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### Brief Insights



#### Harish Rao alleges irregularities in Singareni tenders: P2

#### Cobras Top List of Rescued Snakes in Telangana: P2

#### KTR slams SIT notice to Harish Rao, calls it 'political harassment': P2



### DCP Targeted in Fake E-Challan Scam

Cyber fraudsters attempted to target a senior police officer by sending repeated fake traffic violation messages to Khairatabad deputy commissioner of police K. Shilpavalli, claiming that a traffic camera had detected her vehicle over-speeding. The messages, received twice over the past three days, advised the recipient to click on a link to view the alleged challans. Interestingly, the messages ended with a cautionary note asking the recipient to "follow traffic rules," officials said. Recognising the messages as fraudulent, the DCP did not click on the links and instead lodged a complaint on the 'Sanchar Saathi' portal. She also took to social media platform X to warn citizens to remain vigilant and not to click on suspicious links, especially those claiming traffic violations, police sources disclosed. Cyber crime cops have reiterated that traffic challans should be verified only through official government portals and urged the public to report such cyber fraud attempts immediately.

## India, UAE Ink Key Deals On Defence

To double bilateral trade to \$200 bn by 2032

NEW DELHI  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday evening held talks at his residence in New Delhi with United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The three-and-a-half hours visit culminated in seven major announcements and the signing of five key agreements, significantly expanding the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Among the pacts was a Letter of Intent for a Strategic Defence Partnership, envisaging a framework agreement covering defence industrial collaboration, defence innovation and advanced technologies.

The announcements included civil nuclear co-



operation covering large reactors and small modular reactors, a commitment to double bilateral trade to \$200 billion by 2032, establishment of a supercomputing cluster in India, creation of digital and data embassies for strategic data storage, and the setting up of a "House of India" as a cultural initiative in Abu Dhabi. Another agreement provided for the long-term purchase of 0.5 million metric tonnes of liquefied

natural gas (LNG) annually for 10 years starting in 2028, with the UAE already being India's second-largest LNG supplier. Other agreements included cooperation in space infrastructure development, investment co-laboration, and UAE participation in developing the Special Investment Region at Dholera in Gujarat, encompassing a port, airport and a maintenance, repair and overhaul

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### Nitin Nabin Unanimously Elected as BJP Chief



The BJP working president Nitin Nabin was elected unanimously as the party's next national president on Monday. He will assume charge on Tuesday, succeeding incumbent J.P. Nadda, a day after 37 sets of nomination papers were filed in his favour. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was among the proposers of Nabin's candidature. He is expected to be present at the BJP headquarters, along with senior party leaders, when the new national president formally takes charge. After the nomination process concluded, BJP leader and national returning officer K. Laxman said that 37 sets of nomination papers were received in support of Nabin. "On scrutiny, all nomination papers were found to be duly filled in the prescribed format and valid," he said.

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## CM Concludes Medaram Visit, Leaves for Davos

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday left for Davos in Switzerland to participate in the annual meeting of World Economic Forum (WEF). He is leading a high-level delegation to pitch the 'Telangana Rising 2047' vision and has scheduled meetings with heads of leading global companies. The Chief Minister will hold separate meetings with the heads of companies such as Google, Salesforce, Unilever, Honeywell, L'Oreal, Novartis, Tata Group, DP World, Infosys, and Cisco at the Telangana Pavilion in Davos.

During the deliberations, Revanth Reddy will focus on inviting investors, expansion of industries already established in the state in various sectors, including IT, AI, life sciences, and manufacturing sectors. He instructed officials to showcase Telangana's Rising 2047 Vision Document and the state's investment potential for development in various sectors to the world at the World Economic Forum meeting.

IT and industries minister D. Sridhar Babu, revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Special Chief Secretaries Jayesh Ranjan, Sanjay Kumar and CM special secretary Ajit Reddy are part of



the CM's official delegation to Davos. Revanth Reddy unveiled the state government's vision document, aimed at making the state a \$3-trillion economy by 2047 during the two-day 'Telangana Rising Global Summit' organised by the state government here in December last year. At the WEF meeting in Davos in 2025, Telangana secured investments of ₹1.78 lakh crore. The investments were secured from over a dozen top companies across sectors including technology, green energy, data infrastructure, and defence.

### KLIS Contractors Unwilling to Blink First

The irrigation department appears to have painted itself into a corner over enforcing its will to make the Kaleshwaram contractors to pay for repairs required at Annaram, Sundilla, and Medigadda barrages. Though the department last month sent showcause notices to the companies asking them why criminal proceedings should not be launched against them for their actions leading to problems at the barrages, it is learnt that the companies have doubled down on their stand that there was no wrongdoing on their part, and problems at the barrages were a result of a combination of design faults, and poor management decisions. In their responses to the latest showcause notices, the companies are learnt to have again cited find-

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### Display 1.25 cr Voter Names In 'Discrepancies' List: SC

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Underscoring that the Special Intensive Revision process in West Bengal should be transparent and not cause any kind of inconvenience, the Supreme Court on Monday directed the Election Commission to display the names of those on the "logical discrepancies" list at gram panchayat bhavans and block offices of talukas and ward offices. The apex court also ordered that those likely to be affected by the ongoing SIR in the state must be allowed to submit their documents or objections at the panchayat bhavans and block offices. A three-judge bench of



Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justices Dipankar Datta and Joy-malya Bagchi issued the directions after noting that 1.25 crore voters in the state figure on the "logical discrepancies" list. "Logical discrepancies" in progeny linking with the 2002 voters' list include instances of a mismatch in the parent's name and the age difference between a voter and their parent being less than 15 years or more than 50 years.

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### Silver Tops ₹3 Lakh Mark amid US Sanctions Threat

Silver prices in the domestic market crossed the ₹3 lakh mark on Monday, while gold touched a fresh record amid renewed global trade tensions triggered by tariff threats from the United States and fears of retaliation by the European Union. Silver traded at ₹3,02,600 per kg, up from the previous close of ₹2,92,600 per kg. Gold gained ₹1,900 to trade at ₹1,48,100 per 10 grams. The rally mirrored trends in international markets, where silver surged more than 4 per cent to hit a fresh record near \$94 per ounce. Gold rose over 1 per cent to breach \$4,660 per ounce. Safe-haven demand strengthened amid escalating trade tensions after US President Donald Trump threatened fresh tariffs on several European countries, prompting

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## Jaishankar Warns Poland Against Aiding Terror Infra

NEW DELHI  
Wakeup telangana

External affairs minister S. Jaishankar on Monday issued a strong message against engagement with Pakistan, telling Polish Deputy Prime Minister and foreign minister Radoslaw Sikorski that Poland should adopt "zero tolerance for terrorism" and refrain from fuelling "terrorist infrastructure in our neighbourhood". The remarks were made during bilateral talks held in the national capital. Jaishankar's comments came in the backdrop of Sikorski's visit to Pakistan three months ago, following Operation Sindoor last



September and in Paris earlier this year. The remarks were made amid concerns over what India sees as European double standards, with some European Union member states continuing to buy Russian energy while pressing India to cut its oil imports from Russia. In his opening remarks, Jaishankar said Poland was familiar with the challenge of cross-border terrorism and reiterated that countries must not contribute, directly or indirectly, to sustaining such networks. When Sikorski said he "completely agrees" that India should not be selectively targeted

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### Karnataka DGP Rank Officer In Soup Over Video

A video reportedly showing Karnataka Director General of Police (Civil Rights Enforcement) K. Ramachandra Rao in an intimate moment with a woman inside his official chamber went viral on Monday. Rao, the stepfather of actress Ranya Rao, who was arrested last year by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence in a gold smuggling case at Kempegowda International Airport after arriving from Dubai, denied the allegations.

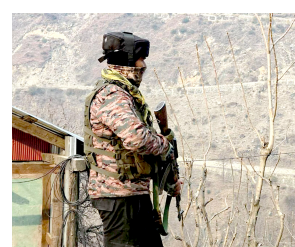
Responding to the controversy, Siddaramaiah said disciplinary action would be initiated against the officer after an investigation, irrespective of his rank. "I got to know about it in the morning. We will initiate disciplinary action against him. No one is above law, notwithstanding how sen-

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## Jawan Killed in Kishtwar Encounter, Security Forces Claim Militant Bust

SRINAGAR  
Wakeup telangana

One of the eight Army personnel injured in Sunday's fierce gunfight with armed militants in the Chatroo area of Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district died from his wounds overnight, officials said on Monday. The soldier, who had been evacuated to a military hospital in critical condition, succumbed despite intensive medical efforts. The encounter had erupted during an anti-militancy operation in the dense, mountainous forests of eastern Kish-



twar, an area that has witnessed a resurgence of militant activity in recent months. Security forces had launched the operation following intelligence inputs about the presence of armed militants in the region. In a brief statement, officials also said that a "terrorist hideout" was uncovered in the forested zone during the ongoing

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operation. However, they have not yet disclosed what, if anything, was recovered from the site, and further details are awaited as the search and sanitisation process continues. The incident has heightened security concerns in the region, with additional forces deployed to prevent any attempts by militants to regroup or escape. The operation in Chatroo remains active, and authorities are expected to release more information once the area is fully cleared. The Indian Army's Nagrota-based 16 Corps, also

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## 2025 Minority Incidents in Bangladesh Non-communal: Yunus

NEW DELHI  
Wakeup telangana

The majority of incidents involving members of minority communities in Bangladesh during 2025 were "criminal in nature" and not driven by communal motives, the interim government said on Monday. The statement came days after India, on January 9, pressed Dhaka to "swiftly and firmly" deal with attacks on minorities in Bangladesh and described as "troubling" the attempts to attribute the incidents to extraneous reasons. New



Delhi's reaction had come against the backdrop of the killing of several Hindu individuals in Bangladesh in the last few weeks. Citing a yearlong review of official police records, the statement issued by Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus' office said a total of 645 incidents involving minority communities were recorded between January

and December 2025 across Bangladesh. "While every incident is a matter of concern, the data presents a clear and evidence-based picture: the overwhelming majority of cases were criminal in nature rather than communal," it said. According to the statement, of the 645 incidents, 71 were identified as having communal elements. These included 38 cases of temple vandalism, eight of arson, one of theft, one murder and 23 other incidents such as threats to break idols, provocative social media

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## ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

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

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## KLIS Contractors Unwilling to Blink First

Criminal action threat runs into rough weather

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The irrigation department appears to have painted itself into a corner over enforcing its will to make the Kaleshwaram contractors to pay for repairs required at Annaram, Sundilla, and Medigadda barrages. Though the department last month sent showcase notices to the companies asking them why criminal proceedings should not be launched against them for their actions leading to problems at the barrages, it is learnt that the companies have doubled down on their stand that there was no wrongdoing on their part, and problems at the barrages were a result of a combination of design faults, and poor management decisions. In their



responses to the latest showcase notices, the companies are learnt to have again cited findings of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) that the irrigation department used the barrages as dams, and that there were design faults. They maintained that any action can be taken only after it is proved that their work was defective, putting the

irrigation department in a piquant position. On the one hand, the irrigation department warned the contractors of strong action, but, on the other, it still needs to conclusively prove that defective construction caused the problems at the barrages.

