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Brief Insights

NHAI Readies Traffic Plan On NH 65 For Sankranti Vehicle Rush



The Pantangi toll plaza on the Hyderabad-Vijayawada highway may allow up to 20 vehicles per minute to pass once the trial of the satellite-based automatic toll collection system is successful. The toll plaza has 16 booths, of which eight on the Vijayawada-bound side were used for the trial. Cameras and sensors were tested to assess whether vehicle numbers were accurately detected and toll amounts deducted automatically without vehicles stopping. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials said minor glitches were noticed during the trial, including toll not being deducted for some vehicles, and steps are being taken to rectify them. A final decision on implementing the satellite-based automatic toll collection system at the toll plaza is yet to be taken.

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3.9 Magnitude Earthquake Hits Assam

A mild earthquake measuring 3.9 on the Richter scale struck Assam on Thursday evening, just three days after a stronger 5.1-magnitude tremor jolted the state and neighbouring regions, officials said. The latest quake was recorded at 7.30 pm and had its epicentre in Udalguri district at a depth of 10 km. According to official data, the earthquake occurred at 26.71 degrees North latitude and 92.30 degrees East longitude. Tremors were felt across several parts of central and northern Assam, including the state capital Guwahati, briefly causing concern among residents. However, authorities confirmed that no injuries or damage to property were reported following Thursday's tremor. The fresh seismic activity comes close on the heels of Monday's stronger earthquake, which had a magnitude of 5.1 and struck Morigaon district at a depth of 50 km. That quake resulted in injuries to three people and caused minor damage to houses and other structures in Morigaon, Nalbari, Sonitpur and Nagaon districts. Cracks were reported in several buildings, while residents rushed outdoors in panic as tremors were felt across a wide area.



Is This Your 'Mohabbat Ki Dukaan', Rahul Gandhi?, Ask KTR: P2

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Telangana Needs Private Firms to Create 30 Lakh Jobs: P2



Politics Should Not Govern Water Disputes: Revantth

Revantth Reddy urged Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu not to obstruct the projects approved in united Andhra Pradesh on Krishna River

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Chief Minister A Revantth Reddy on Friday asserted that inter-State water disputes should be resolved through dialogue and co-operation, stressing that such sensitive issues must be kept beyond the realm of politics. He said Telangana's priority was securing water for its people and finding permanent solutions rather than engaging in prolonged disputes or legal battles. The Chief Minister made these remarks after inaugurating Suzen Medicare Private Limited at Ravirala in Rangareddy district. Responding to ongoing water-sharing issues with neighbouring



States, particularly Andhra Pradesh, Revantth Reddy clarified that the Congress government in Telangana was not attempting to gain political advantage through water disputes. Instead, the focus remained on protecting the long-term interests of the State. "If you ask me whether Telangana wants disputes or water, my answer is water. If you ask whether we want disputes or solutions, then we want solutions. Our problems

should be resolved amicably and with mutual understanding," the Chief Minister said. Revantth Reddy recalled that the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre had granted separate Statehood to Telangana in 2014 with the objective of avoiding frequent disputes between the two Telugu States. He noted that the division was intended to create administrative clarity and facilitate smoother resolution of issues, including water sharing. Urging Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to cooperate, Revantth Reddy appealed against obstruction of irrigation and water-related projects that were approved during the period of united Andhra

Pradesh, particularly on the Krishna River. He pointed out that such obstructions were affecting the flow of funds from the Central government and were ultimately placing an additional financial burden on Telangana's exchequer. The Chief Minister reiterated that Telangana was not interested in unnecessary conflicts and sought cooperation from neighbouring States for development initiatives, including water sharing and port connectivity. "If Telangana requires port access, neighbouring States must extend their cooperation. Only through coordination and mutual respect can regional development be achieved," he said.

Didi Claims "I'm Reborn" In spoiling ED Raids On I-PAC

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee asserted on Friday that she was "reborn" in her popular avatar of opposition through her act against the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for raiding two premises linked to her party's political consulting firm, I-PAC, in the coal smuggling scam. The Trinamul Congress supreme also accused union home minister Amit Shah of being the beneficiary of the coal scam with the help of two state BJP leaders including leader of the opposition Suwendu Adhikari and warned him of crossing Lakshman Rekha. Otherwise, she can open a can of worms, referring to a set of pen drives, stored with secrets, in her possession. Ms Banerjee defended her daring role as a street fighter in the ED raids on



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, during a protest rally from Jadavpur to Hazra Crossing against the ED raid on the IPAC office, in Kolkata on Friday.

Thursday after leading a massive protest rally from Jadavpur to Hazra in the city over the central agencies' excess in the state. She told a gathering about switching to her old form, "If I'm attacked, rebirth happens to me. I was thinking yesterday that I am reborn." The CM said, "I was not at all aware of anything. In the morning, I came to know something was taking place. I didn't try to know further... Abhishek sent me a message but I

missed it. Whatever I did yesterday was in my capacity of TMC chairperson. I did nothing wrong. You came to finish me. But I have the right of self defence." She then reminded the BJP that I-PAC had earlier worked for Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he came to power at the Centre in 2014 and many parties in South India before Prashant Kishore handed over his ownership to a co-founder Pratik

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Telangana Shivers as Coldwave Intensifies

Intense Coldwave Persists Across Telangana; Kohir Records 6.6°C

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

An intense coldwave continued to grip Telangana on January 9, with minimum temperatures plunging across Hyderabad and several districts of the State. Weather observers said coldwave conditions are likely to persist for another 36 hours, after which a gradual relief is expected. Within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) limits, the lowest temperature was recorded at HCU, Serilingampally, where the mercury dipped to 8.4 degrees Celsius. Moula Ali followed with 8.8°C, while Rajendranagar recorded 8.9°C. Other localities that experienced low temperatures included Qutbullapur (10.7°C), Alwal (11°C), Sivarampalle and West Maredpally (11.2°C each), Macha Bollaram

(11.3°C), and Jeedimetla (12°C). Gachibowli registered 12.1°C, Kishanbagh 12.2°C, Mehdiapatnam 12.4°C, Begumpet 12.5°C, and Neredmet, Tirumalgi, Hayathnagar and Nagole hovered around 12.6°C. Across Telangana, Sangareddy district's Kohir reported the lowest minimum temperature at a chilling 6.6°C. KB Asifabad's Tiryani recorded 7.1°C, followed by Moynabad in Rangareddy at 7.2°C. Other cold pockets included Jukkal in Kamareddy (8.1°C), Marpalle in Vikarabad (8.2°C), and Bheemipoor in Adilabad (8.3°C). Further low temperatures were reported from Gambhiraopet in Sircilla (9.1°C), Markook in Siddipet (9.2°C), Yeldurthy in Medak (9.4°C), Tadwai in Mulugu (9.6°C), and Saloora in Nizamabad (9.7°C).

Calcutta HC Adjourns Hearing on ED Raids Linked to I-PAC



The Enforcement Directorate (ED) and political consultancy firm I-PAC on Thursday (January 8, 2026) moved the Calcutta High Court over the central agency's searches at the office and residence of I-PAC chief Pratik Jain. The ED moved the court alleging interference in its investigation, while I-PAC challenged the legality of the searches. The searches were part of a money laundering probe into an alleged multi-crore rupee coal pilferage scam, official sources said. Justice Suvara Ghosh, before whom the matters were mentioned, is likely to take them up for hearing on Friday (January 9). Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee dramatically turned up at the residence of Jain in south Kolkata and its office in Salt Lake amid an ongoing ED raid.

PM Modi, Trump Spoke 8 Times in 2025: MEA

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India has firmly pushed back against remarks by Howard Lutnick, who suggested that the failure to conclude a bilateral trade deal stemmed from Prime Minister Narendra



Modi not speaking directly with US President Donald Trump. Dismissing

the claim, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) clarified that Prime Minister Modi and President Trump held eight telephone conversations last year, covering a range of bilateral issues, including trade. The MEA also confirmed it is aware

of a proposed US bill seeking additional sanctions on countries purchasing Russian oil and said developments are being closely monitored. Responding to Lutnick's comments, MEA Official Spokesper-

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T HC Quashes Ticket Price Hike for 'The Raja Saab'

The court set aside the memo and rebuked the state administration for repeatedly issuing "clever memos" to circumvent

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court on Friday halted the government's decision to allow the producers of Prabhas-starrer 'Raja Saab' to enhance ticket prices for a week, till January 18, in all theatres, including multiplexes. Suspending a memo on the subject, Justice N.V. Shraavan Kumar cautioned



the home department against deviate from the ticket prices fixed through GO 120 of 2021 issued by the same department. The judge also directed the government to not issue any memo, circular or ex-

ecutive order allowing ticket price hikes in the future. Justice Shraavan Kumar made it clear that if the government intended to do so, it should follow procedure and issue separate government orders. The judge asked the government why it was continuing with the practice of issuing memos to enhance ticket prices for some movies, even after

the court had specifically issued directions against the practice. "Your minister has given a statement that there would be no approval to collect higher prices for movies, and it was seen that he had appealed to the producers to not come with such requests... why was such a memo issued again," the court asked government counsel.

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ESTD - 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aoge

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

Is This Your 'Mohabbat Ki Dukaan', Rahul Gandhi?: KTR

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Friday strongly criticised the Congress government over its alleged attempts to reclaim land belonging to Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), and questioned Lok Sabha Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi's silence on the issue. Rama Rao asked Rahul Gandhi to explain why a Congress-ruled State was targeting land owned by a minority university. "Rahul Gandhi claims to protect minority rights. Then why is he silent when the land of a minority institution is being taken away? Is this your 'Mohabbat ki Dukaan'?" he asked, alleging that students were being pushed onto the streets and the future of the university was being weakened. He clarified that the MANUU land was not vacant, but ear-



marked for future academic expansion, including hostels and academic blocks. Earlier, a delegation of MANUU students led by outgoing Students' Union president Mateen Ashra met Rama Rao at his Nandi Nagar residence and informed him about the State government's move to reclaim nearly 50 acres earlier allotted to the university. The students expressed concern that the country's only Urdu university was being deliberately targeted for

real estate interests.

Launching a sharp attack on the Congress government, Rama Rao accused it of systematically targeting educational institutions across Telangana for land. He termed the government a "serial land grabber" and said higher education institutions were being treated as land banks. He pointed out a pattern, recalling earlier attempts involving 100 acres of Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University and 400 acres of Hyderabad Central University. "Now they are after MANUU," he said, adding that only student protests, public outrage and Supreme Court intervention had stalled the HCU land issue.

Rama Rao also questioned the silence of the Union government, stating that a Supreme Court-appointed expert committee had flagged a massive land scam in the HCU case, yet no probe was

initiated. Calling the Revanth Reddy administration a real estate mafia operating under the guise of governance, he warned that even premier institutions like the Indian School of Business were under threat.

Assuring full support to MANUU students, Rama Rao said the BRS would fight the issue both in Telangana and in Delhi. He promised that a future BRS government would protect MANUU's land and provide additional funds for its expansion. "Our MPs will raise this issue in the Rajya Sabha if needed," he said. He also recalled that MANUU had earlier given up land for public infrastructure projects like the Outer Ring Road. "Institutions like HCU and MANUU were born out of the Telangana movement. Using them for real estate deals is unforgivable," he asserted.

