators, using AI tools. Experts, survivors, and officials highlighted the importance of data visibility in shaping law enforcement responses and effective child protection policies.

Ahmedabad Defenders come from behind to beat Calicut Heroes

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Ahmedabad Defenders defeated the defending champions Calicut Heroes 12-15, 15-12, 15-12, 16-14 in the Prime Volleyball League at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium, in Hyderabad on Friday. Battur Batsuuri was named the Player of the Match. Ashok Bishnoi and Shameemudheen formed a two-man block line early on to counter Angamuthu’s attacks. The Defenders’ back line distributed their passes brilliantly to tackle Calicut’s offence. In the absence of Shon T John, Batsuuri



played the dominant attacking role for Ahmedabad, helping his side with a fiery display. Abdul Raheem began making an impact on the court for Calicut across all departments. Santhosh added attacking depth to the defending

champions, putting pressure back on Ahmedabad. Mohan Ukkrapandan was on point with his passing, playing the captain’s role as Calicut edged ahead. Nandhagopal opened up the doors for Ahmedabad to find a way back

with cross-body spikes and a powerful super serve. Ahmedabad gained in confidence as the match progressed, but Calicut relied on Raheem to keep the game levelled. Skipper Muthusamy Appavu rallied his troops to set up plays at a crucial juncture, making a significant difference on court. Batsuuri, along with Angamuthu, continued to attack the opposition’s court, aiming to put Ahmedabad in control. Both teams displayed tremendous defensive prowess, not making it easy for the opposition to score. Akhin had the last laugh,

scoring the winning point for Ahmedabad with a thunderous spike. Prime Volleyball League is India’s first professional volleyball league with 10 teams. The league successfully completed Seasons 1, 2 & 3, and Season 4 will continue till October 2025. Prime Volleyball League works closely with the global body of Volleyball (Fédération Internationale de Volley Ball, FIVB). The league has players from India and worldwide, where the international players come through FIVB’s international transfer procedure.

Bhavtegh Singh hits a perfect 50 on Day 1 of skeet qualification

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

India’s Bhavtegh Singh Gill, a two-time Junior World Championship medallist, made a perfect start to his campaign at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championship Shotgun 2025 in Athens, Greece, hitting all 50 targets on the opening day of the men’s skeet qualification at the Malakasa Shooting Range on Friday. Bhavtegh’s perfect round saw him join elite company alongside four-time Olympic champion and three-time World Champion Vincent Hancock of the United States, 2000 Olympic gold medallist Mikola Milchev of Uk-



raine, ISSF World Cup medallist Henrik Jansson of Sweden, Kacper Jerzyall Baksalary (Poland), and Emil Kjeldgaard (Denmark), all of whom also registered perfect 50s to share the top of the leaderboard after Day 1. Among other Indians, Olympian and reigning Asian Champion Anantjeet Singh Naruka hit 48 (24, 24) to sit in 35th place, while two-time

Olympian Mairaj Ahmad Khan with 45 (24, 21) to finish the day in 97th position in a highly competitive 116-athlete field. In the women’s skeet, Olympian Raiza Dhillon and Parinaaz Dhaliwal shot 45 (23, 22) and 44 (21, 23) respectively to occupy the 37th and 38th positions. Ganemat Sekhon is placed 45th with 43 (21, 22) hits after the opening two rounds. Former Asian champion China’s Jinmei Gao, Anastasia Eleftheriou of Cyprus, Aislin Jones of Australia, World No.1 Samantha Simonton of the USA, and Canada’s Madeliene Lieselotte Boyd share the lead in the women’s event after recording 49 hits each.



Turn vacant buildings into homeless shelters: Activists to Telangana govt

People’s organisations have decided to meet chief minister A Revanth Reddy to propose converting vacant government buildings like the Burgula Ramakrishna Rao building (BRK Bhavan) and the Dwakra building (opposite Ambedkar Bhavan) on Tank Bund into shelters for the homeless.

Homeless people living in shelter homes, social activists, and those running the 12 shelter homes under the limits of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) discussed several issues affecting the homeless in Hyderabad, at the World Homeless Day meeting held at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram (SVK) on Friday, October 10. Speaking at the event, social activist Sajaya pointed out that after the demolition of the old secretariat and construction of the massive new one, half of the offices from BRK Bhavan got vacated and lying unused. Without any proper maintenance, she said the building was wearing a haunted look, and soon electricity and other structural issues will arise.

Police Seize ₹18 Lakh Firecrackers, Sellers Told to Get Licenses Before Deepavali

Task Force officials, along with Afzalgunj police, seized 100 boxes of firecrackers worth ₹18 lakh during a raid on a godown at Siddamber Bazar, Osman Gunj Road, and arrested one person, identified as 55-year-old Shyam Kumar Sugandhi, for illegally storing the crackers in a residential area without a valid license.

In view of the upcoming Deepavali festival, Hyderabad police have urged all temporary firecracker sellers to obtain licenses under the Explosives Act, 1884, and Rules, 1983. Applicants must submit Form AE-5 manually to the deputy commissioners of their respective zones between October 9 and 15.