The contractors, Navayuga, Afcons and L&T, which built the Annaram, Sundilla and Medigadda

barrages respectively, are learnt to have informed the irrigation department that there was nothing wrong with the works executed by them and any repairs that are required have to be taken up as additional works, and with fresh contracts. It is also learnt that the agencies made it clear that the notices were 'one-sided' as they left out crucial correspondence between them and the irrigation department during the construction, post-construction, operation & maintenance, and defect liability periods. The companies were learnt to have said that precipitate actions by the department could result in lengthy legal battles and that could even provide them with an opportunity to recover pending dues for the

completed works.

In the meanwhile, sources in the irrigation department maintained that the companies had 'informally agreed' to attend to any defects that emerged during their 'defect liability period' after an expert agency - AFRY India, which is reported to have been selected to study the problems and suggest remedial measures - submits its report with designs and the required work. While the government maintains that any defects established as resulting from poor work will have to be repaired by the companies at their cost, the companies are showing no signs of buckling down from their claims of no wrongdoing, resulting in a stalemate situation, at least for now, it is learnt.

## Congress MLAs face public wrath over delay in six guarantees

**WARANGAL**  
Wakeup telangana

A couple of Congress MLAs faced people's wrath over delay in implementation of six guarantees when they arrived to participate in different programmes in the district here on Monday. Wardhannapet MLA KR Nagaraju had a tough time convincing the people, especially women, when he arrived to participate in interest-free loans cheque distribution event in the town. Soon after the MLA arrived at the venue, people turned up in large numbers and questioned the rationale behind shifting the area hospital from the town to Upparpally cross. The people argued that relocation of



the area hospital to Upparpally cross, which is six kms away would result in lot of inconvenience.

People said already the hospital had sufficient land and required facilities. It was upgraded from a 30-bed hospital to a 100-bed hospital and funds were also allocated to this effect in the past. However, the Congress government was now planning to shift the hospital to a new location far from the current place, according to re-

ports. The women especially questioned KR Nagaraju over the delay in implementation of six guarantees promised to the people during assembly elections. Similarly, Mahabubabad MLA Murali Naik too had a tough time when he visited 16th ward in the town to participate in a development programme. In a video, which is circulating on social media, women are seen questioning the MLA over the delay in fulfilling the promises made to the people. Women charged that the MLA arrived in their area with an eye on municipal elections and had been neglecting development in their ward since last two years, reports said.

## TGPCB launches awareness stall on pollution at Numaish 2026

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) has launched its exhibition stall at the All India Industrial Exhibition (Numaish) to create awareness among the public about various forms of pollution and the measures required to prevent and control them. The TGPCB stall highlights environmental is-



ssues such as municipal solid waste management, industrial emissions, water pollution from industries, and noise pollution to educate visitors on the causes, impact, and regulatory measures related to different types of

pollution.

On the occasion, PCB officials delivered presentations at the stall premises, explaining the role of industries, institutions, and citizens in protecting the environment. They also interacted with visitors, addressing their queries and providing guidance on environmental laws and best practices for pollution control.

The exhibition stall has

received a positive response from visitors, students, and industry representatives, contributing to greater awareness about pollution prevention and sustainable development. The TGPCB officials explained the adverse environmental impacts of single-use plastics, soil and water contamination, harm to wildlife, blockage of drains, and long-term ecological damage.

## Karate Referee and Judge Certification Held in Hyderabad

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana



Shihan Zaffar Khan and Zeenath Begum were awarded Referee (B) certification, while Shika Mariyam received Judge (B) certification during an official karate certification programme held at the Saroor Nagar Indoor Stadium in Hyderabad, Telangana. The programme was organised by the Telangana State Karate Do Association (TSKDA) as part of its efforts to

strengthen technical standards and officiating quality in the sport. The certification event was conducted by Shaheen Akthar, AKF Referee Commission Member and Chief Advisor of KIO. Several senior karate officials, coaches, and practitioners attended the programme, which highlighted the association's commitment to promoting discipline, professionalism, and excellence in martial arts across the state.

## Alleged Broker Racket Targets Builders in Ramgopalpet,

### GHMC Revenue Takes a Hit

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Serious allegations of a shadow brokerage network exploiting builders have surfaced in Ramgopalpet division, raising concerns over revenue losses to the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and casting a cloud over the otherwise strong civic record of local corporator Suchitra. According to multiple sources familiar with ongoing constructions in the area, a group of influential intermediaries is allegedly collecting large sums from builders in exchange for ensuring uninterrupted construction activity and protection from official interfer-

ence. These so-called "shadow brokers" are said to operate by promising smooth clearances and shielding projects from stop-work notices. A builder, requesting anonymity, alleged that the system has been in place for several years. "They assure us that everything will be managed if we pay a 'package'. Otherwise, we face repeated notices, delays, and threats of demolition," the builder said. The alleged payments, which reportedly far exceed official fees, are believed to be depriving GHMC of substantial legitimate revenue. Builders claim they are forced to choose between paying the brokers or risking prolonged ob-

struction of their projects. Corporator Suchitra has been widely recognised by residents for her proactive handling of civic issues, including road repairs, drainage, and water supply. She is known for securing her electoral ticket without joining the BJP and for maintaining a strong grassroots connect. However, residents now express concern that the continued operation of these intermediaries under her watch could damage public trust. Community elders warn that failure to act decisively could have political consequences. "People are watching closely. If immediate action is not taken, it could

affect her prospects in future elections," a local resident said. Builders, meanwhile, say they feel trapped in an unofficial system that leaves them with little recourse. The growing resentment has begun to surface in local discussions, with demands for transparency and accountability gaining momentum. Attempts to seek a response from the corporator's office and GHMC officials were ongoing at the time of filing this report. (This report is based on information provided by multiple anonymous sources familiar with construction activity and local civic administration in Ramgopalpet.)

## KTR slams SIT notice to Harish Rao, calls it 'political harassment'

BRS working president KT Rama Rao criticised the SIT notice issued to BRS deputy floor leader T Harish Rao, calling it political harassment by the Congress government. He said the move exposed the desperation of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, who was resorting to diversion politics after being accused of irregularities in Singareni coal mine allocations. Reacting to the SIT notice, Rama Rao reminded that the Supreme Court had already dismissed the phone-tapping case for lacking substance and terming it politically motivated. "When the apex court has closed the matter, issuing fresh notices only shows how low this government has stooped," he said. He stated that the fresh notices to Harish Rao came within hours of the latter revealing details of the alleged coal block scam involving the Chief Minister's brother-in-law, Srujan Reddy. "This is diversion, not investigation," he remarked.

## Harish Rao alleges irregularities in Singareni tenders, demands CBI probe

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The cancellation of the Naini Block tenders by the State government appears to be just the tip of the iceberg, with BRS deputy floor leader T Harish Rao accusing the Congress leadership of engineering a wider and systemic scam in Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL). He blamed the Revanth Reddy government for indulging in a deeper network of inflated contracts, manipulated procedures, and political interference, and demanded a full-scale CBI investigation. He laid out a detailed and point-by-point accusation of large-scale irregularities in SCCL, stating that a coordinated tender rigging operation involving the Chief Minister, senior Ministers, and their associates.



leader pointed out that across the country, overburden (OB) tenders traditionally fall between minus 10 per cent and minus 22 per cent, but in Singareni, rates suddenly jumped to plus 7-10 per cent after the new system was introduced. He argued that the mandatory site visit allowed the ruling party to identify bidders beforehand, intimidate competitors and steer contracts to favoured companies at inflated prices. He questioned why only the Naini block tenders were cancelled while six others, awarded under the same controversial procedure, remained untouched. "If the process is illegal in one case, it is illegal in all. Cancel all tenders," he demanded. Harish Rao also detailed how tenders awarded at competitive 'minus' percentages during the previous BRS rule were allegedly cancelled and re-issued at 'plus' percentages under the Congress. He cited tenders such as Venkateshan Kani and SRP OC-2 coal mines, which shifted from minus 10 per cent earlier to plus 7 per cent now, calling it

deliberate manipulation which was causing revenue loss to the SCCL. He also pointed to repeated postponements of the SRP OC-2 expansion tender as the commissions were not finalised. The former Minister remarked that another major irregularity involved the government stopping procurement of diesel used machinery used for OB removal directly from Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and instead, routing it through contractors. "This move is purely for commissions. As a result, Singareni will suffer additional cost and GST burden, causing direct loss," he added. Demanding a CBI inquiry, Harish Rao challenged the Chief Minister. "You order SITs for everything else. If you have courage and honesty, order a CBI probe. I will provide every document. If there is no secret deal between Revanth Reddy and the BJP, Kishan Reddy should immediately authorise a CBI investigation," he demanded. The BRS deputy floor leader also accused the police of selectively targeting the opposition leaders and journalists, while remaining silent despite such large-scale irregularities, extortion allegations, and threats to contractors. "DGP Shivadhar Reddy and Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar have remained silent, despite serious allegations."

## SIT summons BRS leader Harish Rao in alleged phone tapping case

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

As expected, the second Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Monday issued notices to BRS leader and former minister T Harish Rao in the alleged phone tapping case, asking him to appear before the investigation officers on Tuesday at 11 am at the Jubilee Hills police station. He is the first senior BRS leader to be summoned by the SIT in the main case.

The SIT served the notices at Harish Rao's Hyderabad residence on Monday evening. However, he was in Siddipet at the time. According to sources, the SIT issued the notices following the deposition of A Sravan Rao, an accused in the phone tapping case and owner of a vernacular news channel. Harish Rao, now the Siddipet MLA, will first reach Telangana Bhavan, the BRS headquarters, on Tuesday morning, from

where he will proceed to the Jubilee Hills police station. The police issued the notices to him under Section 160 of the CrPC. It may be recalled that the Supreme Court recently dismissed a petition filed against Harish Rao by a realtor from Siddipet, G Chakradhar Goud, who suspected that his phone too was tapped during the BRS regime and expressed doubts over Harish Rao's role. Goud had lodged a complaint at Panjagutta police station

in December 2024. However, this was not part of the main phone tapping case, which was registered in March 2024. Harish Rao has now been summoned in connection with the main case. The second SIT was constituted on December 18, 2025, and it was expected to question top BRS leaders, during whose regime the alleged tapping of around 6,000 phones, including those of judges, politicians and journalists, allegedly took place.

The second SIT questioned former Special Intelligence Bureau (SIB) chief and prime accused T Prabhakar Rao for two weeks, after which he was released on bail. The SIT has also grilled BRS MLC K Naveen Rao, K Nanda Kumar, an accused in the "Poachgate" case in which an attempt was made to poach BRS MLAs, and P Rajasekhara Reddy, former officer on special duty (OSD) to then Chief Minister K Chandrasekhara Rao.