Telangana Govt Employees Will Get Rs 1 Crore Accident Cover, Says Bhatti

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu on Friday announced that the Telangana government will extend an accident insurance cover of Rs 1.02 crore to all government employees in the state, reaffirming the administration's commitment to employee welfare. Addressing officials, Bhatti said the government accords top priority to the well-being of its workforce, describing government employees as the backbone of governance who ensure that welfare and development schemes reach every household. Under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, he said, the state considers its employees as members of one extended family. The Deputy Chief Minister revealed that consulta-



tions with leading bankers in the state have been completed to operationalise the accident insurance scheme, and the process will be rolled out shortly. He noted that despite prevailing financial constraints, the government remains steadfast in protecting employee interests. Bhatti pointed out that the state is clearing pending dues inherited from the previous BRS regime in a phased manner, with regular monthly releases, keeping employee welfare as a core objective of the administration. Recalling earlier initiatives, he said accident insurance coverage

exceeding Rs 1 crore has already been successfully implemented for employees working in Singareni Collieries and power utilities, including Transco, SPDCL, NPDCL and Genco. Through these schemes, insurance coverage has been extended to over 38,000 regular Singareni employees and 71,387 employees in the power sector. Encouraged by the positive response and effectiveness of these initiatives, the government has now decided to implement a similar accident insurance cover of Rs 1.02 crore for all government employees across departments.

Bhatti emphasised that the move reflects the government's long-term vision of ensuring financial security and social protection for employees and their families, while strengthening morale within the public service.

Nizamabad to Be Renamed as Indur, Says MP Arvind:

NIZAMABAD
Wakeup telangana

BJP MP Arvind Dharmapuri announced on Friday that Nizamabad could soon be renamed Indur, stating that a formal resolution would be passed during the first general body meeting of the Nizamabad Municipal Corporation and subsequently sent to the Chief Minister's Office. Speaking to reporters at the BJP district office, Arvind expressed confidence that the party would secure a majority of divisions in the upcoming municipal elections and claim the mayor's post.

He emphasized that the city's original name was Indur, which was changed to Nizamabad due to political reasons, and argued that restoring the historical name would contribute to the city's development. The MP also appealed to the Muslim minority com-



munity to rethink their voting preferences and support the BJP's vision of a developed India. He alleged that regions with significant Muslim populations were often neglected in terms of infrastructure and basic amenities and were treated as vote banks by other political parties during elections. Criticizing both the Congress and BRS governments, Arvind accused them of failing to fulfill promises and harming the interests of local communities. Highlighting the welfare initiatives of the central government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he cited the

example of his constituency, where around 60,000 self-help groups have benefited from subsidy-linked loans aimed at promoting financial independence and development.

The announcement was made in the presence of Nizamabad Urban MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta, BJP district president Dinesh Kulachari, and other party leaders. Arvind's remarks come as the BJP prepares for a key municipal election in Nizamabad, signaling the party's focus on historical identity, development, and community outreach in the region.

State Adviser Urges Teachers to Aim for 100% Class 10 Pass Rate

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

State government adviser P. Sudarshan Reddy on Friday said that greater commitment and quality teaching by educators could further improve academic outcomes. Noting that the district's pass percentage had improved compared to previous years, he urged teachers to work with the same spirit to achieve a 100 per cent pass rate in the forthcoming Class 10 annual examinations of the current academic year.

The 195th birth anniversary celebrations of Savitribai Phule were held on Friday at the Integrated District Offices Complex. Sudarshan Reddy attended the programme as chief guest and, along with district collector Ilambarti Tripathi and others, paid floral tributes to Savitribai Phule's portrait, recalling her pioneering contribution to women's education. Women



headmistresses and teachers who rendered outstanding services were felicitated and presented with mementoes.

Addressing the gathering, Sudarshan Reddy said the state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, was according top priority to the education sector and investing crores of rupees to strengthen infrastructure in government schools. He said the government would not compromise on improving educational standards and informed that an Integrated Residential School was being established in the district

at an estimated cost of ₹200 crore.

He assured that efficient performers would be encouraged and said government schools should be developed to a level where even private and corporate schools look to them as role models. Collector Tripathi advised teachers to treat students in government schools as their own children and support them in building a bright future. She said Class 10 was a crucial stage and that quality education and proper guidance were essential to keep students on the right path.

BAI Hyderabad Centre Wins Prestigious Best Builders' Day Celebration Award



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Builders Association of India (BAI) has honored its Hyderabad Centre with the prestigious Best Builders' Day Celebration Award, recognizing the Centre's exceptional efforts in organizing a remarkable event that showcased innovation and excellence in the construction industry.

The award highlights the Hyderabad Centre's commitment to promoting industry standards and celebrating achievements in a manner that inspires both members and stakeholders. The recognition reflects the Centre's dedication to meticulous

planning, creative execution, and fostering community engagement within the construction sector.

Expressing his delight, BAI Hyderabad Centre Chairman and SRI Infra Managing Director, Salla Srinivas Rao, said, "Receiving this award is a proud milestone for our Centre. It represents the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of our members and staff. Under the leadership and guidance of industry stalwarts such as Seenayya, D.V.N. Reddy, and Sachidananda Reddy, we have continuously strived to uphold the highest standards in infrastructure development."

BRSV Leaders Extend New Year Greetings to KTR



BRSV state leaders, led by Nemmadi Shruvan Kumar, paid a courtesy visit to BRS Party Working President KTR at his residence today to convey their New Year greetings.

Woman fitness trainer killed in road accident near Sangareddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A young woman gym trainer died in a road accident near the BHEL bus depot in Ramachandrapuram on Sunday after an Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corpora-

tion bus hit her two-wheeler. The victim was identified as Umamaheshwari (26), who was working as a gym trainer at a private gym in Beeramguda. She sustained serious head injuries and died on the spot after bleeding profusely.

Won't Lose Single Drop of Telangana's Water: Uttam

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Friday asserted that the Telangana government would not allow the loss of even a single drop of the state's rightful share of water from the Krishna and Godavari rivers. Along with agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, the irrigation minister held a review meeting with officials at Dammapeta in Aswaraopet mandal of Bhadradi-Kothagudem district after inspecting works at the fourth pump house of the Sitarama Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS).

Addressing the meeting, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the state government would not compromise on protecting Telangana's share of river waters and had clearly conveyed its stand to the Centre, the Krishna Water Tribunal and the Supreme Court. He said the government would oppose projects such as Polavaram and Nallamalla Sagar in Andhra Pradesh, which could adversely affect Telangana's irrigation interests. The state would continue its fight to safeguard its water rights, he added.

He recalled that 968 TMC ft of water from the Godavari river had already been allocated to Telangana and said all necessary permissions for the Sitarama LIS were obtained after ensuring the avail-



ability of 75 per cent of the allocated water. The project was also designed to meet drinking water requirements. He alleged that the previous BRS government neglected the Sitarama LIS, leaving it incomplete despite being in power for 10 years. After coming to power, the Congress government sanctioned Rs 19,324 crore for the project and expedited the works. Once completed, irrigation facilities would be provided to 6.74 lakh acres in the erstwhile Khammam district through the scheme.

Agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao said irrigation could be extended to farmers in Pinapaka, Kothagudem, Aswaraopet, Wyr and Sathupally during this year itself if distributary canals in these Assembly constituencies were completed on priority. He said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had approved revised estimates of Rs 4,000 crore for the distributary canal works and tenders would be floated soon.

Stop MANUU Land Grab, Govt Attacking Minority Education: Sravan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS MLC Dasoju Sravan on Thursday sharply criticized the Congress government and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for attempting to convert lands belonging to government educational institutions into real estate assets. He called the move a "direct assault on minority education" and demanded the immediate withdrawal of notices issued to Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU).

Speaking at a press meet at Telangana Bhavan, Sravan warned that the BRS would stand firmly with students and faculty in protecting MANUU lands, recalling the party's intervention during the Kancha Gachibowli land dispute. He highlighted that the



university, which runs 26 departments, already suffers from inadequate land and urged the government to allocate at least Rs 1,000 crore for its development instead of attempting to seize its property. Accusing the Chief Minister of acting like a "real estate vulture," Sravan alleged that the government aimed to grab 50 acres of university land.

He further claimed that the Indian School of Business (ISB) lands were reportedly being targeted as well.

Questioning whether such moves were discussed in the Cabinet, Sravan criticized Re-

vanth Reddy for behaving more like a real estate middleman than an administrator. He emphasized that meddling with educational institutions would harm both students and faculty. Sravan appealed to the Muslim community and students to oppose what he termed the government's anti-education and anti-minority agenda. He reiterated the BRS's commitment to safeguarding educational institutions and ensuring that government policies prioritize development over land acquisition for commercial purposes. The BRS MLC's statements come amid growing concerns over government attempts to repurpose institutional lands for real estate, sparking protests from students, faculty, and political leaders.

RTA cracks down on private buses over exorbitant Sankranti fares



Regional Transport Authority (RTA) carried out surprise inspections in Rajendranagar on Friday, targeting private travel buses which were reportedly charging exorbitant fares ahead of the Sankranti festival. The checks were conducted at Aramghar crossroads, where officials stopped and inspected private buses operating from Hyderabad to Kerala, Bengaluru, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and several destinations in Andhra Pradesh. The action comes amid complaints that passengers were being overcharged by private travel operators during the festive rush. During the special drive, RTA officials booked cases against at least five buses for violating fare and permit norms. Authorities said inspections will continue and warned that strict action will be taken against operators violating rules. The special enforcement drive is being carried out on the instructions of Ranga Reddy district Deputy Transport Officer Sandanam, with a specific focus on curbing illegal practices by private travel bus operators during the peak holiday season.

Exam Paper Leaks Expose 'Revanth-Mark Misrule': Harish Rao

Senior BRS MLA T. Harish Rao criticised the Revanth Reddy government over alleged exam irregularities, citing the question paper leak at Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University and demanding strict action to protect students' futures.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister and senior BRS MLA T Harish Rao launched a scathing attack on the Revanth Reddy-led Congress government, accusing it of incompetence, inefficiency, and corruption in conducting examinations and protecting students' futures. Citing the recent question paper leak at Prof Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, he said the incident exposed the government's failure to ensure fair and secure exams. Harish Rao demanded immediate action against officials responsible for the



irregularities and called for stringent measures to prevent future leaks, stressing the need to restore credibility to recruitment and academic examinations in the State. In a statement, the BRS leader said Telangana was yet to recover from the PG medical entrance examination scam when another "modern-

slumber" despite repeated assurances of transparency and reforms. He said the Congress regime had failed to learn from past scandals and continued to jeopardize students' careers. He further alleged that educational institutions under the Congress government had turned into centres of corruption, claiming that the Revanth Reddy administration had proven that "nothing is beyond a scam." The former minister said the government had failed both in issuing job notifications and in conducting examinations, calling it a classic example of administrative failure under the present regime.

₹3 Lakh LOC Sanctioned for Emergency Surgery: MLA Sriganesh

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cantonment MLA Sriganesh has extended timely medical assistance by facilitating a ₹3 lakh Letter of Credit (LOC) for emergency treatment to a resident of the Cantonment constituency. The support was provided to Lalitha, wife of Kakade Chandrakant Rao, a resident of Subhash Nagar, Tirumalagiri, who was admitted to NIMS Hospital following a serious health condition. According to sources,



doctors at NIMS advised an urgent surgery. As the family faced financial constraints, they approached MLA Sriganesh for help. Responding immediately, the MLA directed his camp office to submit an LOC application to the government.

The request was promptly approved, and an LOC worth ₹3 lakh was sanctioned.

On Friday, MLA Sriganesh personally handed over the LOC to the family members at his residence in Tukaram Gate. Expressing grat-

itude, the family thanked the MLA for his swift response during a critical time. Speaking on the occasion, Sriganesh assured that people in need of medical assistance could approach him at any time. He emphasized his commitment to ensuring timely access to government medical support for deserving patients. The MLA also wished Lalitha a speedy recovery and hoped she would soon return to a healthy and normal life.