The required documents include NOCs from the Divisional Fire Officer and neighbors (for single-shop setups), land permission from GHMC or private owners, a site plan, and proof of fee payment of ₹600 at SBI, Treasury Branch, Gunfoundry. Authorities have warned that unlicensed storage or sale will invite strict action.



Hyderabad to host Global Forum on Climate Resilience on Dec 5

The Chandradeep Solar Research Institute (CDSRI) has announced that Hyderabad will host the 4th International Conference on Green Technology, Policy, and Finance (ICGTPF 4.0) on December 5 at the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI).

This year’s edition will present an International Green Energy Trade Summit and will focus on strengthening global action for climate resilience through sustainable technologies, innovative financing, and international cooperation. The event will bring together leaders from the UK, Germany, Korea, the Netherlands, Africa, and beyond, along with policymakers, researchers, entrepreneurs, and investors.

Hyderabad Muslims Demand Immediate Arrest of Raja Singh Over Offensive Remarks

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Muslim leaders have demanded the immediate arrest and prosecution of suspended BJP MLA Raja Singh for making offensive remarks about the Holy Prophet ﷺ, which they say hurt religious sentiments and violated court orders. The leaders also urged the cancellation of his bail and swift action on multiple FIRs filed against him.

The demand was made during a meeting with Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, attended by Charminar



MLA Mir Zulfiqar Ali and office-bearers of the Central Milad Procession Committee. The delegation stressed that Muslims “can tolerate many things but will never tolerate disrespect towards the Holy Prophet ﷺ,” expressing widespread anger over the accused’s statements. According to the delegation, Raja Singh has repeatedly made objectionable remarks about the Prophet ﷺ, often

timed before elections to gain political advantage. Over 40 complaints have been filed by various Muslim organizations at different police stations across Telangana.

The leaders stated that the accused’s statements constitute serious offences under multiple sections of the Indian Penal Code: Section 153A (promoting enmity between groups), Section 295A (deliberate acts intended to outrage religious feelings), Section 298 (uttering words to wound religious feelings), Section 505(2) (promoting enmity or hatred between classes), and

Section 67 of the Information Technology Act (publishing obscene or objectionable material electronically).

The delegation warned that the repeated actions of the accused threaten public peace and order and are being widely circulated on social media, inciting communal hostility. They emphasized that immediate arrest is necessary to prevent further unrest.

The delegation included Mir Zulfiqar Ali (MLA, Charminar), Maulana Syed Sheikhun Ahmed Qadri Shatari (President, Central Milad Procession

Committee), Maulana Syed Qadir Mohiuddin Qadri, Juned Pasha Zareen Kullah (General Secretary), Maulana Syed Shah Mohammad Saifulah Husaini Al-Baqari Saif Pasha (Joint Secretary), Maulana Hafiz Mohammad Muzafar Husain Qadri Banda Nawazi (Convener), Maulana Dr. Khwaja Shah Mohammad Shujauddin Iftiqari Haqqani Pasha (Secretary, Media & Publications), and other committee members.

Tharun Bhascker Joins The Raptors as Co-owner

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As the Hyderabad Pickleball League (HPL) kicks off its inaugural season, The Raptors franchise has announced acclaimed filmmaker and actor Tharun Bhascker Dhaassyam as its new co-owner. He joins Kaushik Manepalli and Divya Priyanka Reddy, Co-Founders of Orbit Flight Training Centre, forming a dynamic leadership trio that blends creativity, business acumen, and sporting enthusiasm.

The Raptors are among the eight franchises competing in India’s first pro-



fessional hyper-local pickleball league, which runs from October 10 to December 13 with matches every Friday night across Hyderabad.

Welcoming Tharun to the team, Kaushik said his creativity and mass appeal add a “new dimension” to The Raptors, while Divya

highlighted the team’s shared values of passion, teamwork, and personality.

Tharun expressed excitement about the collaboration, calling sport and storytelling “powerful forces that unite and inspire.” He said The Raptors embody energy, ambition, and character—qualities that align with his vision. Organized by Centre Court Sports & Entertainment, the HPL aims to elevate Hyderabad’s sporting culture, with The Raptors promising to combine competitive spirit and entertainment in equal measure.

Drugs worth Rs 1 Cr seized, interstate peddler held

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

An interstate drug peddler was arrested by the Malkajgiri Special Operations team and Keesra police on Friday, October 10. The arrest was done while he was handing over 7 kg of opium and 2 kg of poppy straw to an unknown transporter at Kundanpally ORR Rotary.

The accused has been identified as Lokesh Barath, 26, a resident of Rajasthan. The seized drugs are worth around Rs 1 crore.

According to the Rachakonda police, Lokesh had recently lost his job as manager in a hotel in Rajasthan and had been out of work for almost three months when he came into contact with one Jagadish Gujjar and planned to make money by selling drugs in Hyderabad and Chennai.