**CCTV Cameras To Be Installed At Garbage Hotspots**



The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has decided to install CCTV cameras at Garbage Vulnerable Points (GVPs) in several zones, including Secunderabad, to curb littering. Officials said inputs and suggestions from residential welfare associations (RWAs) will be taken into account while shortlisting locations. Earlier, in the Uppal Circle, the corporation had installed cameras equipped with siren-like alerts when littering was detected. In Secunderabad Zone, however, the proposal is limited to CCTV surveillance, with penalties for habitual offenders. Meanwhile, a sanitation drive is underway across the expanded GHMC limits, covering 2,053 sq km. The drive, which began on December 29, 2025, will continue until January 31. As part of the campaign, 5,641 metric tonnes of additional waste has been collected from all 300 wards, in addition to the 9,000 tonnes generated daily. Sanitation efforts have been carried out at 3,613 locations, including garbage points, foot-over bridges, flyovers and parks. Till date, 4,243 tonnes of waste and 1,398 tonnes of debris have been cleared.

# From Roots to Leadership: Narsing Rao

**Beram Narsing Rao Emerges as BJP's Choice for Monda Division**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Beram Narsing Rao, a grassroots leader from Nalla Bazar, is fast emerging as the frontrunner for the Monda Division Corporator seat. Known for his hands-on approach to civic issues, Rao has earned widespread recognition among locals for his commitment to public service and transparent governance. **A Legacy of Service in the Beram Family** Born and raised in Shanker Viddi, Nalla Bazar, Rao comes from a family deeply rooted in the community. The Beram family has been active in local politics for years, with Beram Saritha contesting the corporator seat in 2009. Building on this legacy, Rao has steadily carved out his own political identity, focusing on practical solutions to local problems rather than partisan politics. **Rise Through BJP Ranks** Rao's political journey began in the Bharatiya



**Beram Narsing Rao**

Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), the party's youth wing. Over the years, he has held multiple key positions, including BJYM division president of Ramgopalpet, Greater Hyderabad BJYM secretary, joint convener of the OBC Morcha, and state executive member of BJYM. These roles have strengthened his

network within the party and provided him with a deep understanding of both local and regional governance challenges. **Focus on Civic Issues** What sets Rao apart is his commitment to addressing the everyday problems faced by residents. From improving drainage and sanitation to upgrading street lighting and public serv-

ices, Rao has consistently worked on the ground to resolve grievances. Residents describe him as approachable, disciplined, and action-oriented—qualities that have earned him the reputation of a true civic crusader. **A Vision for Accountability and Change** For BJP leaders in Nalla Bazar, Rao represents the next generation of leadership—combining party loyalty with a clean, progressive image. As elections approach, many locals see him as the candidate best equipped to fight corruption, ensure accountability, and deliver meaningful change in the Monda Division. With his proven track record, organizational skills, and focus on community welfare, Beram Narsing Rao is not just contesting a seat; he is seen as a symbol of hope for a more transparent, responsive, and people-centered governance in Monda Division.

**Constable Injured In Stone Pelting Incident**

Larger Houz constable Mohammed Ali Mohiuddin sustained serious injuries while attempting to separate two groups that were clashing for the control of a kite, near Jani Begum Masjid in Pensionpura under Tolichowki police limits. While the dispute over the kite was three days old, it flared up on Sunday. Speaking to Decan Chronicle, Mohiuddin said that he was on patrol duty at around 2 pm on Sunday along with a fellow constable when they received information about the quarrel between two groups led by sons of two local political leaders Ahmed and Raheem. The fight was over who would take the kite that had landed in their area from somewhere. Tensions escalated when Ahmed allegedly attacked two individuals, following which a group of around 30 to 40 people gathered near his residence. The crowd resorted to stone pelting, leading to panic in the area. Police attempted to intervene and disperse the mob. However, stone pelting continued and one of the stones struck Mohiuddin, causing him to lose consciousness. A local shifted the injured constable to a private hospital where the doctors referred him to undergo a surgery for his fractured nose, police said. Medical examination reports revealed that the constable had sustained fractures to his nose at three



TPCC Women's President Sunitha Rao addressed the gathering at the Telangana Pradesh Congress Women's Congress Executive Committee meeting held at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad. The meeting focused on the implementation of MGNREGA and the issues faced by workers. Senior leaders and state executive members of the Telangana Women's Congress attended the meeting, during which key discussions and decisions were taken on the welfare of MGNREGA workers.

**Minister Azhar Launches TGMREIS 2026-27 Admission Portal**



Minister for Minorities Welfare Mohammed Azharuddin launched the official TGMREIS website for admissions for the academic year 2026-27 at his chambers in Hyderabad. Vice Chairman and President of TGMREIS Mohammed Faheemuddin Qureshi and Secretary to Government, Minorities Welfare & TGMREIS, B. Shafiqullah, IFS, were present on the occasion. The website facilitates online applications for admissions into Class V and Intermediate First Year (General and Vocational), along with backlog vacancies in select classes.

**SC Reservation Push in Khairatabad**

Dalit Leaders Submit Petition to GHMC Commissioner for SC Reservation in Khairatabad

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Dalit community leaders today submitted a petition to Greater Hyderabad Municipal Commissioner R.V. Karnan, urging the allocation of Scheduled Caste (SC) reservations in Khairatabad constituency. The leaders requested that areas including Somajiguda, Khairatabad Erramanzil, Amberpet, Malikpet, Uppal, Nampally, Jubilee Hills, and Yakutpura be designated for SC reservation. The petition also proposed increasing SC-reserved divisions from the current 23 in 150 divisions to 48 in the expanded 300 divisions across GHMC. The move



follows previous allocations where 23 divisions were reserved for Scheduled Castes in the 150-division setup. The petition was submitted under the aegis of the All India Ambedkar Yuvajana Sangham and other Dalit organizations. Key participants included Vinay Kumar Kadaram, State President of All India Ambedkar Yuva-

Jana Sangham; National Ambedkar Sena President Manya Sridhar Panjagutta; Punyu Bhanu Prakash, Founding President of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Statue Committee; Taluka Rajesh, State President of National Ambedkar Sena; S. Anjali Kumari, President of Jai Bhim Mahila Welfare Association; and Khairatabad Constituency President Tallari Sunil Kumar.

**Liquor Shop Owners Protest MLA's Orders**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hours after Munugode MLA Komatireddy Raj Gopal Reddy directed liquor shop owners to follow his imposed timings rather than those stipulated by the excise department, the shop owners lodged a complaint with district officials on Sunday. Officials said they would examine the issue on Monday. According to liquor shop owners, they met the MLA at his camp office in Munugode, where he insisted on enforcing special timings. Raj Gopal Reddy told them there was "absolutely no question of compromising under any circumstances" on his order.

The MLA advised traders not to ruin people's health for the sake of business. He urged them to end the practice of morning drinking, stating that wine shops should open only after 1 pm and permit rooms after 6 pm. He added that drunk driving cases could be increased in the constituency if necessary, stressing that the aim was to ensure people work during the day and drink only in the evening. When approached, excise officials said shops could continue to operate as per policy timings from 10 am to 11 pm, and that the matter would be looked into on Monday.

**Silver Jubilee Brahmotsavams at Bowenpally from Jan 30**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Venkateswara Swamy Temple in New City Colony witnessed a spiritual high this Monday as the three-day Adhyayanotsavams concluded, setting the stage for the temple's 25th Annual Brahmotsavams starting January 30. The festival's final day featured soul-stirring Dravidian Vedic recitations and the Paramapotsavam ritual, drawing numerous devotees seeking blessings. Former Cantonment Board Vice-Chairman Jampana Prapat, the Chief Guest,



felicitated Vedic scholars for their dedication over the three days. Highlighting the upcoming celebrations, Prapat announced a newly commissioned chariot, donated by devotee Sumanth Reddy, will be the centerpiece of this year's Rath Yatra. He urged residents and devotees to join, emphasizing the festival's role in preserving Sanatana Dharma, fostering community unity, and promoting spiritual growth. The ceremony was led by priests Ranganathacharyulu, Srikanthacharyulu, and Pawan Swamy, with temple committee members and devotees participating in the concluding rituals and prasadam distribution.

**Gnana Mala 150th Week Celebrated**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The 150th week (3rd Anniversary) of Gnana Mala was successfully celebrated on January 18, 2026, at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Statue, Lothkunta 'X' Road, Alwal, under the banner of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Association, Lothkunta. The programme was graced by J.B. Raju, retired Indian Information Service officer, Chairman of the All India Dalit Sena, and a well-known Dalit leader, as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, he delivered an inspir-



ing speech emphasising Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ideals, constitutional values, and the need for sustained struggle to achieve social justice and equality. He called upon the youth to draw inspiration from Ambedkar's life and work towards the upliftment

of oppressed communities. Several executive committee members, activists, journalists, and supporters participated in the programme, reflecting strong unity and commitment to the Ambedkarite movement. Speakers high-

lighted the importance of education, awareness, and collective action in achieving social, economic, educational, and political empowerment. **Upcoming Event:** The association announced plans to organise a massive meeting with over 500 members from the Alwal and Bolarum areas in the fourth week of January 2026. The meeting aims to further spread awareness about Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's mission and strengthen grassroots mobilisation for empowerment. Dr. B.R.

**OPPO Launches Reno15 Series in India with AI-Powered Photography and Pro Mini Variant**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

OPPO India on Monday unveiled its premium Reno15 Series, introducing three models—Reno15 Pro 5G, Reno15 Pro Mini 5G, and Reno15 5G—aimed at travel enthusiasts and photography-focused users. Marking a first for the Reno lineup, OPPO also introduced a Pro Mini variant, responding to the growing demand for compact yet powerful smartphones. The Reno15 Pro and Pro Mini feature a 200MP Ultra-Clear Main Camera, supported by a 50MP 3.5x telephoto lens and Pure-Tone Imaging Technology,



delivering high-detail photography across landscapes, portraits, and low-light scenes. A new Popout feature allows users to merge multiple photos or LivePhotos into dynamic compositions with an out-of-frame visual effect.

Powering the Pro models is the MediaTek Dimensity 8450 processor, while the Reno15 5G runs on the Snapdragon 7 Gen 4, ensuring smooth multitasking, gaming, and AI-driven performance. All models support AI LinkBoost 3.0 for faster connectivity and AI HyperBoost 2.0 for stable high-frame-rate gaming. The Reno15 Series introduces HoloFusion Technology, delivering a three-dimensional glass design with enhanced depth and light interaction. The Reno15 Pro Mini features a 6.32-inch AMOLED display, while the Pro offers a 6.78-inch AMOLED panel, both with 120Hz refresh

rates and ultra-thin bezels. The devices are protected by an All-Round Armour Body and carry IP66, IP68, and IP69 ratings for dust and water resistance. In terms of battery, the Reno15 Pro packs a 6,500mAh battery with 80W SUPERVOOC fast charging and 50W wireless charging, while the Pro Mini includes a 6,200mAh battery. Alongside smartphones, OPPO also launched the OPPO Pad 5 tablet and OPPO Enco Buds3 Pro+, expanding its connected ecosystem. The Reno15 Series will be available from January 13, 2026, across online platforms and retail outlets in India.