Vivekananda's Warning Echoes Today's Dollar Wars

Use History to Learn Not to Abuse

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Onkashwar Pandey

Over 130 years ago, Swami Vivekananda pierced America's gilded facade, declaring himself "deceived by dollar imperialism" after his initial hopes soured into sharp critique, as documented by Chinese scholar Huan Xinchuan in Vivekananda on China (Congress History, Vol. 7, pp. 87-1979). He foresaw China's phoenix-like resurgence from imperial chains to challenge global financial overlords—a prophecy materializing as BRICS, under India's 2026 presidency, hurtles from blueprint to reality with BRICS Pay expansion to partner nations, gold-backed BRICS Units for settlements, CBDC interoperability frameworks linking digital currencies, and NDB local-currency loans shielding against volatility. While Putin ridicules Trump's Russian oil tariff threats as self-sabotage, Xi vows readiness for "tariff war, trade war, or any other war," and South Africa braces for 30% U.S. duties over BRICS loyalty. Narendra Modi stays silent—his "hug diplomacy" and 2019 "Abki Baar Trump Sarkar" rally cheers now boomeranging as three Indian sailors languish among 28 crew detained on the U.S.-seized Russian tanker *Marinera* in the Atlantic.

History's verdict is clear: leaders learn from it humbly, not abuse predecessors with falsehoods. Nehru's non-alignment alone preserves *Swatantra Bharat's* swabhiman, for as he warned, "if a country loses its decision-making in foreign policy, it loses its sovereign status." Diplomatic relations endure when institutional, not personal.

Vivekananda's Prophetic Journey

Vivekananda's 1893 China odyssey through feudal subjugation forged "infinite sympathy" for its masses, predicting their phoenix rebirth "like the phoenix" to bridge East and West—observations later analyzed by Huan Xinchuan for their geopolitical depth beyond mysticism. He linked China's ascent to "shudrahood," where laboring masses fuel socialist revolutions, and warned of America's dollar mask concealing imperial finance's coercive core that inevitably breeds resistance. **Dollar Hegemony's Brutal Edge**
The dollar dominates as global



enforcer through sanctions, SWIFT strangleholds, and extra-territorial seizures. U.S. forces seized and extradited Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro to New York on narcotics charges on January 3, 2026—mirroring the 1989 Noriega operation. Days later, the Russian tanker *Marinera* was captured in the North Atlantic over Venezuela links, holding three Indians among its crew as Moscow demands humane treatment. Vivekananda's "dollar imperialism" indictment rings true: financial weapons spark worldwide revolt.

BRICS Leaders' Defiant Responses

Global South heavyweights confront Trump's one-sided tariffs where Modi demurs. Putin mocks proposed 500% penalties on India-China Russian oil purchases as doomed American self-harm. Xi Jinping's China, steeled since 2025 tariff salvos, declares readiness for any conflict. South Africa prepares for 30% U.S. duties tied to BRICS alignment, while the bloc at recent Rio summits crafts unified defenses against "unilateralism." Even smaller NATO fringe states and BRICS allies echo this collective defiance.

Modi's Crossroads, Nehru's Wisdom

Modi shoulders BRICS leadership amid Trump's mockery over Apache helicopter delays and oil sanctions threats, yet offers no rebuke—his 2019 hugs and rally slogans yielding only Indian crew detentions on seized vessels. Putin publicly champions India against U.S. coercion, but asymmetry persists. It's time to follow Nehru with humility and save *Swatantra Bharat's* swabhiman. **Diplomatic relations last when institutional, not personal**
Nehru's equidistant non-alignment enabled India to pivot freely, safe-

guarding sovereignty as BRICS tests dollar dominance without vassalage.

BRICS Dedollarization in Overdrive

India's 2026 presidency ignites implementation: BRICS Pay expands for SWIFT-free cross-border payments to partner countries. Gold-backed BRICS Units launch as settlement anchors, CBDC bridges fuse digital rupees-yuan-rubles systems, and NDB accelerates local-currency loans to insulate against dollar volatility. The upcoming New Delhi Summit prioritizes resilience, AI integration, and sustainability—carving viable dollar alternatives despite U.S. Treasury liquidity advantages and BRICS internal frictions. China embodies Vivekananda's phoenix, powering this civilizational fusion.

Multipolar Power Shift

Dedollarization faces hurdles—entrenched dollar infrastructure, BRICS coordination challenges—but momentum builds as non-aligned nations diversify reserves. The Venezuela extradition and tanker seizure polarize views between rule-of-law enforcement and sovereign overreach. BRICS responses herald diffused global authority, demanding deft diplomatic navigation.

Vivekananda blended spiritual depth with realpolitik, foretelling how economic empires show their own resistance. As Trump's tariffs collide with BRICS financial breakthroughs, Putin-Xi candor indicts Modi's reticence, Nehru's non-alignment shines as sovereignty's shield—"losing foreign policy autonomy means losing sovereign status"—and China's phoenix ascends.

A monk's vision from Calcutta's shores endures, validated amid 2026's currency storms sweeping multipolar frontiers.

Seetharampuram Hosts Vibrant Rangoli Contest to Mark Sankranti

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Sankranti celebrations began on a colorful note in Seetharampuram as the Shiva Panchayatana Hanuman Temple Committee organized a rangoli competition, attracting enthusiastic participation from local women and community leaders. Former Cantonment Board Vice-Chairman Jampana Pratap and former board member K. Pandu Yadav attended as chief guests and jointly inaugurated the event along with temple committee members, lending festive cheer to the occasion. Women



from the locality displayed remarkable creativity by designing intricate rangolis reflecting Sankranti themes of harvest, prosperity, and renewal.

The vibrant patterns, created using bright colors, flowers, and traditional rice flour designs, turned the temple परिसर into a lively cultural

space. Prizes were distributed by BRS leader Vidyavathi Pandu Yadav. Suvarna secured the first prize, followed by Meevakshi with the second prize and Saraswati with the third. Winners were felicitated with certificates and gifts amid applause from the gathering. Temple committee pres-

ident Saibaba Yadav, along with Vijay Kumar, Srikanth Reddy, Govardhan, and Satyanarayana, actively took part in the programme. Speaking on the occasion, Saibaba Yadav said such events help preserve cultural traditions and strengthen community harmony during festivals like Sankranti.

The celebration concluded with devotional bhajans and distribution of traditional sweets, highlighting the temple committee's continued efforts to promote local culture and unity ahead of the Sankranti festival.

Saidulu Akkenapalli Earns Doctorate in Mathematics, Inspires Rural Youth

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Saidulu Akkenapalli, a lifelong learner and teacher, has earned his Doctorate in Mathematics from PK University, Shivpur, Madhya Pradesh. He received the doctorate from Dr. Yogesh Chandra Dubey, Vice-Chancellor of PK University, on the birthday anniversary of renowned mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan. Akkenapalli submitted his thesis titled "Advanced Inventory Models for Substitutable, Complementary and Imperfect Items: A Cost and Sustainability



Analysis" under the guidance of Dr. Uma Shanker. Hailing from Chityala village in Nalgonda district, Akkenapalli has previously earned master's degrees in Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, and other fields. He described earning a doctorate as a childhood dream come true. Expressing gratitude, he thanked his guide,

university officials, all departments of PK University, and his family for their support. Fellow faculty members and friends praised his achievement, noting that his journey from a rural background to earning a doctorate through dedication and hard work serves as an inspiration to students and youth alike.

GHMC issues new guidelines for Occupancy Certificates in non-high rise buildings

The GHMC on Thursday issued uniform guidelines for processing and issuing Occupancy Certificates (OC) to non-high-rise buildings constructed as per sanctioned plans, even after the validity of building permissions had lapsed.

The guidelines apply to buildings sanctioned under G.O.Ms No. 168 (MA&UD, dated April 7-2012), where construction was completed in accordance with approved plans but Occupancy Certificates were not obtained within the validity period.

The absence of OC has resulted in difficulties for purchasers and prospective buyers in obtaining water and power connections, besides facing challenges in securing bank loans and paying additional penalty charges.

Under the new procedure, applications for OC submitted within two years from the date of lapse of building permission were processed by collecting the pending building permit fee and other applicable charges such as Link Road Charges and CRMP charges.

For applications submitted after two years, all charges applicable to the total built-up area as on the date of OC application were levied. In both cases, Occupancy Certificates were considered only if the construction deviations were within permissible limits, allowing up to 10% deviation in mandatory setbacks, excluding the front setback. The GHMC clarified that the guidelines are applicable only to non-high-rise buildings.

Shia Leaders Extend Greetings on Imam Ali's Birth Anniversary

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Shia community leaders in Hyderabad marked the birth anniversary of Hazrat Imam Ali (AS), son-in-law of Prophet Mohammed (SAW), with grand celebrations and prayers. The event brought together prominent figures, including Raza Ali, Aftab Hyder, Hasham Mirza, and Shia scholar Ammar



Qibla, who emphasized the spiritual legacy and teachings of Imam Ali (AS). During the celebrations, the leaders also extended birthday greetings to Muzaffer Ali, JanaSena Party Telangana Minority Incharge, acknowledging his contributions toward minority welfare and community development.

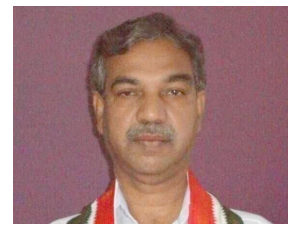
The gathering featured traditional rituals, devotional recitations, and discussions reflecting the importance of unity, faith, and service. The event highlighted the significance of the day for Hyderabad's Shia community, drawing members together in a spirit of reverence and celebration.

Telangana Emerges as a Rising Star under CM Revanth: Mohd Saleem

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana is rapidly emerging as one of India's most preferred destinations for economic growth, employment, and quality living, driven by strong expansion in IT, Pharma, Construction, and Agriculture sectors. The state's peaceful atmosphere, employment opportunities, and progressive governance have attracted large-scale migration from across the country.

Mohd Saleem said that Telangana is rising like a shining star



under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He highlighted the launch of the ambitious FUTURE CITY project, envisioned as Telangana's fourth city and designed to be among the most advanced and pioneering urban developments in the world.

Hyderabad, the capital city, continues to enjoy global recognition, building on its historic

legacy since the Nizam era. Surrounding the city, Ranga Reddy district has emerged as the richest district in India in terms of per capita GDP, recording Rs. 11.46 lakh as per the Economic Survey 2024-25. This economic strength has made the region a magnet for migration.

Approximately 70 lakh people from other states, particularly Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, and Gujarat, are currently living peacefully in Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy district. Skilled and unskilled workers, artisans, engi-

neers, doctors, and professionals are drawn to Telangana due to better living standards, favorable climate, and employment prospects.

As one of India's youngest states, Telangana is growing at a remarkable pace across all sectors. Its development model emphasizes inclusive growth, social harmony, and economic opportunity. Analysts observe that peaceful governance and social stability have played a key role in Telangana's progress, positioning it as an exemplary state for sustainable national development.

"At Peak Of Hubris": Khamenei Draws Historical Parallels In Message To Trump

Referring directly to the US president, Donald Trump, Khamenei said that tyrants and arrogant rulers throughout history had met their downfall at the height of their power.

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, delivered a warning to the United States as protests driven by economic hardship continue to spread across the country. In remarks carried by Iranian state media and delivered during a public interaction with supporters, Khamenei accused Washington of orchestrating the unrest and said that leaders who rule with arrogance inevitably face collapse. The Iranian leader also posted a series of statements on his X account.