Lokesh had previously delivered 2 kg of opium to an unknown receiver near Kachiguda railway station in August. After this, on October 8, the accused had boarded a train from Rajasthan again with 7 kg of opium and 2 kg of poppy straw and had arrived in

Hyderabad on Friday. He was arrested near Kundanpally ORR Rotary while he was handing over the drugs to an unknown receiver. The other accused, Jagadish Gujjar is still at large and efforts are underway to nab him.

The Rachakonda police has warned against procuring, selling, transporting and consuming the banned drugs. Anyone found indulging in illegal activities will be liable for imprisonment for up to 10 years or a death penalty under Section 31A of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

DGP Bats for People-centric Policing

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

There is a glaring mismatch in student enrolment and teacher deployment in the government and local body schools in the State. While 7,346 schools have been grappling with a teacher deficit, the Education department identified over 21,000 surplus teachers in the State.

As per the information available with the department, the State is home to 24,227 government and local body schools. As per GO MS No. 25 order, which mandates redistribution of teachers based on



the enrollment, these schools require 99,076 teachers. However, 1,04,605 teachers are currently employed. Of the total schools, 12,994 found to have 21,140 surplus teachers, while 7,364 in-

stitutions are facing a shortage of 15,611 teachers.

This issue, according to officials, has arisen due to a decline in student enrolment. Previously, government and local body schools had an enrolment

of around 26–28 lakh. However, this academic year, it has dropped to 16 lakh.

In the last academic year alone, around 3 lakh students left the government and joined private schools. This has led to the surplus teacher issue.

According to a senior official, the department is looking into school-wise surplus teachers and redistribute the same to the needy schools.

“We will pass on the information to the district collectors and ensure redistribution of teachers from surplus to needy institutions,” the official added.

BRS burns effigy over BC quota stay, slams Congress



BRS leaders burnt the effigy of Buttamgarri Madhava Reddy, who filed a petition against BC reservations in High Court, in Siddipet town after the High Court stayed the government’s decision to introduce 42 per cent reservations for BCs in local body elections.

Speaking on the occasion on Friday BC leader of BRS, Sattanarayana Goud said the BCs were seeking their right share of political opportunities. Since nearly 50 per cent of the population in Telangana were BCs, he said that it is their right to get 42 per cent reservation. He lashed out at Madhava Reddy, a Reddy Jagruthi leader, and a few others for creating obstacles to the demand.

The BRS leaders also lashed out at Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for misleading the people by just giving a GO on BC reservations instead of enacting an Act. However, they said that they will certainly teach a lesson to the Congress Party if it fails to introduce 42 per cent reservations.

TGSPDCL engineer held for Rs 15,000 bribe in Secunderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A Sub-Engineer of the Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL) was arrested by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) officials on Friday for allegedly accepting a bribe in Secunderabad.

According to ACB officials, the accused, B. Sudhakar Reddy, posted in the Lalaguda section, was caught red-handed while accepting a bribe of ₹15,000 from a complainant. The bribe was reportedly demanded for processing the file to upgrade an electricity con-

nection from a single-phase meter to a three-phase meter, and for preparing an estimation copy for the installation of an electric transformer.

Following the trap, ACB officials arrested Sudhakar Reddy and seized the tainted money as evidence. The accused was subsequently produced before the Special Court for ACB cases in Hyderabad, which remanded him to judicial custody.

Officials stated that such actions are part of ACB’s ongoing efforts to curb corruption and ensure transparency in government departments, urging citizens to report similar instances of bribery.

GDAI Sets Up India’s First Policy Secretariat for Video Games Industry

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Game Developer Association of India (GDAI) has launched India’s first Policy Secretariat for the video games (social gaming) industry, marking a significant milestone in structured engagement between the gaming sector and government bodies. Based in Delhi NCR, the Secretariat will act as the industry’s unified voice, collaborating with the Central and State Governments to implement AVGC policies and foster sustainable growth.

The move comes in the

wake of the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act 2025, which formalized India’s commitment to building a robust digital entertainment ecosystem. The Secretariat will promote innovation-friendly regulations, safeguard developer interests, and help position India as a global hub for creative and responsible game development.

Sridhar Muppidi, Chairperson of GDAI, said, “We welcome the government’s progressive recognition of online social games under

the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. The GDAI Policy Secretariat will work with the government to create globally aligned policies that empower startups, promote exports, and nurture a thriving video games ecosystem.”

GDAI has appointed Hemant Coomarr as Director, Government Affairs & Public Policy to lead the Secretariat. With over 30 years of experience in manufacturing, telecom, and technology, Coomarr aims to ensure clear differentiation between On-

line Social Games, Online Money Games, and Esports, and advocate for proportionate regulation that supports innovation.

The Secretariat will also focus on policy clarity around virtual items, in-game stakes, and enforcement safeguards, while driving responsible, inclusive, and globally competitive growth.

Representing developers, studios, and creators across 29 states, GDAI remains India’s apex body for the video game industry—promoting collaboration, skill development, and innovation-led growth.

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