# Nitin Nabin Unanimously Elected as BJP Chief

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The BJP working president Nitin Nabin was elected unopposed as the party's next national president on Monday. He will assume charge on Tuesday, succeeding incumbent J.P. Nadda, a day after 37 sets of nomination papers were filed in his favour. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was among the proposers of Nabin's candidature. He is expected to be present at the BJP headquarters, along with senior party leaders, when the new national president formally takes charge.

After the nomination process concluded, BJP leader and national returning officer K. Laxman said that 37 sets of nomination papers were received in support of



Nabin. "On scrutiny, all nomination papers were found to be duly filled in the prescribed format and valid," he said. Several senior BJP leaders, including Nadda and Union ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari, were among the proposers. Chief Ministers

of BJP-ruled states, including Yogi Adityanath, Pushkar Singh Dhama, Mohan Yadav and Nayab Singh Saini, were also present.

Laxman said that after the withdrawal period, only one valid nomination, Nabin's, remained. He added that the election

process for the BJP national president was initiated after elections were completed for 30 state unit presidents out of 36 states, exceeding the minimum requirement of 50 per cent. He said the election schedule was notified and the electoral roll was published on January

16. Of the 37 nomination sets, 36 were submitted by state units, each bearing the signatures of 20 leaders, while one set was proposed by members of the BJP Parliamentary Board, including the Prime Minister, along with 37 MPs.

The BJP national president is elected by an electoral college comprising representatives of the party's national and state councils, under the supervision of the national returning officer. As per the party constitution, a candidate must have completed four terms as an active member and have at least 15 years of membership, with nominations supported by members from at least five States where national council elections have been completed.

# Silver Tops ₹3 Lakh Mark amid US Sanctions Threat

**CHENNAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Silver prices in the domestic market crossed the ₹3 lakh mark on Monday, while gold touched a fresh record amid renewed global trade tensions triggered by tariff threats from the United States and fears of retaliation by the European Union. Silver traded at ₹3,02,600 per kg, up from the previous close of ₹2,92,600 per kg. Gold gained ₹1,900 to trade at ₹1,48,100 per 10 grams. The rally mirrored trends in international markets, where silver surged more than 4 per cent to hit a fresh record near \$94 per ounce. Gold rose over 1 per cent to

breach \$4,660 per ounce. Safe-haven demand strengthened amid escalating trade tensions after US President Donald Trump threatened fresh tariffs on several European countries, prompting discussions on possible countermeasures by European leaders. Trump reportedly warned of imposing an additional 10 per cent tariff on imports from eight European nations, including Germany, France and the United Kingdom, potentially raising total tariffs to 25 per cent by June. "Although silver faced pressure in recent sessions after the US administration excluded critical minerals from

new tariffs, underlying fundamentals remain supportive. Structural supply deficits have tightened the physical market, with repeated squeezes in the London market over the past year. Combined with silver's strategic role in green energy and electronics, these factors continue to support strong investor interest," said Ajay Kedia, managing director of Kedia Commodities. Market participants said continued geopolitical risks, concerns over political stability and uncertainty surrounding US monetary policy independence have further reinforced gold's appeal as a hedge.

# Karnataka DGP Rank Officer In Soup Over Video

**KARNATAKA**  
Wakeup telangana

A video reportedly showing Karnataka Director General of Police (Civil Rights Enforcement) K. Ramachandra Rao in an intimate moment with a woman inside his official chamber went viral on Monday. Rao, the stepfather of actress Ranya Rao, who was arrested last year by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence in a gold smuggling case at Kempegowda International Airport after arriving from Dubai, denied the allegations.

Responding to the controversy, Siddaramaiah said disciplinary action would be initiated



against the officer after an investigation, irrespective of his rank. "I got to know about it in the morning. We will initiate disciplinary action against him. No one is above law, notwithstanding how senior the police officer is," he said. Rao claimed that the video was generated using artificial intelligence. "It is all lies. I do not know who the woman

is," he told reporters. When asked how such a video could exist, he said, "I will know only if it had happened. I do not know about it."

The 47-second clip is claimed to be around five years old and allegedly dates back to his posting in Belagavi, where he was then serving as Inspector General of Police. The video purportedly shows Rao, in uniform and seated on his chair, when a woman approaches him. The footage allegedly depicts him hugging and kissing her. The woman is seen wearing a churidar in one segment of the video and a sari in another.

Meanwhile, Rao visited the residence of

home minister G. Parameashwar in Bengaluru to explain his version regarding the video, but returned without meeting him. Reacting further, Rao said he had sought a formal investigation into the circulation of the video and alleged that rivals may be behind the recording and dissemination of the purported footage. After romancing videos of DGP Ramachandra Rao went viral on Monday, later in the day two audio conversations of reportedly that of Rao with a woman engaged in sleaze talks went viral. One of the audio conversations is of 4.28 minutes and another about 5.03 minutes.

# UAE President To Visit India on Monday; Strategic Ties in Focus

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

India on Sunday said that the visit of United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan will provide an opportunity for him and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to chart new frontiers for the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Situation in Iran is expected to be a topic for discussion during the meeting since the visit is taking place in the backdrop of simmering tension in Iran and the United States of America. "It will also enable an exchange of views on regional and global issues of mutual interest, where India and the UAE share a high degree of convergence," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)



said while announcing the visit. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan will be in India on Monday for a short visit. This will be his third official visit to India since assuming office as President of the UAE, and fifth visit to the country over the past decade. According to MEA, the visit builds on the strong momentum generated by recent high-level ex-

changes, including the visit of Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi in September 2024, and the visit of Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the UAE and Crown Prince of Dubai in April 2025. "India and the UAE share warm, close, and multi-faceted rela-

tions, underpinned by strong political, cultural, and economic ties. The two countries are among each other's top trading and investment partners, bolstered by the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), the Local Currency Settlement (LCS) system, and the Bilateral Investment Treaty. India and the UAE also enjoy a robust energy partnership, including long-term energy supply arrangements. The visit will provide an opportunity for the two leaders to chart new frontiers for the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. It will also enable an exchange of views on regional and global issues of mutual interest, where India and the UAE share a high degree of convergence," MEA said.

# Jaishankar Warns Poland Against Aiding Terror Infra

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

External affairs minister S. Jaishankar on Monday issued a strong message against engagement with Pakistan, telling Polish Deputy Prime Minister and foreign minister Radoslaw Sikorski that Poland should adopt "zero tolerance for terrorism" and refrain from fueling "terrorist infrastructure in our neighbourhood". The remarks were made during bilateral talks held in the national capital.

Jaishankar's comments came in the backdrop of Sikorski's visit to Pakistan three months ago, following Operation Sindoor last year. The external affairs minister had earlier indicated that the issue would be raised during the discussions. Addressing the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Jaishankar said the "selective targeting of India is both unfair and unjustified". He noted that he had candidly conveyed India's position to the Polish leadership



on multiple occasions, including meetings in New York last September and in Paris earlier this year. The remarks were made amid concerns over what India sees as European double standards, with some European Union member states continuing to buy Russian energy while pressing India to cut its oil imports from Russia.

In his opening remarks, Jaishankar said Poland was familiar with the challenge of cross-border terrorism and reiterated that countries must not contribute, directly or indirectly, to sustaining such networks. When Sikorski said he "completely agrees" that India should not be selectively targeted by sanctions, the external affairs minister responded that

such targeting was not limited to tariffs and extended to other areas as well.

Following the talks, Jaishankar said on X that the meeting provided an opportunity for an open exchange on bilateral ties and global developments. He said discussions covered cooperation in economic engagement, technology, defence, mining, people-to-people exchanges and multilateral forums, and welcomed Poland's support for stronger India-EU relations. On bilateral relations, the EAM said India and Poland enjoyed traditionally warm ties that had progressed steadily in recent years through high-level political exchanges and growing economic and people-to-people engagement. He recalled that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Poland in August 2024 elevated the relationship to a Strategic Partnership. The two sides reviewed the Action Plan 2024-28 and discussed expanding cooperation.

## Congress Will.....

According to the statement, of the 645 incidents, 71 were identified as having communal elements. These included 38 cases of temple vandalism, eight of arson, one of theft, one murder and 23 other incidents such as threats to break idols, provocative social media posts and damage to worship pavilions. Police cases were filed in 50 of these incidents, and arrests were made in an equal number, while other preventive or investigative measures were taken in 21 cases, the statement said.

The remaining 574 incidents were linked to criminal or social disputes unrelated to religion, including neighbourhood disputes (51), land-related conflicts (23), theft (106), prior personal enmity (26), rape (58) and 172 cases of unnatural death. Police registered 390 cases in this category, filed 154 unnatural death reports and made 498 arrests, with additional measures taken in 30 incidents. The interim government said the report "does not deny challenges, nor does it claim perfection; rather, it seeks to provide a factual, evidence-based picture of crime trends affecting minority communities within the broader

national context". "While all crimes are serious and demand accountability, the data demonstrates that most incidents involving minority victims were not driven by communal hostility, but by broader criminal and social factors that affect citizens across religious and ethnic lines," it said. Meanwhile, Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council (BHBCUC) leader Kajal Debnath questioned the government's classification of incidents involving minorities as "non-communal". "If the government thinks these are not communal incidents, the question then is whether anyone can take the law into their own hands," Debnath said. He warned that such statements could embolden criminals and give them a sense of impunity.

## Jawan Killed.....

The Indian Army's Nagrota-based 16 Corps, also known as White Knight Corps, paid solemn tributes to Special Forces Havildar Gajendra Singh, who laid down his life while bravely undertaking a counter-terrorism operation in the Singpura wooded area during the ongoing Operation TRASHI-I in Kishtwar. In a post on 'X', the General Officer

Commanding (GOC) of White Knight Corps and all ranks expressed deep respect and homage to the fallen soldier, acknowledging his supreme sacrifice made on the night of January 19. The Corps hailed Havildar Gajendra Singh's exceptional courage, valor and unwavering commitment to duty, stating that his gallantry will always be remembered with pride.

It also extended heartfelt solidarity to the bereaved family, affirming its unwavering support during this moment of immense grief and loss. A fierce gun battle erupted on Sunday afternoon between security forces and militants at Singapura in the Chatroo area, leaving eight Army personnel injured, including a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO). Three of the critically injured soldiers were airlifted to a military hospital for specialised treatment. Most injuries occurred when militants hurled a hand grenade at the security forces during the operation, officials said.