Referring directly to the US president, Donald Trump, Khamenei said that tyrants and arrogant rulers throughout history had met their downfall at the height of their power. "The US president who judges arrogantly about the whole world should

know that tyrants and arrogant rulers of the world, such as Pharaoh, Nimrod, Mohammad Reza [Pahlavi] and other such rulers saw their downfall when they were at the peak of their hubris," he said. "He too will fall." The comments came as protests, initially triggered by Iran's worsening economic crisis, entered a second week and spread into dozens of cities and towns. Demonstrations have been marked by chants against the political leadership, clashes with security forces and, in some areas, an aggressive response from the authorities.

Foreign Interference Allegations
In his address, Khamenei repeatedly accused the United States of encouraging unrest inside Iran. He said that some protesters were acting not out of genuine grievance but



to win favour with Washington. "There are also those whose work is destruction," he said, referring to incidents of vandalism reported in Tehran and other cities. "Last night in Tehran, and in some other places, a bunch of vandals came and destroyed a building belonging to their own country."

He claimed that such actions were designed to

please the US president, who, Khamenei said, had made "irrelevant nonsense" statements suggesting that Washington would side with demonstrators if the Iranian government acted against them. "These people have their hopes pinned on him," he said. "If he can, let him manage his own country. In his own country, various incidents are occurring."

Khamenei went further, describing Trump as a despot and warning that history showed such figures were often removed at the height of their pride. "Our nation does not tolerate mercenaryism for foreigners," he said. "Whoever you may be, once you become a mercenary for a foreigner, once you work for a foreigner, the nation considers you rejected." He added that despots and arrogant powers, including Iran's former monarch, Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, had been overthrown when they appeared strongest. "This one will be overthrown as well," he said, in an apparent reference to the US president.

Trump's Warnings To Tehran
Trump has, in recent days, issued a series of public warnings to Iran's leadership. Speaking in an inter-

view with Sean Hannity on Fox News, he said the United States would intervene if Iranian authorities used lethal force against protesters. "If they do anything bad to these people, we're going to hit them very hard," he said, repeating a warning he had previously issued on social media.

Commenting on the unrest, Trump said that "the enthusiasm to overturn the regime has been incredible". He reiterated his position in a separate interview with radio host Hugh Hewitt, warning Iranian officials of severe consequences if protesters were harmed. "I have let them know that if they start killing people, which they tend to do during their riots, they have lots of riots, if they do it, we are going to hit them very hard," he said. Iranian officials have responded by accusing

Washington of interference and warning that any US involvement could prompt retaliation, including potential action against American bases and forces in the region. **Protests Intensify**
According to the Institute for the Study of War, protest activity has increased both in frequency and magnitude since January 7, including in Tehran and in parts of northwestern Iran. The think tank said the authorities had intensified their crackdown, including by taking the rare step of deploying Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps ground forces to suppress demonstrations in at least one province.

Iranian state television has shown images of security forces confronting crowds, while online videos, many of which cannot be independently verified, appear to show

protesters blocking roads and chanting slogans such as "Death to the dictator" and "Iranians, raise your voice, shout out for your rights." On Thursday, as demonstrations grew, Iran experienced a widespread internet blackout, limiting access to social media platforms that protesters have used to organise and share information. The protests have turned deadly, though the precise number of fatalities remains disputed. Amnesty International said that at least 28 protesters and bystanders, including children, were killed between December 31 and January 3. Other organisations that document rights abuses, including Human Rights Activists News Agency, Iran Human Rights and the Hengaw Organisation for Human Rights, have put the count higher, at more than 40.

No Need for Controversy Between AP, Telangana Over River Waters: Naidu

RAYAVARAM
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Friday said there was no need for controversy between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana over river waters flowing into the sea. Addressing a village meeting in East Godavari district, Naidu alleged that certain people were "deliberately creating disputes" instead of focusing on water utilisation. "What is the need for controversies between the two states over water draining into the sea? Some people do not want water; they want controversies," he said while distributing newly issued pattadar passbooks (land documents) to farmers.



Without naming him, Naidu appeared to target YSRCP supremo Jagan Mohan Reddy, alleging that attempts were being made to stoke controversy in the name of the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation project. It aims to lift water from the Srisailem reservoir on the Krishna River to provide irrigation and improve water availability in the drought-prone Rayalaseema region. The TDP supremo asserted that he was not interested in disputes and said the future of the Telugu community

was more important to him. He added that Telangana could also utilise water once the Polavaram project is completed. The mega irrigation project aims to irrigate lakhs of acres of farmland and provide drinking water to lakhs of people. Naidu said "mistakes" made during the previous YSRCP government had been rectified, noting that it took nearly two years to resolve revenue-related disputes. "Some people are spreading lies. After making mistakes, they are trying to shift the blame onto others," he said, without elaborating. Responding to Reddy's reported remarks that the Constitution does not rec-

ognise the concept of a capital, Naidu asked whether "a Bengaluru palace or Idupulupaya in Kadapa district" would then be considered one. Alleging irregularities in the issuance of pattadar passbooks by the previous government, Naidu questioned the need for Reddy's images on passbooks and survey stones. He claimed that Rs 660 crore was spent on engraving images on survey stones and another Rs 22 crore on printing images on passbooks. "Land is your right. That is why we have embossed the official emblem and issued new passbooks," he said, adding that there was no scope for fraud or disputes.

NCP, Shiv Sena, AIMIM Forge Surprise Alliance In Parli

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

In a reflection of Maharashtra's increasingly fluid civic politics, the Ajit Pawar-led NCP, Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena and AIMIM have formed a surprise alliance in the Parli Municipal Council. Backed by AIMIM's lone corporator, the NCP has secured a clear edge in the floor leader election. In the 35-member municipal council, 23 corporators submitted letters of support in favour of the floor leader from the Ajit Pawar-led NCP. The NCP has won 16 seats in Parli. Now it has



got support from two Shiv Sena, four Independents and the AIMIM councilors. Meanwhile, the BJP's seven corporators have formed a separate group with two Independents. The two corporators of NCP(SP) and Congress's one corporator have decided not to support either of the groups. The development has raised eyebrows and fueled speculations about Mahayuti's internal rifts. The alliance in Parli Mu-

nicipal Council is not an isolated anomaly but a striking example of a new "pragmatism" sweeping civic polls in 2026. Earlier, BJP's alliance with Congress in Ambernath and with AIMIM in Akot had triggered political controversies. Both parties subsequently declared that the alliance had been called off. But in Ambernath, Congress's 12 corporators joined the BJP after their suspension from the party. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and former Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, Ambadas Danve questioned deputy chief minister Shinde's commitment towards

Hindutva. In a post on X, Mr. Danve said, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. "Looking at the alliance formed between the Shinde faction, MIM, and NCP in the Parli Municipal Council, you (Eknath Shinde) should now permanently stop your talk of "rebellion" and "principles". While repeatedly claiming you didn't want the NCP, have you now directly aligned yourself with the MIM? You have now joined hands with the very people you criticized to climb the steps of power. Is this your true ideological stand? Maharashtra has now seen the face of this new marriage for power in Parli."

India Confirms Arrest Of Ex-Naval Officer In Qatar; Seeks Consular Access

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India on Friday confirmed the arrest of former Indian naval officer Purnendu Tiwari in Qatar following a court verdict, but said the matter is sub judice and declined to disclose details of the charges. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated that it is actively seeking consular access and is in touch with Qatari authorities. Addressing a weekly media briefing in New Delhi, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the government is closely following the developments and pursuing all necessary diplomatic channels to ensure consular support for Tiwari. However, he refrained from commenting further due to the ongoing legal proceedings in Qatar. Tiwari was among the eight former Indian naval personnel who were detained in Qatar on espionage charges and later released two years ago after being exonerated. While the



remaining seven returned to India soon after their release, Tiwari continued to stay in Doha. The MEA had earlier clarified that the espionage charges against him no longer existed and said he had certain commitments to complete in Qatar before returning to India, without elaborating on the nature of those obligations. In a separate development, the MEA said it is also seeking consular access to 10 Indian nationals arrested by the Iranian coast guard last month. The individuals were detained from a tanker on charges of alleged diesel smuggling. The ministry said it is in contact with Ira-

nian authorities and working to provide assistance to the detained Indians. Additionally, New Delhi said it is verifying media reports from Russia which claimed that three Indian nationals were among the crew members of a Russia-flagged oil tanker seized by the United States earlier this week. The MEA said it is gathering details to confirm the facts and determine the involvement of Indian citizens. The government reiterated that it remains committed to safeguarding the rights and welfare of Indian nationals abroad through diplomatic and consular engagement.

PM Modi, Trump.....

Responding to Lutnick's comments, MEA Official Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said both countries had agreed as early as February last year to pursue a bilateral trade agreement and have since conducted multiple rounds of negotiations. "We have noted the comments made by the US Commerce Secretary. Since February 13 last year, several consultations have taken place to reach a mutually beneficial agreement. The remarks do not clearly reflect these ongoing efforts," Jaiswal said. Rejecting any suggestion of a communication gap, he added that the two leaders "came close to finalising the agreement on multiple occasions" and remain committed to taking the talks forward.

NHAi Readies.....

National Highways Authority of India (NHAi) officials said minor glitches were noticed during the trial, including toll not being deducted for some vehicles, and steps are being taken to rectify them. A final decision on implementing the satellite-based automatic toll collection system at the toll plaza is yet to be taken. Korlapahad toll plaza manager B.

Nagaiah said no communication has been received from NHAi regarding the implementation of the new toll system or any decision on free toll collection during the Sankranti festival.

Meanwhile, in view of the expected festival rush, Nalgonda district authorities and the NHAi have taken measures and issued advisories to ensure smooth vehicular movement on National Highway 65. Last year, about 2.5 lakh vehicles crossed the Pantangi toll plaza during the three days of the Sankranti festival. Officials expect congestion and slow traffic at three to four locations on NH 65 between Hyderabad and Vijayawada during this period.

To ensure free flow of vehicles at Pantangi and Korlapahad toll plazas, NHAi has decided to deploy personnel with handheld FASTag machines in addition to the existing automatic scanners. A large police force will also be deployed at select locations along NH-65 to regulate traffic. Ongoing construction of flyovers and underpasses at Choutuppal, Chityal and Peddakaparthi is likely to create traffic bottlenecks. To address this, district authorities have taken up repairs of service roads at these locations to divert traffic

and prevent congestion.

Suryapet police have advised motorists travelling from Hyderabad to Rajahmundry to take the alternative route via NH-365 at Nakrekal and reach the Devarapally Green Highway through Arvepally-Maripeda Bungalow-Khammam, instead of the Hyderabad-Vijayawada-Rajahmundry route. This route reduces the distance from 540 km to 389 km, saving both time and fuel.

Didi Claims "I'm....."

The TMC chief later sharpened her attack on the BJP. She alleged, "They are talking about me getting money from the coal scam! Who pockets it? He is Amit Shah, the home minister. How does he have them? The money goes to Suwendu from him and then it reaches Mr Shah through Suwendu." Threatening the BJP, Ms Banerjee claimed, "It is your good luck that since I have been in the chair, I do not release pen drives. If there is any disturbance again, I must tell you that everything has been stored in those pen drives. I can spill the

beans. I maintain courtesy to a certain limit. But don't forget Lakshman Rekha. A boundary is always there. If it is crossed, you can't tackle me anymore."

She added, "I know many secrets but don't talk about them in the national interest. If I open my mouth, there will be an uproar worldwide tomorrow. But I don't indulge in it because I love my country. It's not my weakness however." Meanwhile, a BJP delegation submitted a deputation to governor CV Ananda Bose at Lok Bhavan while the saffron party workers held a demonstration at Esplanade against Ms Banerjee's obstruction in ED raids.