## India, UAE Ink.....

Another agreement provided for the long-term purchase of 0.5 million metric tonnes of liquefied natural gas (LNG) annually for 10 years starting in 2028, with

the UAE already being India's second-largest LNG supplier. Other agreements included co-operation in space infrastructure development, investment collaboration, and UAE participation in developing the Special Investment Region at Dholera in Gujarat, encompassing a port, airport and a maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility. An agriculture-related pact aims to promote exports of rice, food and other agricultural products from India to the UAE, benefiting Indian farmers while contributing to the UAE's food security.

It was also announced that First Abu Dhabi Bank will open a branch in Gujarat's GIFT City, while DP World will operate from GIFT City, including ship-leasing for its global operations. The two leaders directed their teams to work towards interlinking national payment platforms to enable faster, efficient and cost-effective cross-border payments. In a special gesture, Prime Minister Modi personally received the UAE President at the airport, and the two leaders travelled together to the Prime Minister's residence for talks held in restricted and delegation-level formats. Senior ministers and members of the royal families of Abu Dhabi.

FROM FRONT PAGE

## CRIME

### Chain-Snatcher Gang Strikes City 4 Times in 30 Minutes

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A suspected gang of interstate offenders struck four different locations within a span of just 30 minutes on Saturday, decamping with seven tolas of gold ornaments, including chains and bracelets, valued at approximately ₹10 lakh, police said. The series of robberies has sent shockwaves through residential neighbourhoods, prompting the Anti-Snatching Squad (ATS) to be placed on high alert. The incident was reminiscent of a December 2018 spree when a duo snatched chains at 10 places before escaping by

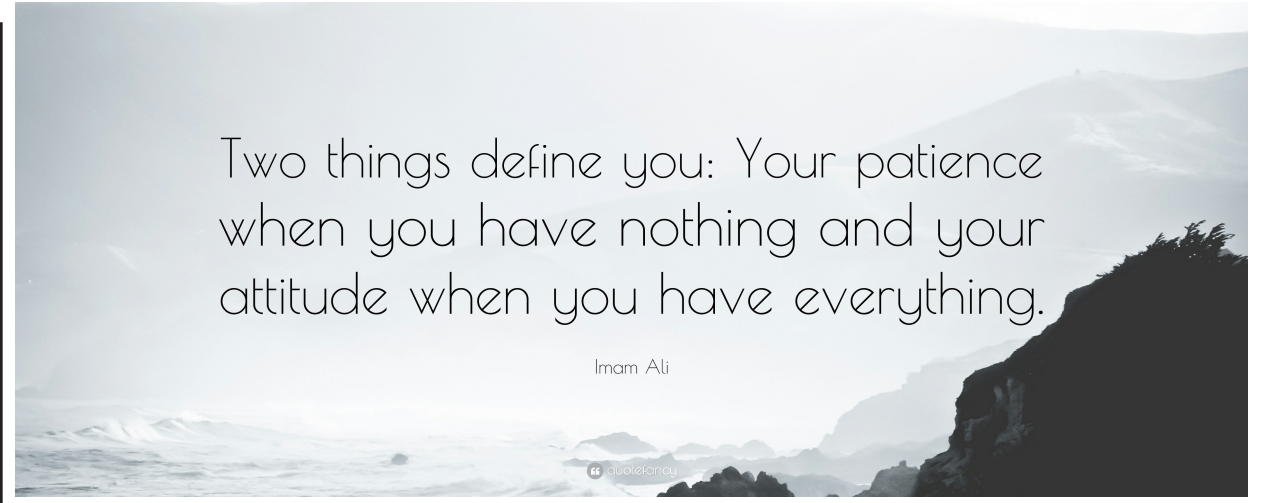
train. Police suspect the involvement of offenders from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and other states. Sources said the gang arrived in the city by train and stole a motorcycle (TS 09 TGA 2141) in Secunderabad to execute their plan. The first incident was reported at 10 am in Hayathnagar, followed by another at 10.21 am in Nagole. The gang struck again in Chaitanyapuri at 10.31 am. A fourth attempt in the same area was foiled when the target screamed for help, forcing the duo to abandon the snatch and flee. They later abandoned the stolen bike in Secunderabad and

### HC relief for worker on regularisation

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Justice Surepalli Nanda of the Telangana High Court directed authorities to consider regularisation of the services of a full-time sweeper who has been working for several decades, holding that prolonged engagement on a temporary basis without fair consideration was unsustainable in law. The judge was dealing with a writ petition filed by B. Ananthaiah, a senior employee, seeking a direction to treat his services as regular in a last grade post

and to extend consequential service benefits. The petitioner contended that he had been working on a full-time basis for several decades pursuant to an appointment order, but was denied regular pay scales, increments and other statutory benefits despite rendering uninterrupted service. It was contended that the action of the authorities in continuing him as a temporary worker amounted to unfair labour practice and violated constitutional guarantees of equality and dignity of labour. Reliance was placed on a long line of judg-



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

Imam Ali

## EDITORIAL

### STOP USING 'INFILTRATORS' ISSUE IN POLL CAMPAIGN

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Elections are occasions for political parties to present their points of view before the people and appeal for their votes, but some find them an occasion to drive home a message of hatred between people. Othering of people under one pretext or another is sadly an effective ploy that parties with communal agendas have been successfully implementing to strengthen their side and ride to power. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP are no strangers to this tactic, either, as they have in fact perfected it and have been successfully deploying it from the start. Mr Modi's statements directed at so-called "infiltrators" in West Bengal, which is going to elect an Assembly in a few months, are aimed to portray the state as a safe haven for Bangladeshi illegal immi-

grants who cross the border into Indian territory for various reasons, mostly economic. It is curious that the Prime Minister, who sits at the top of a mammoth mechanism protecting the border, forgets his position and blames the state's politicians who have very little role in it. It may be remembered that the Border Security Force tasked to guard the border with Bangladesh comes under the Union home ministry which works under the overall policy guidelines of the Prime Minister and hence the responsibility for lapses, if any, must be laid at the Prime Minister's table. Mr Modi's averments would have an element of credibility had he taken steps to stop infiltration, identified law breakers and sent them back to their homes. Using them as a bogey to attack political enemies during electioneering does not behove him. Mr Modi has

hinted at a dangerous possibility, too. In his eagerness to appeal to the hardliners within his party, he has promised to take "big action" against "infiltration" after the BJP comes to power in the state and cited the example of the West. If Mr Modi has in mind the model of US President Donald Trump and his actions against illegal aliens, then it will set a dangerous precedent for India. The illegal, even murderous, tactics of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement of that country employ against those whom they suspect are undocumented people have raised a storm for they negate every single value the US claims it represents. The murder of a citizen and the torture of even American Indians under questionable circumstances have raised a big stink over the legality and credentials of the very drive Mr Trump has initiated.



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### Numaish: Prisons Department Stall Breaks Records, Sales Cross ₹25 Lakh in Just 18 Days

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The state prisons department has recorded total sales of ₹25.43 lakh during the first 18 days of Numaish, official said. This exceeds the total sales of the entire exhibition period in previous years — ₹23.64 lakh in 2025 and ₹20.96 lakh in 2024. The stall recorded 4,450 purchase transactions recorded from 19,990 visitors during

this period. Weaving and handloom products accounted for 40 per cent of sales. Home care products contributed 11 per cent, durries 10 per cent, carpentry items 8 per cent, honey and agricultural products 7 per cent each, steel products 5 per cent, and the rest 12 per cent. Officials said the newly introduced 'prison honey' has received an encouraging response, contributing seven per cent of

the sales. Another notable initiative was the use of eco-friendly paper bags made by prisoners from recycled newspapers. Earlier in the day, Director General, prisons, Dr Soumya Mishra visited the stall and reviewed the sales performance and public response. She interacted with officers and staff managing the stall and appreciated the quality, affordability and social relevance of prison-made products.

She later held a meeting with exhibition organisers vice-president R. Sukesh Reddy, secretary B.N. Rajesh, joint secretary T. Chandrashekar, treasurer Dr. N. Sanjeev Kumar and club convener D. Sandhya. Present during the visit were IG, prisons, N. Murali Babu, Central Prison superintendent N. Shivakumar Goud and assistant director of industries S.M. Khalid Akther.

### Hyderabad Techie Duped of ₹45 Lakh

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A cyberfraudster duped a city-based software engineer of ₹45 lakh under the guise of offering advise for high-return stock market investments. The victim in his complaint told the police that he was recently added to a WhatsApp group that shared "exclusive" tips on stock trading and institutional investments. The fraudsters, posing as financial experts, told the techie that they had access to secret trading platforms capable of generating massive profits in a short span of time.

The victim downloaded an app at their suggestion which showed fictitious profits that prompted him to invest more money, police said. Over several transactions, the victim transferred ₹45 lakh into various bank accounts provided by the culprits. The fraud came to light when the victim attempted to withdraw the "earnings" shown on the app: The scamsters demanded additional "taxes" and "processing fees" to release the funds. Realizing he had been trapped, the techie approached the police.

### Fire Breaks Out at Open Area in Kondapur

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A fire broke out in an open area at Kondapur on Saturday where large quantities of garbage, construction waste, discarded furniture and combustible material had accumulated. Fire officials said the blaze may have been triggered by a carelessly lit cigarette thrown into the dump. Upon receiving information, the Madhapur fire station rushed a fire tender carrying 4,500 litres of water to the spot. Fire personnel

began dousing the flames immediately and were assisted by a couple of local water tankers arranged from nearby areas, officials said. The fire spread quickly due to the highly combustible nature of the material dumped in the open plot, sending thick smoke into the air. The blaze was brought under control before it could spread to adjoining properties. The Madhapur fire station said there were no reports of injuries or loss of life. Cooling operations were carried out to prevent any flare-up at the site.

### Display 1.25 cr Voter Names In 'Discrepancies' List: SC

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Underscoring that the Special Intensive Revision process in West Bengal should be transparent and not cause any kind of inconvenience, the Supreme Court on Monday directed the Election Commission to display the names of those on the "logical discrepancies" list at gram panchayat bhavans and block offices of talukas and ward offices. The apex court also ordered that those likely to be affected by the on-going SIR in the state must be allowed to submit their documents or objections at the panchayat bhavans and block offices. A three-judge bench of Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justices Dipankar Datta and Joy-malya Bagchi issued the directions after noting that 1.25 crore voters in the state figure on the "logical

discrepancies" list. "Logical discrepancies" in progeny linking with the 2002 voters' list include instances of a mismatch in the parent's name and the age difference between a voter and their parent being less than 15 years or more than 50 years. The top court directed that offices for submitting documents and objections be set up within the panchayat bhavans or block offices and asked the state government to provide adequate manpower to the election authorities. It also directed that the DGP of West Bengal shall be obligated to ensure there is no law-and-order problem and that all the activities shall be completed smoothly. The top court was hearing pleas alleging arbitrariness and procedural irregularities in the ongoing SIR exercise in West Bengal, including those related to

the "logical discrepancies" category. It noted notices have been issued that are broadly classified in three categories — mapped, unmapped and logical discrepancy. Under the "logical discrepancy" category, mismatches in father's name or parents' age, and a difference in the age of the grandparents, were noticed by the authorities, it added. The top court said: "The state government shall provide adequate manpower to the State Election Commission for the deployment at the panchayat bhavans and block offices. In this regard, we direct that every district shall meticulously comply with the directions issued by the EC or the state government for the staff for smooth functioning." Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for some petitioners, questioned the criteria for issuance of notices of

hearings for "logical discrepancies". He said that names like "Ganguly", "Datta", etc, can be spelt in different ways, and these spelling differences are cited as reasons for notices. In some cases, notices are sent on the grounds that the age difference with the parents is less than 15 years, it said. Senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, for the poll panel, informed the top court that instructions have been given to the officers not to send notices citing spelling differences. However, such cases where the age difference with the parents is 15 years or less are flagged as a "logical discrepancy", he said. The top court then said: "Why is it a logical discrepancy? How can a 15-year age gap between mother and son be a logical discrepancy?" Justice Bagchi remarked:



## Moody's projects 7.3% economic growth for FY26, to fuel insurance demand

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Global rating agency Moody's on Monday projected India's economy to grow at 7.3 per cent in FY 2025-26 (year ending March 2026), up from 6.5 per cent in the previous year. The agency said the expected expansion would raise average incomes and significantly boost demand for insurance protection across segments. India's strong economic momentum has already supported growth in the insurance sector. Total insurance premium revenue rose 17 per cent to ₹10.9 lakh crore



(\$127 billion) in the first eight months of FY 2025. During this period, health insurance premiums increased 14 per cent, while life insurance new business premiums surged 20 per cent. In FY 2024, overall insurance premiums had grown 7 per cent year-on-year to ₹11.9

lakh crore. In a report released on Monday, Moody's said the insurance industry is poised to benefit from sustained premium growth driven by economic expansion, rising digitisation, proposed GST cuts and planned reforms for state-owned insurance

companies. The government has announced plans to recapitalise and potentially merge public sector insurers to improve underwriting profitability. According to the agency, stronger underwriting discipline among large state-owned players could support better pricing across the industry. Despite profitability at the aggregate level, underwriting challenges persist. In FY 2024, the Indian insurance industry reported an after-tax profit of \$8.1 billion, but remained loss-making at the underwriting level. Claims rose 6.4 per cent in the life segment and 6.6 per cent in

the non-life segment. Moody's noted that the market dominance of state-owned insurers has so far limited the industry's ability to pass on compensating price increases. The agency also highlighted the government's decision in September 2025 to exempt individual life and health insurance policies from the Goods and Services Tax (GST). This move is expected to make insurance products more affordable, stimulate demand and improve India's insurance penetration rate, measured as premiums as a percentage of GDP.

## Rupee rebounds 12 paise to 90.66 against dollar in early trade

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

The rupee recovered from a low level and traded with a gain of 12 paise at 90.66 against the US dollar in early deals on Monday, tracking a retreating greenback against major overseas rivals. However, persistent outflow of foreign funds from domestic equity markets and higher crude oil prices overseas amid a volatile geopolitical situation kept investors cautious, forex analysts said. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 90.68 and gained further to trade at 90.66 against the greenback, registering a gain of 12 paise from its previous closing level. The rupee crashed 44



paise to settle near its lowest level at 90.78 against the US dollar on Friday, after losing 17 paise in the preceding two sessions. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.21 per cent lower at 98.99. Analysts said that the domestic currency found support amid a sell-off in dollar after US President Donald Trump announced imposing tariffs on European countries if they resist his plan to buy

Greenland. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 0.17 per cent higher at USD 64.24 per barrel in futures trade. On the domestic equity market front, the Sensex declined 482.80 points or 0.58 per cent to 83,087.55, while the Nifty fell 129.30 points or 0.50 per cent to 25,565.05. Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth Rs 4,346.13 crore on Friday, according to exchange data.

## Sensex, Nifty slip in early trade as Reliance, ICICI Bank drag

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty declined in early trade on Monday dragged by blue-chips Reliance Industries and ICICI Bank, while sustained foreign fund outflows and global tariff uncertainties also dented investors' sentiment. The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 320.69 points to 83,249.66 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty went down by 124.60 points to 25,573.40. From the 30-Sensex firms, ICICI Bank dropped 3 per cent after its consolidated profit for the December quarter declined 2.68 per cent to Rs 12,537.98 crore, hit by an RBI-mandated Rs 1,283-crore provision for agricultural loans wrongly classified as priority sector advances. On a standalone basis, the country's second-largest lender reported an over 4 per cent decline in the October-December profit at Rs 12,883 crore. Reliance Industries dipped over 2 per cent after the company on Friday reported almost a flat net profit of Rs 18,645 crore for the third quarter, as a decline in gas production and weakness in its retail business offset gains in other



segments. Sun Pharma, Infosys, Adani Ports and Bharti Airtel were also among the laggards. However, Tech Mahindra, InterGlobe Aviation, Axis Bank and Hindustan Unilever were among the gainers. Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth Rs 4,346.13 crore on Friday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought stocks worth Rs 3,935.31 crore, according to exchange data. "Upside is expected to remain capped by persistent FII outflows, global tariff uncertainties and geopolitical concerns, keeping overall risk appetite cautious," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi index and Shanghai's SSE Composite index traded higher, while Japan's Nikkei 225 index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index quoted lower.

## Award-Winning Indian Single Malt Longitude 77 Launched in Hyderabad

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Longitude 77, the award-winning Indian single malt from Pernod Ricard India, marked its entry into the Hyderabad market with a grand and exclusive launch at the iconic Taj Falaknuma Palace. The event brought together whisky connoisseurs and industry leaders, celebrating a blend of Indian craftsmanship and global whisky-making expertise. Globally acclaimed for its quality, Longitude 77 has won multiple international honours, including Gold medals at the London Spirits Competition, The Global Spirits Masters by The Spirits Business, and Monde Selection, along with a Bronze at the International Wine & Spirits Competition. These accolades underline the brand's growing



stature among the world's finest whiskies. Crafted by the master blenders behind renowned global labels such as Chivas, Glenlivet, and Jameson, Longitude 77 draws upon over two centuries of whisky-making heritage. The single malt is matured in the foothills of Dindori, Nashik, where natural temperature variations contribute to its

depth and complexity. Renowned whisky expert Jim Murray praised the spirit, describing it as "clear, balanced, and complex," stating that it stands "shoulder to shoulder with some of the finest Scotch blends and single malts" and reflects India's emergence as a serious player in the global whisky landscape. Mahesh Patil, Master Blender

of Longitude 77, said the whisky is a celebration of India's terroir, crafted through a meticulous double maturation process in American bourbon barrels and wine casks. He added that Hyderabad's appreciation for premium craftsmanship made it an ideal market for the brand's expansion. The launch evening featured curated culinary pairings inspired by Hyderabad's rich flavours, culminating in an exclusive tasting experience. Named after the 77° East longitude that runs through India, Longitude 77 symbolizes innovation and world-class domestic production. Currently available in select Indian states, international markets, and duty-free outlets, Longitude 77 continues to expand its footprint, setting new benchmarks for premium Indian single malts.

## The Intersection of Business, Music, and Digital Influence

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Music composer and businessman Inderjit Singh Yadav is known for a lifestyle that reflects the convergence of creativity, entrepreneurship, and modern digital influence. With a strong presence on social media, Yadav offers followers a curated glimpse into a world marked by premium aesthetics, refined tastes, and high-end living. His public profile features luxury automobiles, bespoke jewellery, and moments from exclusive social and cultural gatherings. These visuals are often accompanied by insights into his professional life, highlighting his engagement with music, business ventures, and contemporary culture. The combination of artistic expression and commercial acumen

has helped shape a personal brand that resonates with a large and diverse audience. Beyond material markers of success, Yadav's lifestyle also reflects connectivity and reach. His appearances at events and interactions across creative and professional circles point to an individual who operates comfortably at the intersection of influence and enterprise. In an era where public identity is increasingly shaped online, Inderjit Singh Yadav exemplifies how personal branding, creative work, and disciplined business practices can translate into both visibility and aspirational living. His journey underscores a broader trend: luxury today is not just about assets, but about presence, influence, and the ability to shape one's narrative in the digital age.

## Small-Cap Funds Limit Microcap Exposure to Around 2%: Ventura Study

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Small-cap mutual funds continue to maintain minimal exposure to microcap stocks, with allocations beyond the 1,000th rank by market capitalisation restricted to around 2%, according to a study by Ventura. As of November 2025, the small-cap fund category manages approximately ₹3.7 lakh crore in assets across 32 schemes. The study shows that about 83% of small-cap fund portfolios are concentrated within the top 750 stocks by market capitalisation. The core small-cap segment—companies ranked between 251 and 750—accounts for nearly 63% of total allocations. Stocks ranked between 751 and 1,000 attract around 7% of investments, while close to 20% of portfolios are allocated

to large- and mid-cap stocks. Around 6% is held in cash and debt instruments to manage liquidity. Despite limited microcap exposure, the small-cap universe has delivered strong market capitalisation growth over the last five years. Between June 2020 and June 2025, companies in the lower ranks of the listed universe recorded the fastest compounding. During this period, the 251st ranked stock grew approximately 4.4 times in market value, the 500th rank rose about 6.1 times, and the 750th rank surged nearly 7.3 times. The study highlights that several niche sectors—such as abrasives, business services, and media and entertainment—are largely unavailable through large- or mid-cap stocks. Companies including Computer Age Man-

agement Services and Central Depository Services fall under business services, while PVR Inox and Sun TV Network represent the media and entertainment segment. Investor perception also plays a role in allocation decisions. Juzer Gabajiwala, Director at Ventura, noted that many familiar names—such as CDSL, Gillette, NBCC, PNB Housing Finance, Wockhard, East India Hotels, Angel One, and Tata Chemicals—are officially classified as small caps under AMFI norms, despite being perceived as mid-cap stocks. Interestingly, investor confidence has remained intact despite short-term underperformance. Between December 2024 and November 2025, small-cap funds delivered negative returns of around 2.4%, yet attracted net inflows of ₹53,165 crore, reflecting long-term conviction in the category.