Telangana.....

The court also noted that the memos for hiking the prices for four to five movies in the recent past were done "in a very tactful manner... either they are issued at the eleventh hour before the release of the movie or just before the court vacation or weekends." Vijay Gopal, counsel appearing for a petitioner who challenged the memo dated January 8 allowing the enhanced ticket prices for 'Raja Saab', argued that the Chief Justice bench of the High Court had earlier struck down.

FROM FRONT PAGE

CRIME

Don't Share Emails, Mobile Numbers, Say Experts

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cybersecurity experts on Friday advised people against sharing their personal information, such as mobile phone numbers and emails, unnecessarily, as they could be exploited by fraudsters. During a cybersecurity awareness workshop held at Osmania University Postgraduate College, Secunderabad, on Friday, in collaboration with the Police Training Centre and Cyber Matrix 1337, OSINT specialist K. Rahul and his team said people routinely give away phone numbers at malls for gift hampers or submit details at restaurants and hotels, often without realising that this data can be sold.

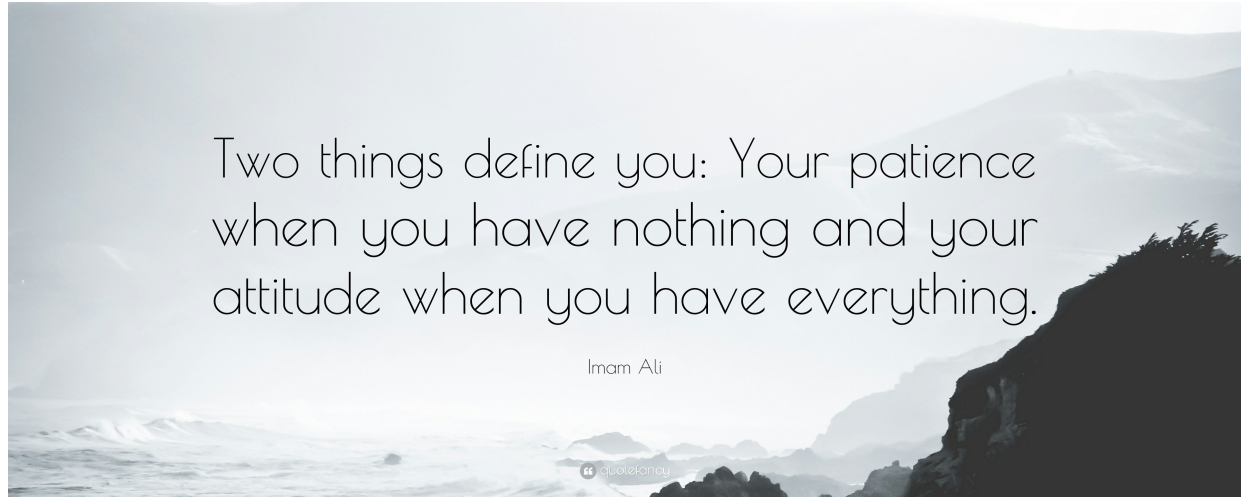
He said most of our personal data is readily avail-



able on the Dark Web for a price. "Information leakage," he cautioned, "happens not just physically but also through mobile apps that quietly collect and circulate user data." He asked people to check if their emails have been exposed to breaches by visiting the website "Have I Been Pwned". "The platform helps individuals understand which apps or services may have compromised their information and serves as a wake-up call on how widespread data leaks have become in the digital ecosystem, and suggests the students delete

the bank card details in the applications." Advising students on mobile security, Rahul suggested installing Malwarebytes. "It is a mobile app that deep scans phones, flags harmful third-party apps or APK links and deletes them." He asked people to have strong passwords with at least 15 characters, carry personal USB cables for charging, and avoid public USB ports at railway stations, bus stands and malls due to higher security risks. The cyber expert also advised people against sharing hotspots or WiFi passwords. "I just say it is under repair," he chuckled. Rahul was assisted by his Cyber researchers Shivudu, Veera Brahmaiah, Sai Ram and Sulthan Shaik. CI Venkateshwarlu, an in-

door trainer at PTC Medchal, spoke on drug awareness, stating that the government's focus on a drug-free state requires strong awareness among youth. He explained the differences between narcotic, semi-psychoactive and psychotropic substances and cautioned students about how young people are increasingly falling prey to substance abuse. PTC principal Madhukar Swamy said the Telangana police are committed to the government's drug-free society initiative by empowering recruits and spreading awareness. He noted that the force has registered numerous cases, conducted major operations and cracked several rackets, aided by strong infrastructure and will continue the same efforts.



Imam Ali

EDITORIAL

GRAND ALLIANCE WON'T SWAY TN

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

That grandiosity cannot garner votes is something that the BJP does not seem to bother about. For the way in which the AIADMK-led alliance in Tamil Nadu went about roping in the PMK faction, led by Anbumani Ramadoss, reportedly offering close to 20 seats, only betrays a sense of desperation to expand the coalition. Since it happened just as AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami was getting ready to leave for New Delhi for a rendezvous with BJP strongman Amit Shah, it was construed to have happened at the behest of the BJP that is highly concerned about the slow pace of its alliance

gathering in the state that comprised primarily just two parties. Since most political outfits in Tamil Nadu shied away from joining that alliance at a time when the DMK-led coalition remained steadfast in its unity, despite several voices from within seeking to break it, the BJP wanted to tell the world that it, too, has its own allies. It may have told AIADMK, which prides itself as the alliance leader, to go for a tie-up with any party that comes their way. So, the PMK faction of Mr Ramadoss was let in though it did not guarantee that PMK votes would not be splintered with senior Ramadoss declaring that, as founder of the party, he was the boss. What the BJP and the

AIADMK forgot was that the pushy attitude could only help them make showy claims of spearheading a grand coalition but it could not bring in what is required — votes. Or is it that the BJP just wants to tell the rest of the country that it has managed to make inroads into Tamil country, where it has eternally struggled to capture the imagination of the people, by showing off a multi-party rainbow alliance, in which it also wants the presence of former AIADMK leaders with no grassroots support like O. Panneerselvam and T.T.V. Dinakaran? Such efforts may, however, boomerang since politics is no commercial marketplace for loud claims and sales pitches to sway voters.



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Karimnagar Businessman Ends Life in Madhapur

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 32-year-old businessman from Karimnagar, B. Anudeep Kumar, died by suicide at a service apartment in Vittalraonagar under the Madhapur police limits on Friday morning. Police said Anudeep was facing severe financial distress after money he had lent to several people was not returned, which reportedly affected his business operations. According to police, Anudeep attempted suicide at the service apartment and later contacted a friend seeking help. However, by the time the friend reached the location, Anudeep was found dead. The incident was reported to the police, who arrived at the scene and completed the necessary legal formalities. Madhapur Inspector D. Krishna Mohan said Anudeep had been running an architecture-related business in both Karimnagar and Hyderabad. He had arrived in Hyderabad on January 5 in connection with work and was staying at the service apartment where the incident oc-

curred. A purported suicide note recovered from the apartment revealed that Anudeep had lent substantial amounts of money to several individuals who had promised to repay it after land registrations. The delay in repayment allegedly caused serious financial strain, leading to disruptions in his business and mounting mental stress. "People had taken money from him assuring repayment after land registrations. The non-return of funds affected his business and disturbed him mentally. This could have led him to take the extreme step," the inspector said. In the note, Anudeep reportedly requested that his funeral rites be completed on the same day, citing cold weather conditions. Police said the contents of the letter are being verified as part of the investigation. Anudeep is survived by his wife and a young daughter. Police have registered a case and stated that further inquiry is underway to ascertain all circumstances surrounding the incident.

Inter-State ATM Theft Gang Busted; Five Arrested

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

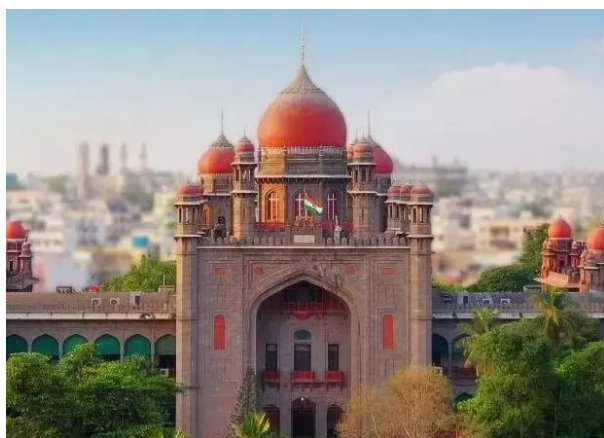
Police on Friday arrested an inter-state ATM theft gang and seized stolen property. The Haryana-based gang had carried out ATM thefts in the undivided Nizamabad and Medak districts, as well as in Hyderabad, and had stolen cash worth several lakhs over the past few days. The arrested accused were identified as Abdullah Khan, 40, a resident of Badli village in Punhana tehsil of Nuh district, Haryana; Mohammad Ameer Ansari, a student residing at Prashanth Nagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad, and a native of Andheri West, Mumbai, Maharashtra; Wazib Khan alias Chora Wazib, 26, a resident of Bhandan Gak village near Badi Masjid in Nuh tehsil, Haryana; Mohammad Azeeb alias Ikram, 30, of Gajarpur village in Mewat tehsil, Nuh district, Haryana; and Shammuddin alias Ikram, 30, of Ata Chakki, Killoka village, Hathin tehsil, Palwal district, Haryana. Police said the gang tried to steal cash by vandalising a Punjab National Bank ATM in Nizamabad and cutting it open using a gas cutter. Following the directions of Nizamabad Commissioner of

Police P. Sai Chaitanya, a special team was formed to investigate the case. Based on CCTV footage, the accused were identified and efforts were initiated to trace them. During vehicle checks at Nikhil Sai Crossroad, police stopped a vehicle in which the suspects were travelling after noticing wooden sticks and stones inside. On questioning, their involvement in ATM thefts came to light. Speaking to reporters, Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya said Abdullah and his associates had earlier committed ATM thefts in Udaipur in 2018, stealing lakhs of rupees, and were also involved in another ATM theft in Shivpuri, where ₹8 lakh was stolen. They were subsequently arrested and sent to jail. He said that during this period, Mohammad Ameer, from Hyderabad, became acquainted with a girl from Madhya Pradesh through Instagram and brought her to his house. As the girl was a minor, her parents lodged a Pocco case, following which Shivpuri police arrested Ameer. While in jail, Ameer came into contact with Abdullah and other gang members, and later conspired to carry out ATM thefts.

Notice to police commissioner on cop's benefits

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

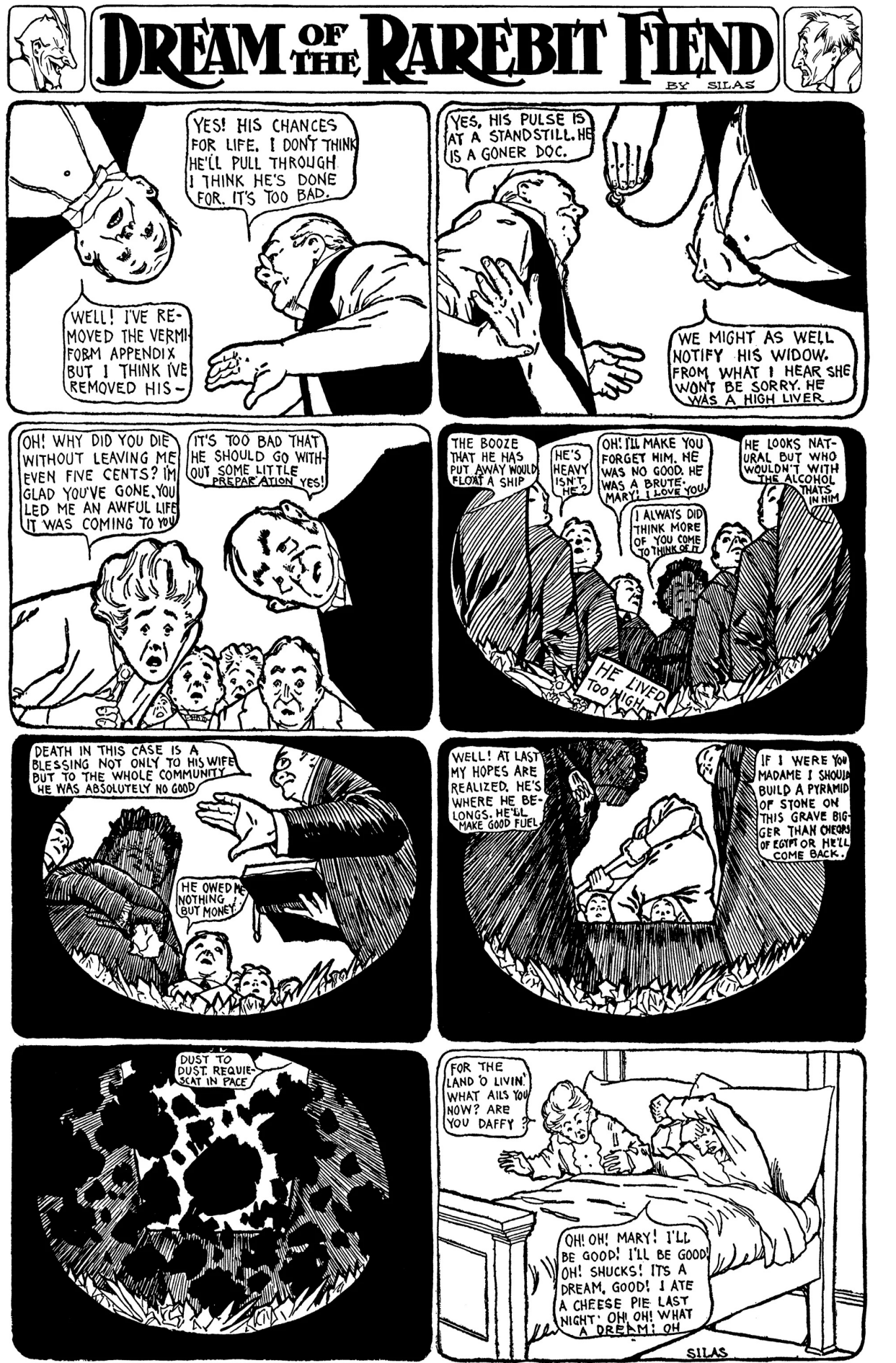
Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka of the Telangana High Court ordered notice to the police commissioner in a contempt case alleging failure to comply with the direction of the judge to reinstate a police officer with consequential service benefits. The judge was dealing with a contempt case filed by sub-inspector K. Bhanu Prakash who complained that despite a clear judicial order, the police failed to reinstate him or extend the benefits directed by the court. The dispute traces its origin to disciplinary proceedings initiated against the peti-



tioner even after his acquittal in a criminal case. The petitioner had been prosecuted for offences relating to murder and causing disappearance of evidence or giving false information to screen an offender. A sessions court acquitted him of all charges, and the state did

not prefer any appeal against the acquittal. Despite this, the police continued departmental proceedings and issued a memo against the officer. He contended that the continuation of disciplinary action on the very same allegations was illegal. Allowing the writ,

the judge quashed the disciplinary action and directed the respondent authorities to reinstate the petitioner with consequential service benefits, including seniority, notional promotions, fitment of salary and other attendant benefits, along with 50 per cent back wages, within a stipulated time. Alleging that the authorities failed to comply with the binding judicial directions within the prescribed period, the petitioner initiated contempt proceedings against the police department. Taking note of the grievance, Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka issued notice to the police commissioner, seeking an explanation in the matter.



Dr Amreen Completes 23 Safe Deliveries Without Complications in 24 Hours

NAGARKURNOOL
Wakeup telangana

In a remarkable display of medical expertise and commitment, Dr. Amreen Shareef, Assistant Professor at Nagarkurnool Medical College, successfully conducted 23 deliveries within a continuous 24-hour duty period at the Nagarkurnool District Government Hospital, with no complications reported for either mothers or newborns.

The feat was achieved during her official duty hours from 9:00 am on January 8 to 9:00 am on January 9, 2026, when the hospital witnessed an unusually high influx of maternity cases requiring immediate medical intervention. Despite the pressure and critical nature of several cases, all deliveries were handled efficiently, underscoring the hospital's preparedness



and the team's clinical coordination.

According to hospital sources, the deliveries included 12 normal births and 11 Caesarean sections. A total of 23 newborns—14 boys and 9 girls—were delivered safely, and both mothers and infants are reported to be healthy and stable. Strict adherence to medical protocols, continuous monitoring, and timely decision-making played a

key role in ensuring successful outcomes throughout the demanding shift.

Dr. Amreen led the medical team with precision, supported actively by Senior Resident Dr. Shruithi and Dr. Sana, who assisted in surgeries, patient monitoring, and postnatal care. Even after completing the procedures, Dr. Amreen personally reviewed the condition of all mothers and newborns to ensure proper recovery

and post-delivery monitoring.

Speaking to the media, Dr. Amreen attributed the success to teamwork, preparedness, and swift clinical judgment, stating that coordinated efforts and round-the-clock vigilance were essential in managing the high-pressure situation effectively. A native of Achampet, Dr. Amreen's achievement has brought pride and recognition to the region.



Dr. Amreen Shareef, Assistant Professor at Nagarkurnool Medical College

Hospital authorities and members of the public have widely appreciated her tireless service, describing it as a reflection of dedication to public healthcare and maternal safety.

The incident highlights the growing strength and reliability of government maternal healthcare services in Nagarkurnool district, demonstrating that with skilled professionals and coordinated teamwork, even the most challenging situations can be managed successfully.

Ashok Leyland Opens Green Mobility Plant in Lucknow

LUCKNOW
Wakeup telangana

Ashok Leyland, the Indian flagship company of the Hinduja Group and a leading commercial vehicle manufacturer, on Thursday inaugurated its new integrated Greenfield commercial vehicle manufacturing facility in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, with a strong focus on clean and sustainable mobility. The plant was inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, and Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises H.D. Kumaraswamy.

Located at Sarojini Nagar Industrial Area near Lucknow Airport, the state-of-the-art facility spans over 70 acres and is Ashok Leyland's most advanced and sustainable manufacturing plant globally.

The unit will primarily manufacture electric vehicles, with an annual production capacity of up to 5,000 vehicles. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Deputy Chief Ministers and senior ministers from the Uttar Pradesh government, diplomats from several countries, leading industrialists, Ashok Leyland's global dealers, suppliers, business partners, and senior leadership from the Hinduja Group.

A significant portion of the workforce at the new facility comprises residents of Uttar Pradesh, including a notable percentage of women employees, contrib-



uting to local employment and skill development. Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Leyland Chairman Dheeraj Hinduja said the new plant marks a major milestone for the company in Uttar Pradesh and reinforces its commitment to economic growth, job creation, and sustainable mobility. He added that the facility aligns with the company's long-term vision of achieving Net Zero emissions.

Ashok Leyland MD and CEO Shenu Agarwal said Uttar Pradesh's focus on environmental responsibility and EV adoption made it an ideal location for the new facility. He noted that the highly automated plant, with a special emphasis on electric buses, represents a key step toward building a cleaner and future-ready mobility ecosystem in India. Designed as a green manufacturing unit, the Lucknow plant features rooftop solar power generation, energy-efficient LED lighting, battery-operated internal logistics, positive water balance initiatives, and a zero-liquid discharge system.

Asian Thalassemia Conclave 2026 to Spotlight India's Prevention Strategy

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad will host the Asian Thalassemia Conclave (ATC) 2026 on January 10 and 11, bringing together medical experts, public health professionals, policymakers, researchers, NGOs and patient groups from India and across Asia to focus on prevention-led strategies to combat thalassemia, a largely preventable genetic blood disorder. The two-day conclave is being organised by the Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Society (TSCS), Hyderabad, in collaboration with Kamala Hospital Research Center. Telangana Minister for Health,



Medical and Family Welfare Damodar Raja Narasimha has welcomed the initiative and conveyed his intent to attend and formally inaugurate the conclave, reaffirming the State government's commitment to prevention-based public health interventions.

TSCS President Dr. Chandrakant Agrawal said the conclave aims to strengthen coordinated national and regional efforts to reduce preventable thalassemia births. TSCS, which has been working in thalassemia care, prevention and advocacy for over 27 years,

currently provides free comprehensive treatment and long-term support to more than 4,588 patients, many of whom depend on regular blood transfusions and specialised medical care.

India bears one of the world's highest thalassemia burdens, with nearly 15,000 children born annually with thalassemia major. Health experts note that most of these cases can be prevented through early screening, genetic counselling and informed reproductive choices, but uneven programme implementation and gaps in awareness remain major challenges.

Discussions at the conclave will focus on pre-

marital and antenatal screening, strengthening genetic counselling services, and integrating thalassemia screening into maternal and child health programmes. Improving access to treatment, ensuring a safe blood supply, and addressing healthcare disparities in rural areas will also be key themes. A notable model to be highlighted is TSCS's intervention in Mahabubnagar district, which achieved 100 per cent prenatal screening for thalassemia. Organisers said the conclave's long-term goal is to work towards making India thalassemia-free by 2035 through sustained prevention-first strategies.

VeCura ReSculpt Launches in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

VeCura ReSculpt, a next-generation aesthetic and body sculpting clinic, officially launched in Kukatpally, Hyderabad, marking its entry into India. The clinic, designed to redefine body transformation, combines advanced medical technology, data-driven diagnostics, and personalised treatment planning under one roof. Actress Dimple Hayathi inaugurated the event, attended by leading doctors, healthcare experts, and industry professionals.

VeCura ReSculpt emphasises a science-first approach, prioritising understanding before intervention. Under the leadership of Dr. Ram Gautham, MS (Ortho), MBA, Fellowship in Sports Medicine, the clinic applies an anatomy-led, evidence-based methodology. "Our goal is not just to reshape physiques but to build confidence, restore balance, and elevate wellbeing through world-class non-surgical technologies," said Dr. Gautham. Every



treatment begins with comprehensive consultations, assessments, and suitability checks.

The clinic integrates cutting-edge technologies such as STYKU 3D Body Analysis for precise diagnostics, CoolSculpting and CoolTech for fat reduction, Tesla Former and Tesla Pelvic Chair for muscle and core strengthening, Evolve X and Ultratone for toning and skin tightening, Venus Legacy for cellulite reduction, and AI Master for visceral fat loss. Wellness-focused solutions like Whole Body Cryotherapy and Ballancer Pro support recovery and lymphatic health.

Samsung Launches Innovation Campus at University of Madras

CHENNAI
Wakeup telangana

Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, has partnered with the University of Madras to launch the Samsung Innovation Campus (SIC) in Tamil Nadu, reinforcing its commitment to nurturing future-ready talent and strengthening India's digital ecosystem.

The initiative was formally launched in the presence of senior academicians from the University of Madras, including Dr. P. S. Manjula, Dean of Students' Affairs; Dr. Rita John, Registrar; and Dr. S. Armstrong, Member of the Vice-Chancellor Convener Committee. Aligned with both state and national skilling priorities, Samsung Innovation Campus aims to



equip students with industry-relevant skills in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, and Coding & Programming. The programme has expanded significantly and now operates across 10 states, with a target to train 20,000 students nationwide in 2025, marking a six-fold increase compared to the previous year.