## MakeMyTrip Introduces Women-Centric Safety Features

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

MakeMyTrip, India's leading online travel platform, has introduced enhanced women-centric safety and assurance signals across its accommodation and intercity bus booking services, leveraging artificial intelligence (AI), user feedback and partner data to help women travellers make more confident travel decisions. Insights from platform behaviour show that women travellers follow a more deliberate planning journey. They spend more time reviewing ratings, studying maps and Street View imagery, and closely examining guest-uploaded photographs before confirming bookings. Booking trends further reveal that women book nearly 50 per cent more stays at least 15 days in advance and show a 16 per cent higher preference for pre-

**make my trip**

mium and branded properties compared to men. This preference is especially strong in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, where branded stays act as a reassurance factor. To address these preferences, MakeMyTrip now highlights ratings and reviews submitted by women more prominently when it identifies a woman-led booking journey. AI-generated summaries surface critical cues related to staff behaviour, neighbourhood safety and overall experience. Women-specific amenities such as CCTV surveillance, door chains, door viewers and full-length mirrors are also clearly displayed. The existing Street View feature allows travellers to visually assess the surrounding area and access routes before booking. Similar safety-focused

enhancements have been introduced for intercity bus travel. AI filters reviews from women-only journeys and tags feedback on punctuality, safety and cleanliness with sentiment indicators for quicker evaluation. Additionally, when a woman books one berth in a double sleeper, the adjacent berth is automatically reserved for women only, reducing mixed proximity during long or overnight journeys. Commenting on the initiative, MakeMyTrip Co-Founder and Group CEO Rajesh Magow said the company is using its rich data and AI capabilities to simplify trip planning and enable informed choices for women travellers. These features are powered by insights from millions of user reviews and structured data from nearly 97,000 accommodation partners and over 3,500 bus operators nationwide.

# JioHotstar Introduces Monthly Subscription Plans Across All Tiers

JioHotstar on Sunday announced an updated subscription structure that introduces monthly plans across all tiers, offering viewers greater flexibility in how they access content. The revised subscription proposition for new users will come into effect from January 28, 2026. The move is aimed at making the platform more accessible to a wider range of viewers, from individuals who primarily watch content on mobile devices to families consuming premium entertainment on connected TVs. Monthly plans will now be available alongside existing quarterly and annual options across the Mobile, Super and Premium tiers.

According to the company, the pricing update reflects changing viewing habits, particularly the sharp rise in



large-screen consumption. JioHotstar said connected TV viewership has seen significant growth over the past year, prompting a subscription framework designed to support customised, big-screen viewing experiences. As part of the update, Hollywood content will be included within the Super and Premium tiers for new subscribers. Users on the Mobile tier will continue to have access to Hollywood programming through an optional add-on, allowing

viewers to tailor their subscriptions based on individual preferences.

The platform clarified that existing subscribers will not be affected by the changes. Those on auto-renewal will continue on their current plans with no change in pricing or benefits. The announcement comes at a key moment for the streaming service, which recently crossed one billion downloads on Google Play and now reaches over 450 million monthly active users across all pin codes in India. JioHotstar offers more than 300,000 hours of content across multiple languages and genres.

Commenting on the development, Sushant Sreeram, Head of SVOD Business and Chief Marketing Officer at JioStar, said the update was designed to align subscription choices with evol-

ving audience behaviour. He said the platform continues to invest in delivering a high-quality viewing experience while expanding access to premium storytelling, live sports and large-scale entertainment.

Since its launch less than a year ago, JioHotstar has built a wide entertainment ecosystem featuring major sporting events, programming from over 100 network channels, original series, reality and unscripted shows, films, kids and family content, anime, live cultural events and a large international catalogue. With its growing scale across content, audiences and technology, JioHotstar said the revised subscription framework will support deeper living-room engagement, mobile-led discovery and continued investments in content and innovation.

## SJ Suryah Hails Pawan Kalyan's Martial Arts Honour

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Noted Tamil director S J Suryah who made blockbuster film "Kushi" with Pawan Kalyan took to X today and hailed actor turned politician. He wrote 'A rare honour recognising the lifelong commitment of Sri. @PawanKalyan, Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, excellence in martial arts. May the path ahead be blessed with strength, purpose, and continued success.' Few days ago, Pawan Kalyan has achieved a rare and special honour in the field of martial arts. He has been officially inducted into Kenjutsu, an ancient Japanese sword fighting art, gaining international recognition for his long dedication and discipline.

The OG star is widely known as an actor and a politician. He has worked in many areas of cinema and is currently serving as the Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Along with films and politics, martial arts has been an important part of his life. His lifelong effort



has now been recognised globally. He received official entry into Kenjutsu, which is considered a rare honour. He was also awarded the Fifth Dan by the respected Japanese organisation Sogo Budo Kanri Kai. In another special achievement, he became the first Telugu person to be inducted into the Takeda Shingen Clan under Soke Muramatsu Sensei, an honour rarely given outside Japan. He was also honoured with the title Tiger of Martial Arts by the Golden Dragons organisation.

## Controversies Surrounding Parasakthi Ignite Wider Debate

MUMBAI  
Wakeup telangana

The recently released Tamil and Telugu film Parasakthi has found itself at the centre of multiple controversies, triggering intense debates across political, cultural and cinematic circles. While the film revisits a politically sensitive chapter of Tamil Nadu's history, the disputes surrounding it have once again raised questions about censorship, historical accuracy, political messaging and the increasingly commercial motivations driving big-ticket releases.

Even before its theatrical release, Parasakthi ran into trouble with the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) directing multiple cuts and modifications to dialogues and

visuals deemed politically provocative. Several dialogues were either gullotined or muted, and scenes with reference to sensitive historical events were modified, sparking criticism from filmmakers and free-speech advocates who accused the Censor Board of excessive interference. This episode has renewed calls for greater transparency and reform in the certification process.

Following its release, the film attracted political criticism over what detractors described as distortions of historical events. Certain political groups alleged that the narrative took creative liberties that could mislead audiences about real incidents and personalities. Demands were raised for clarifications, corrections

and public accountability from the filmmakers, with critics arguing that cinema dealing with history carries a responsibility to remain anchored in facts. Beyond censorship and political objections, Parasakthi has also become a flashpoint in a broader debate about the commercial strategies adopted by contemporary filmmakers. Critics point out that many directors and producers deliberately generate controversy and hype to maximise short-term revenue, especially by timing releases during long holiday weekends. The strategy, they argue, is aimed at ensuring packed theatres in the opening days, allowing producers to "make a killing" at the box office before public scrutiny of content.

## My Personality Is Intact, Says Rashmika Mandanna

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Rashmika Mandanna says she likes to do both hero centric and female centric movies. "I'll do all kinds of movies since I don't want to be typecast and doesn't believe in centric business," she says. She claimed that the script of her Bollywood movie Sikandar with Salman was changed. "It was something when it was narrated but went into changes at the time of release", she adds. She doesn't want to react to negativity in social media. "Nobody will listen



to my view point and people would believe want they want so I have restrained myself, she added.

In an interview with Telugu journalist Prema youtube

channel, she said that by giving her version will lead more arguments. "I do think about giving an answer to particular thing today but I develop after thought and then I hold myself back as one answer could lead to more questions. I am sorted in this issue," she informs. "I am a girl and actor which can't be changed. My friends and family know that my personality has not changed and that is enough. I have to just move on", she adds. She claimed that negativity is fetching money for some. "Negativity in me could be 10% genuine

while another 30 to 40% is false spread. Acting is my bread and butter, while for paparazzi they earn by clicking pictures of celebrities. Similarly, spreading negativity is also fetching money for them as some one is paying them. So let them do it and feed their families as they have chosen this job", she adds. She claimed that being elder she took care of her family after earning and now her 12 year old sister wants to help the family. "I said go ahead and do it," she smiled.

## RCB Register Fifth Straight Win, Ensure Top 3 Finish in WPL

MUMBAI  
Wakeup telangana

Gautami Naik struck a fine half-century to steer Royal Challengers Bengaluru to a 61-run win over Gujarat Giants and ensure a top-three finish in the Women's Premier League here on Monday. Unbeaten so far, RCB registered their fifth straight win in the tournament and became the first team to book a knock-out berth. Sent in to bat, table-toppers RCB didn't have the best of starts, losing Grace Harris and Georgia Voll inside the second over with the scoreboard reading just nine before Naik held the innings together to take RCB to a respectable 178 for six. Chasing, GG never got their acts together from



the word go, losing four wickets for 34 by the seventh over. Beth Mooney, Sophie Devine, Anushka Sharma and Kanika Ahuja departed early. Kshvee Gautam and Georgia Wareham too didn't help their side's cause. Skipper Ashleigh Gardner (54 off 43 balls) and Bharti Fulmali (14) tried to resurrect their innings but failed. Gardner struck five

boundaries and one six during her knock but it was not enough as GG finished at 117 for 8. Right-arm medium pacer Sayali Satghare continued her fine form and turned out to be the pick of the bowlers with figures of 3/21. She was ably supported by Nadine de Klerk (2/17). Earlier, skipper Smriti Mandhana (26 off 23 balls) and Naik then joined hands and

stitched together 60 runs for the third wicket to stabilise RCB's innings. The partnership was cut short by Ashleigh Gardner, who caught Mandhana plumb in front of the wicket following a successful review.

Naik (73 off 55 balls, 7x4s, 1x6) and Richa Ghosh (27 off 20 balls) then stitched 69 runs for the fourth wicket to take RCB forward. While Naik was the dominant player in the partnership, Ghosh used her long handle to great effect and smashed three sixes to compile 27 runs off 20 balls. Naik's run finally came to an end in the 18th over, castled by Gardner. Radha Yadav (17 off 8 balls) played short little cameo towards the end to propel RCB to the total.

## Bangladesh Given Ultimatum Over Refusal to Play WC Matches in India

NEW DELHI  
Wakeup telangana

Cricket's governing body has told Bangladesh to agree to play their matches at next month's T20 World Cup in India or risk being kicked out of the tournament, reports said Monday. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is refusing to play in India, citing security concerns, and have asked the governing International Cricket Council to shift their matches to co-hosts Sri Lanka. The BCB held talks in Dhaka at the weekend with ICC officials over the impasse, but no agreement was reached. "During the discussions, the BCB reiterated its formal request to the ICC to relocate Bangladesh's matches to Sri Lanka," a BCB statement said. The ICC have not officially



commented, but website Cricinfo and other Indian media reported on Monday that the deadline of Wednesday had been set for Dhaka to make a decision. ICC sources have told AFP that Bangladesh could be replaced by Scotland, who are the highest-ranked team who did not qualify for the World Cup.

The T20 World Cup begins on February 7 with Bangladesh in England's Group C and scheduled to play all of their group

matches in Kolkata and Mumbai. One suggestion was for Bangladesh to swap with Group B's Ireland, whose matches are in Sri Lanka. "Among other points, the possibility of moving Bangladesh to a different group as a means of facilitating the matter with minimum logistical adjustments was discussed," said the BCB.

Pakistan will play all their matches in Colombo under an ICC agreement with India to

play at neutral venues in global or regional tournaments. The row erupted on January 3, when the IPL's Kolkata Knight Riders were ordered by India's cricket board to drop Bangladesh fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman, sparking fury in Dhaka. Political relations between India and Bangladesh soured after a mass uprising in Dhaka in 2024 toppled then-prime minister Sheikh Hasina, a close ally of New Delhi. India's foreign ministry last month condemned what it called "unremitting hostility against minorities" in Muslim-majority Bangladesh. Bangladesh's interim leader, Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus, has accused India of exaggerating the scale of the violence.