Tamil Nadu has emerged as a key focus for Samsung this year, with 5,000 students set to receive advanced technology training—ac-

counting for nearly 25 percent of the national target. In the first phase, 500 students from the University of Madras will be trained, followed by 1,500 students from its affiliated colleges.

Launched in India in 2022, Samsung Innovation Campus trained 6,500 students by 2024 and is expected to reach a cumulative total of 26,500 students by 2025. The programme places strong emphasis on reaching underserved and semi-urban communities. Samsung has collaborated with the

Electronics Sector Skills Council of India (ESSCI) under the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to deliver certified training through accredited partners.

Notably, the initiative has achieved 44 percent women participation, highlighting Samsung's commitment to inclusive and equitable skilling. Along with technical education, students receive soft skills training and placement support to enhance employability. Through Samsung Innovation Campus, along with initiatives like Samsung Solve for Tomorrow and Samsung DOST, the company continues its long-term mission of democratizing technology and preparing India's youth for an innovation-driven future.

Blenders Pride Fashion Tour 2025 Redefines Indian Fashion

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Blenders Pride Fashion Tour 2025 concluded on a high note, redefining the landscape of Indian fashion with immersive, multi-sensory showcases across Gurugram, Jaipur, and Kolkata. Guided by its 'The One and Only' vision, the tour introduced bold narratives that pushed the boundaries of how fashion is experienced, blending innovation, culture, and cutting-edge design.

The tour's central theme, 'Making Fashion Move', came alive through three distinct fashion spectacles. In Gurugram, designers Falguni and Shane Peacock unveiled 'The Futureverse of Fashion', where haute couture intersected with humanoid robots, holograms, and motion-sensing projec-



tions. Bollywood actors Shahid Kapoor and Tamannaah Bhatia added star power to the futuristic showcase.

Jaipur hosted 'High Octane Couture', a high-energy presentation by designers Namrata Joshipura and Abhishek Patni. Drawing inspiration from motorsport aesthetics, the show featured Miss Universe Harnaaz Sandhu and rapper Raftaar, alongside chrome-wrapped supercars and a dynamic three-lap runway format.

The grand finale in Kolkata delivered 'Future Is Crafted', a visually striking showcase by AK | OK Anamika Khanna. Set against the iconic Howrah Bridge, the presentation reimaged traditional Indian craft through futuristic tailoring. Actor Ishaan

Khatter served as the showstopper, as the Hooghly River transformed into a floating theatre of fashion.

Debasree Dasgupta, CMO, Pernod Ricard India, said the tour continues to be a defining platform for Indian fashion, shaping its evolution through creativity, culture, and innovation. Sunil Sethi, Chairman, FDCl, highlighted the collaboration as a powerful step toward celebrating diverse design perspectives and setting the pace for the future of fashion. With over 2,100 attendees across three cities, including designers, celebrities, influencers, and industry leaders, the Blenders Pride Fashion Tour 2025 reaffirmed its status as a leading cultural destination, setting the tone for what lies ahead in Indian fashion.

Actress Nivetha Pethuraj Launches VCare Centre of Excellence in Hyderabad

Hyderabad witnessed the launch of the VCare Centre of Excellence (COE) at Jubilee Hills, marking a significant step in advanced skin and aesthetic care in India. Actress Nivetha Pethuraj graced the event as the Chief Guest, attended by leading doctors, healthcare professionals, industry experts, and media representatives, reflecting the growing demand for medically guided, ethical aesthetic solutions. Following the successful Chennai COE, with Bengaluru next in line, VCare aims to strengthen its presence across South India's metropolitan cities, bringing global technology and personalized skin treatments to Indian clients. The Hyderabad COE introduces India's first Single-Day Facial Architecture, a glass-skin-focused



protocol integrating seven advanced laser technologies into a single-day, three-dimensional approach that delivers visible results from Day 1 and continues progressive improvement over 90 days. This innovative methodology is guided by E. Carolin Praba, Founder & Managing Director of VCare Group, India's first woman trichologist and a visionary wellness entrepre-

neur, alongside Mukundan Satyanarayanan, CEO of VCare Group, who brings over 22 years of expertise in trichology, cosmetic sciences, nutraceuticals, and wellness, blending research-driven innovation with traditional healing sciences. Speaking at the launch, Satyanarayanan emphasized that the COE moves beyond surface-level treatments to address skin health

through a structured, multi-layered approach aligned with international standards, while Praba highlighted that each technology is selected based on global clinical validation, FDA clearance, and demonstrated results. The Hyderabad COE features a suite of world-class aesthetic technologies, including the ISEMCO 3D D9 AI Skin Analyzer, India's

first AI-powered 3D skin analysis platform; K-Excellence Skin Analyzer (Korea) for multi-spectral evaluation; Dermoscan DSM-4 Colorimeter (Germany) for data-backed outcomes; Triton Platform by In-Mode for subdermal remodeling; Alma Harmony XL PRO for resurfacing and acne scar correction; Density RF by Jeisys for deep collagen stimulation; Hollywood Spectra by Lutronic for pigmentation correction and brightening; Ultravel Q+ by Jeisys for non-surgical lifting; and EnerJet by PerAction for needle-free bioactive infusion. With this launch, VCare establishes a new benchmark in intelligent, customized, and results-driven skin architecture, creating a modern aesthetic destination that combines cutting-edge technology with a deeply personalized approach, redefining

Yami Gautam Is On to Her Next Project

Actor is marching ahead after her rousing performance in *Supam Varna's Haq* for which she is expected to win the National Award

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Yami is not the least interested in resting on her laurels. She has now moved on to her next project entitled *Navya Naveli*, a horror-comedy to be directed by Tamil filmmaker Balaji Mohan, who has to his credit *Vaayai Moodi Pesavum* with Dulquer Salmaan and Maari with Dhanush. The film will be produced by Aanand Rai. Speaking of her career choices Yami said to this writer, "Becoming a mother shifts your entire universe and gives you a completely different sense of purpose. Everything — your routine, priorities, even your definition of strength — evolves because of the little one who now owns your heart. Storytelling remains my passion and something that fulfills me deeply. Balancing



both roles isn't a fixed formula; it requires constant adjustment. What matters to me is that my son grows up seeing his mother pursue her dreams with joy, while knowing he is always at the center of my world." Yami admits her career choices are now defined by her real life role as a mother. "I genuinely believe once a mother, always a mother. Your priority, your world will

always be your child first. Being a working mother means, also, your commitment towards whatever work you take up. I am learning to embrace that flow instead of chasing a perfect balance. I am and will always be grateful to my mother for stepping in, taking care and holding the fort back home with my son while I am away at work."

I Will Speak at the Right Time: Nidhhi Agerwal On The Hyderabad Mobbing Incident



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Actress Nidhhi Agerwal, who was mobbed at one of the promotional events for the film *The Raja Saab* at a Hyderabad mall recently, termed it as an unfortunate incident, and that she had much to say about what happened that day, but would do so at the right time. Speaking during an interview, when she was asked about the incident, Agerwal said, "Well, it was an unfortunate in-

cident that took place that day." "I have so much to say about that incident, but I feel like I want to speak at the right time because it's a very sensitive topic, and anything I say can be taken out of context by people who are reading stuff and all of that. So I will talk about it, but in some time," she added. Last month, a video of the actor trying to navigate her way through a crowd towards her car, went viral on social media. Agerwal who ap-

peared visibly uncomfortable around the surging crowd of men, even as her security tried to make way for her, managed to get into the vehicle and left the venue. The actor stars alongside Telugu superstar Prabhas in "*Raja Saab*", a horror comedy, which released in theatres on Friday (January 9th, 2026). The film also stars Sanjay Dutt, Zareena Wahab, Malavika Mohanan, Riddhi Kumar and Boman Irani. The film was released

amid massive expectations, but opened to mixed reviews. While netizens have been praising Prabhas' comedy timing and the film's climax, critics had a different perspective. The digital rights for *The Raja Saab* have been acquired by Jio Hotstar, and the film is likely to begin streaming by the end of February 2026. However, an official OTT release date has yet to be announced by the makers.

Winning The Women's ODI World Cup Adds The Responsibility To Win Again : Harmanpreet

My main focus as captain is to help the players feel settled and enjoy the game : Harmanpreet Kaur

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Defending champions Mumbai Indians face 2024 winners Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the TATA WPL 2026 opener, pitting MI's loaded match-winners against RCB's quest for stability without Ellyse Perry. Speaking on JioHotstar's show 'TATA WPL: Curtain Raiser', Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, and JioStar expert Veda Krishnamurthy discussed MI's fearsome core, Mandhana's international form challenge, Perry's irreplaceable leadership void, and focus on enjoyment and work ethic. Speaking on 'TATA WPL: Curtain Raiser', Mumbai Indians captain Harmanpreet Kaur emphasized the importance of enjoying the game and helping teammates over succumbing to pressure: "You feel pressure in any format, whether it is WPL, international cricket, or domestic matches. You set a high standard for yourself and expect a lot. But the most important thing is to enjoy yourself on the field. Other than taking pressure, I would love



to enjoy my game. Winning the Women's ODI World Cup and the WPL as captain adds extra responsibility to win again. But my main focus as captain is to help the players feel settled and enjoy the game." Speaking on 'TATA WPL: Curtain Raiser', RCB captain Smriti Mandhana emphasized a strong work ethic and translating her international batting form to the WPL: "I think the whole RCB squad is very balanced this season. We had a good mega auction. I always tell the team we have to focus on our work ethic. What happens on the field is not in our hands. But the way we have been batting for the last two years, I am sure we will continue that for RCB. I have also been batting well in the last two years and I want to bring that success from in-

ternational cricket to the WPL. There is no better feeling than winning matches for your team, whichever team you play for. I am really looking forward to doing that." Speaking on 'TATA WPL: Curtain Raiser', JioStar expert Veda Krishnamurthy detailed the increased expectations on captain Smriti Mandhana to provide stability in Ellyse Perry's absence: "Smriti Mandhana's focus on hitting aerial shots will have a big impact this season. She has evolved as a cricketer, using her feet more and playing the leg side against spin, which is new. That is an added advantage. I feel Ellyse Perry's absence is a big question. Smriti will not just play a captain's role, but also take on the responsibility of carrying the team forward. The squad has firepower with Grace Harris, Richa Ghosh, and Georgia Voll. But the stability Perry gave RCB is something Smriti will need to provide. I am not saying she should curb her shots. She still strikes at 150. But she will need to play longer innings."

Haryana, Delhi Strike Sepaktakraw Gold at Khelo India Beach Games

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Haryana women and Delhi men clinched the gold medals in Beach Sepaktakraw at the Khelo India Beach Games 2026, bringing Bihar's strong campaign to a halt in the finals held at Ghoghla Beach on Thursday. Haryana staged an impressive comeback in the women's final, recovering after losing the opening regu to defeat Bihar 2-1 in a closely fought contest lasting one hour and 15 minutes. In the men's final, Delhi produced a dominant display to beat Bihar in straight regus, winning 2-0 to secure the top podium finish. Bihar settled for silver medals in both the men's and women's events. The Khelo India Beach Games 2026, organised by the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu under the technical supervision of the Sports Authority of India and national sports federations, has drawn more than 1,100 athletes. Competitions are being held across eight disciplines — volleyball, soccer, sepaktakraw, ka-



baddi, pencak silat, open water swimming, mallakhamb and tug-of-war — with six medal sports and 32 gold medals at stake. In Beach Soccer women's semi-finals, defending champions Odisha continued their dominant run with a comprehensive 7-0 victory over debutants Himachal Pradesh. Srijana Tamang, Satyabati Khadia and Khundongbam Ambalika scored two goals each to power Odisha into the final. Gujarat joined them with a 6-3 win over Arunachal Pradesh, after taking a commanding

four-goal lead in the opening quarter. In Beach Volleyball, Tamil Nadu remained in strong contention for double gold. In the women's semi-finals, Deepika and Pavithra rallied after dropping the first set to beat teammates Swathi and Dharshini, while Pondicherry's Revathi and Swetha advanced with a straight-sets win over Andhra Pradesh. The men's final will see Tamil Nadu face Goa after both teams registered hard-fought semifinal victories.

Power Unions Oppose Bid to Outsource YTPS

The Telangana Power Employees Joint Action Committee (TGPEJAC) has urged Telangana Power Generation Corporation Limited (TGGenco) to drop plans to outsource operation and maintenance (O&M) of Yadadri Thermal Power Station (YTPS) Stage-II (3x800 MW) to Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) or any external agency, insisting that in-house engineers and staff be deployed instead. In a memorandum submitted to TGGenco chairman and managing director Harish Rao, committee convener P. Rathnakar Rao said that O&M was critical for plant safety, efficiency, and reliability. The unions argued that Genco's engineers, supervisors, and skilled workmen are fully capable, citing the successful commissioning of KTPS-VII Stage (1x800 MW) in a record 48 months by departmental staff as evidence of their competence. The committee warned that outsourcing would result in underutilisation of personnel, higher costs, reduced equipment lifespan, safety risks, and lowered employee morale. They noted that BHEL's expertise lies in design and manufacturing, not sustained O&M, and expressed concern that the company may subcontract the work to private firms. The committee warned that outsourcing would result in underutilisation of personnel, higher costs, reduced equipment lifespan, safety risks, and lowered employee morale. They noted that BHEL's expertise lies in design and manufacturing, not sustained O&M, and expressed concern that the company may subcontract the work to private firms. The committee pointed out that commercial operation date (COD) activities are already underway at YTPS Stage-II with experienced staff recently posted. They urged rationalisation of manpower across Genco stations rather than reliance on external agencies. "In-house handling ensures better control, safety, and resource optimisation," the memorandum stated, calling for immediate withdrawal of the outsourcing proposal in the larger interest of the organisation.

Dhanurmasam Puja Held at Karkana Temple



Former Cantonment Board Vice Chairman Jampana Pratap Reddy attended the Dhanurmasam special puja at the Hari Hara Narayana Temple in Karkana, Cantonment third ward, on Friday as the chief guest, adding spiritual significance to the sacred observances. The visit took place amid devotional fervor as part of the holy Dhanurmasam celebrations. Invited by the temple committee, Pratap Reddy actively participated in the special puja rituals dedicated to Lord Vishnu. Temple priests offered sacred theiram and prasad, invoking blessings for peace and prosperity. In recognition of his continued support for religious and community initiatives, committee members felicitated him with a traditional shawl. The event witnessed the presence of Dafedar Narasimha Raju and prominent temple committee members including Goverdhan, Naresh, Raj Kumar, Laganesh, Yogender Sai, Bhavani, Subrahmanyam, Moni Nathan, and others. Their participation reflected the collective devotion of the local community and the temple's importance as a spiritual and cultural center in the Cantonment area.

H-City Flyover Works Reviewed by GHMC Officials



Hyderabad: GHMC Additional Commissioner G. Srijana, IAS, along with Zonal Commissioner Hemanth, IAS, reviewed the progress of H-City project works, including the flyovers from Gulmohar Park to Taranagar, Aminpur Road, and Alwyn X Road. The officials inspected the sites on foot and enquired about the timeline for completion of the ongoing works. Project engineers informed the Additional Commissioner that the service road works would be completed after the land acquisition process is finalised. As part of the H-City project, the Additional Commissioner also inspected the proposed flyover and underpass site at Khajaguda Junction. Zonal Commissioner Hemanth, IAS, briefed the Additional Commissioner on the status and scope of the works being undertaken. DC Prashanthi, CCP Venkanna, City Planner Shyam, ACP Venkataramana, DE Projects Harish, and other officials accompanied the Additional Commissioner during the inspection.

Hyderabad police launch C-Mitra to enable cybercrime FIRs from home

Victims are first required to report the fraud. Police officers from the C-Mitra team contact the complainant and prepare a legally sound complaint. The draft complaint is then sent to the victim, who must sign and submit a physical copy



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad City Police on Friday (January 9) launched C-Mitra, a first-of-its-kind virtual help desk in India, aimed at helping victims of cybercrime register FIRs without visiting police stations. The initiative seeks to provide faster relief for victims of rising cyber frauds, including OTP scams, digital arrest frauds, and investment or trading scams.

Commissioner of Police V.C. Sajjanar described C-Mitra as a "virtual police officer" that leverages technology to bring essential policing services directly to citizens. The service is available exclu-

sively for residents within the Hyderabad Police Commissionerate limits. Victims first report frauds through the 1930 helpline or the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal. Thereafter, the C-Mitra team's virtual officers contact the complainant and use artificial intelligence tools to draft a legally sound complaint based on the details provided. The draft is then sent to the victim, who must sign and submit a physical copy via post, courier, or drop box at the Cyber Crime Police Station in Basheerbagh. Upon receipt, an FIR is registered and confirmation is sent to the complainant via SMS. Of-

officials said options for digital signatures are being explored to further streamline the process.

To optimize investigations, C-Mitra includes a case categorisation system. Complaints involving losses above ₹3 lakh are handled directly by the Cyber Crime Police Station, while losses below ₹3 lakh are registered as Zero FIRs and transferred to the respective local police stations.

Physical FIR registration currently takes around three hours; C-Mitra is expected to significantly reduce this time

for both citizens and station staff. At present, only about 18% of cybercrime complaints are converted into FIRs—a figure the police aim to raise substantially through this initiative. The virtual help desk operates 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with a 24-member team. To prevent misuse,

official calls will come only from a designated landline, and WhatsApp messages only from verified numbers. Staff will never request OTPs or money, and C-Mitra solely facilitates FIR registration—it does not investigate cases, provide legal advice, or guarantee fund recovery.

By combining AI technology with citizen-centric policing, Hyderabad Police aim to make cybercrime reporting faster, safer, and more accessible, setting a precedent for other cities across the country.

Five held for selling Chinese Manja in Hyderabad



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Ahead of Sankranti, a group of five people was arrested for selling Chinese Manja in Hyderabad on Thursday, January 8. The police seized 155 bobbins of Chinese Manja from them.

The accused were identified as Kandesh Pawan Kumar, 43, a businessman and a resident of Sultan Bazar; Rohit Agarwal, 35, a businessman also a resident of Sultan Bazar; B Nikhil, 19 a student and resident of Amberpet; Mo-

ammed Moin Mallick, 26, a private employee and a resident of Chelapura and Abdul Kareem a welder and resident of Amberpet.

The accused were nabbed during a search operation by the Central Crime Station. In an appeal to the public, the police said, "Citizens are advised not to use the Chinese Manja as it is endangering to human beings and birds. Manja sellers are instructed not to sell Chinese Manja, as Hyderabad city police are working swiftly and maintaining surveillance against those who sell Chinese Manja."

Hyderabad Hosts BITS Alumni Meet; Governor Lauds Tech Contributions

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Start-ups and the role of alumni in building technology-led enterprises were in focus as the sixth edition of the BITSAA Global Meet 2026 opened at the BITS Pilani Hyderabad campus on Friday. The triennial alumni meet was inaugurated by Governor Jishnu Dev Varma, who spoke about the contribution of BITS Pilani graduates to India's technology and innovation sectors. He referred to the role played by higher education institutions in research, industry collaboration, and new enterprise creation. The opening session was attended by senior officials, alumni leaders, academics, and investors. Those present included



M. Dana Kishore, principal secretary, labour, Anita Sakuru, chairperson of BGM 2026, V. Ramgopal Rao, Vice-Chancellor of BITS Pilani, Kanwal Rekhi, venture capitalist and angel investor, and Mayur Patnala, chief executive officer of BGM 2026. Speakers highlighted the need for education systems to keep pace with changes in technology and employment. The institute's multi-campus presence in Pilani, Goa, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Dubai, and the up-

coming campus in Amravati was outlined, along with the range of academic programmes offered.

The first day of the meet saw a strong focus on entrepreneurship through the Pilani Sharks initiative, where early-stage alumni-led startups presented their business ideas to a panel of investors. Technical workshops on agentic artificial intelligence and digital wellness were also held, focusing on the use of technology in everyday life.

GHMC Team Visits Sabarmati for Musi Renewal Plan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

HA delegation from Hyderabad's GHMC visited Ahmedabad's Sabarmati Riverfront to study best practices in riverfront development and tourism-oriented urban planning, aiming to draw lessons for the rejuvenation of the Musi river. The Hyderabad team was briefed by the Sabarmati Riverfront Development Corporation Limited (SRFDCL) on the project's conception, planning, and phased execution. Officials explained how the once-neglected riverbanks were transformed into vibrant public spaces, recreational areas, and promenades, making the riverfront a benchmark for urban renewal. The project is being executed in seven phases. Phase one, covering 11.5



km, has been completed, while phase two is expected to be finished within six months. The delegation examined key design elements enhancing public access, safety, and recreational facilities along the river. A highlight of the visit was the iconic Atal Foot Bridge, connecting the eastern and western banks, demonstrating innovative pedestrian-friendly infrastructure integrated with aesthetic design.

The GHMC officials studied both technical and community engagement strategies that have made the Sabarmati riverfront successful. Insights gained from the visit are expected to guide Hyderabad's Musi river rejuvenation, aiming to create a clean, accessible, and sustainable urban waterway that balances environmental conservation, urban mobility, and public recreation.

High-Rises Turn Hot Favourite for Developers in Hyderabad

According to developers, the unlimited Floor Space Index (FSI) that the government offers in Hyderabad appears to be the main attraction for developers in opting for high-rise buildings.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad has seen a spurt in high-rise buildings, with developers lining up 40 per cent more projects in the erstwhile GHMC limits in 2025 compared to the previous year. Authorities granted permissions for 103 high-rise buildings in the erstwhile Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) in 2025 compared to 64 in 2024. The number of high-rise permissions granted in the

non-GHMC areas within Outer Ring Road by HMDA in 2025 stands at 94.

In its jurisdiction, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) approved a built-up area of 36 lakh square metres to 91 lakh square metres, translating into a three times growth. According to developers, the unlimited Floor Space Index (FSI) that the government offers in Hyderabad appears to be the main attraction for developers in opting for high-



rise buildings. Areas such as Kokapet, Narsingi, Gandipet, and Tellapur, which were small villages on the outskirts of the

city, have currently become top destinations for developers to build high-rise buildings. All these areas were outside the

purview of the erstwhile GHMC, and building permits were approved by the HMDA.

When asked about the development of the required infrastructure to support this growth, an official from the municipal administration and urban development (MA&UD) said they have already conducted a traffic assessment while granting permission for high-rise buildings. "Based on the width of the road, the height of the building is decided. In addition to

traffic load, infrastructure like drinking water, sewage is also in place," the official said.

Tall, taller, tallest Hyderabad could have the tallest structures in all of South India, and behind only Mumbai nationwide, if all the planned projects come through 70 floors: Osmannagar (preliminary approval received) 63 floors: Kokapet 62 floor: Kokapet 61 floors: Nanakramguda 59 floors: Puppalguda

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