## Prajavani complaints must be resolved quickly: GHMC Commissioner

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner RV Karnan, on Monday, January 19, directed officials to swiftly resolve complaints and requests submitted during the public hearing programme Prajavani. Addressing a public meeting, Karnan instructed officials to remain attentive and avoid delays in grievance redressal, adding that heads of different departments must ensure issues are resolved so petitioners do not have to return repeatedly. As many as 41 requests and complaints were received during the public hearing held at the GHMC headquarters, and a total of 168 complaints were received in the 12 zones of the GHMC. Out of these, 53 were received in the Shamshabad zone, 32 in the Malkajgiri zone office, 23 in the Qutbullapur zone office, 17 in the Kukatpally zone office, 11 in the Serilingampally zone office, eight in the LB Nagar zone office, seven in the Rajendranagar zone office, and two complaints were received in the Charminar zone office.

## CNG crisis hits Hyderabad, affects auto, cab driver operations

Long queues of cars and autorickshaws began lining up in Hyderabad on Monday, January 19, with compressed natural gas (CNG) being in short supply in the city, severely affecting auto and cab driver operations due to the hours-long wait. The situation is likely to remain the same on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 20 and 21, potentially leading to loss of daily income, increased congestion and extreme mental stress, Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Union (TGPWU) president Shaik Salaudhin said in a statement on Monday. Salaudhin alleged that CNG stations are illegally charging an extra Rs 10 per vehicle for each refill, saying this was unacceptable and amounted to "exploitation of workers who are already struggling due to fuel shortages." This situation clearly shows poor planning, inadequate supply and a lack of monitoring by the concerned authorities, he said. The TGPWU founding president called on the Telangana Civil Supplies Department and Legal Metrology Department to "urgently" step in to ensure adequate CNG stock and put a stop on the illegal extra charges. Salaudhin urged authorities to take strict and called for immediate action against the CNG operators involved in the "illegal practice." "Gig and platform workers cannot be made to suffer due to administrative failures. We demand immediate action," he added. The CNG crisis adds to the growing challenges faced by the workers' unions in the wake of the nationwide protests, worsening their overall predicament. Gig and platform workers on December 24, 2025, had announced a two-day, all-India strike on Christmas (December 25) and New Year's Eve (December 31), two of the busiest days of the year for delivery workers, to protest against worsening work conditions.

## ₹12 Crore Development Works Launched at Dargah Hazrat Jahangir Peeran (RA)

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In a major boost to infrastructure and pilgrim amenities, development works worth nearly ₹12 crore were launched at the historic Dargah of Hazrat Jahangir Peeran (RA) in Ranga Reddy district, ahead of the annual Urs celebrations. Telangana State Waqf Board Chairman Syed Azmathullah Hussaini, along with Shadnagar MLA K. Shankariah, visited the Dargah and laid the foundation stone for the proposed projects. The large-scale development plan aims to improve facilities for devotees and address long-standing infrastructure issues at the shrine, which attracts thousands



of pilgrims during Urs and other religious occasions. Key components of the project include the construction of a dedicated bus stand and a bypass road to ease traffic congestion and ensure smoother movement of devotees. Other major works planned under the project include the construction of a Samakhana (Langar Hall) to accommodate pilgrims, expansion of the mosque and

Dargah office, strengthening of drainage systems to prevent waterlogging, and the establishment of a police outpost within the Dargah premises to enhance security and crowd management. The State government has initially sanctioned ₹1.50 crore for the commencement of these development activities, with further funds expected to be released in a phased manner as the

works progress. Addressing the gathering, Syed Azmathullah Hussaini said the Waqf Board was committed to preserving the spiritual heritage of historic Dargahs while simultaneously upgrading infrastructure to meet modern needs. He stated that the proposed works would significantly improve cleanliness, safety, accessibility, and overall facilities for devotees, particularly during the Urs. Local officials and Dargah representatives welcomed the initiative, expressing hope that the comprehensive development would greatly benefit pilgrims and strengthen the prominence of the shrine in the region.

## Deal with sensitivity in women's cases, Hyderabad ACP tells cops

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Stressing on the need for sensitivity in dealing with women-related cases and the need for swift legal action, Additional Commissioner of Police (Crimes and SIT) M Srinivas on Monday, January 19, reviewed the functioning of the Women Safety Wing (WSW) of the Hyderabad Police. The review meeting, held at the Women Safety Wing office in Hyderabad, was attended by officers of the rank of sub-inspector and above from the city's seven women police stations, SHE Teams, Bharosa Centres, the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and the Juvenile Bureau Unit, a press release said. The ACP stressed that victims approaching the police must be treated with

empathy and patience, underlining that a supportive response at the first point of contact often determines the course of a case. He also directed officers to give priority to the execution of non-bailable warrants, calling for strict adherence to legal procedures. With the All India Industrial Exhibition currently underway at Nampally, Srinivas asked SHE Teams to remain alert and visible at the venue to deter offences against women and ensure a safe environment for visitors. He also reviewed the pendency of cases and instructed officers to step up efforts for their timely disposal so that victims are not made to wait for justice. Reiterating the police department's commitment to women's safety in the city.

## 1,000 victims reach out to cybercrime helpline in 10 days

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

As many as 1,000 people have reached out to C-Mitra – the virtual helpdesk by the Hyderabad Police to expedite support to cybercrime victims – since 10 days of its launch, with over 100 first information reports (FIR) being filed. Launched on January 9 by Hyderabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar, the initiative, a first-of-its-kind measure in the country, streamlines the com-

plaint process. According to officials, the C-Mitra team has been making an average of 100 calls every day to victims to understand their grievances, a press note from the agency said on Monday, January 19.

When a victim reports a cybercrime on the 1930 helpline or the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, the C-Mitra team contacts them to gather details. Leveraging artificial intelligence (AI), the team prepares a legally sound complaint draft,



which is sent to the victim on WhatsApp or email. Victims are then required to print, sign and send the copy by post or courier to the Basheerbagh Cyber Crime Station.

"Once the signed copy is received, the FIR is registered immediately without delay, and a copy is sent directly to the victim's mobile phone," an official said. This system eliminates the need for victims to wait for hours at police stations, the release said, adding that the Cyber Crime wing constituted a special 24-member team for the purpose. "Usually, citizens are apprehensive about visiting a police station. But when we call them and assure them of justice, the con-

fidence in their voice is palpable," said Deekshita, a woman constable associated with the team. Constable Prithvika said the initiative was a "digital revolution." "In the past, victims struggled with drafting complaints and understanding legal sections. C-Mitra has resolved those issues. Our ultimate goal is to work towards a future where cybercrime is eradicated from Hyderabad and the need for C-Mitra ceases to exist," she said.

## Puranapul temple vandalism: 11 more arrested for damaging shrine

The Kamatipura Police in Hyderabad on Monday, January 19, arrested 11 people accused in the Puranapul communal violence that took place last week. While the Hyderabad Police earlier took into custody the main suspect, the 11 accused were arrested for raising provocative and communal slogans and causing damage to property. The genesis of the event traces back to January 15, when one person entered the Puranapul Darwaza Mysamma temple and partially damaged a flexi banner and a plaster of Paris (POP) idol inside it. In retaliation, others damaged a chilla (Muslim shrine) nearby. Based on a complaint, the police registered a case. When police resorted to a lathi charge, the mob pelted stones at the police, leading to at least 10 policemen and civilians getting injured in the violence. Later, the Rajendranagar Police released a statement clarifying that the offender did not enter the premises of Mysamma temple and news about its main idol being found damaged was untrue. They said that only the flexi and the idol were partially damaged, and idols in the sanctum sanctorum (Garbha Gudi) were safe. According to the police, based on closed circuit television (CCTV) footage and evidence, the following people were identified and arrested: Choukat Shanker Bolu, Choukat Abhishek, Kaliwale Kushal Singh, Andhumalla Varun, Andhumalla Arun, Choukat Raman, Kaliwala Bhumes, Esliwala Ganesh, Jaggila Sandeep, Damdi Vishal Singh and Kali Manju.

## Rs 5-Cr For Restoration Of 4 Buddhist Sites

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In a bid to improve facilities and attract more visitors, the Heritage department has launched conservation and restoration works at four Buddhist sites in Telangana under the first phase of a ₹5-crore project funded by Yadadri Thermal Power Corporation. The sites selected are Dhulikatta in Peddapalli district, Nelakondapally in

Khammam district, and Phanigiri and Gajula Banda in Suryapet district. At Dhulikatta, the works include conservation of the Vihara complex, Stupa and other structures. At Nelakondapally, the project covers the Mahastupa, Viharas and the development of basic amenities and signages. Similarly, conservation of the Mahastupa, Chaityagriha, Vihara complex and congrega-

tion hall, along with provision of basic facilities, is being taken up at Phanigiri. At Gajula Banda, the project involves clearing the premises, exposing Buddhist structures and conserving the Mahastupa and Viharas. Officials said the structures had been deteriorating over time and the conservation efforts would help protect them, create awareness and draw more visitors.

## TGSRTC Staff Take Road Safety Vow

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Marking National Safety Month, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC), Hyderabad Region, has launched a new initiative titled 'Road Safety Pledge' for its employees. On Monday, drivers, conductors, mechanical staff, supervisors and office staff collectively pledged to strictly follow



traffic rules while commuting from their residences to depots and while returning home after duty. The pledge emphasized compulsory helmet use for two-wheeler riders, obe-

dience to traffic signals, lane discipline and adherence to all traffic regulations. TGSRTC officials said the initiative commits employees to act as role models in road safety, create awareness among the public and actively contribute to preventing road accidents. The programme aims to safeguard not only the personal safety of employees but also the lives of other road users.

## Telangana Guv to inaugurate 16th National Voters' Day in Hyderabad

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma will inaugurate the 16th National Voters' Day celebrations in Hyderabad on Sunday, January 25, State Chief Electoral Officer C Sudarshan Reddy said on Monday, January 19. Addressing the media before the event, Reddy said that the function will be held at the Ravindra Bharathi Auditorium in Lakdikapul with the theme "My Vote – I am India (mein Bharat hu)." He added that the day was being observed to spread voter awareness, specifically among first-time voters and young electors, and to reinforce the overall democratic participation across the state. The Telangana State Election Commissioner



Rani Kumudini would also be attending the programme as a guest of honour, Reddy said. "This year's focus is on nurturing a vigilant, observant and truthful elector and deepening citizens' engagement with the electoral process," said Reddy. The National Voters' Day is celebrated every year on January 25 to mark the foundation of the Election Commission of India (ECI) and to encourage the country's voters to actively participate in its electoral process.

## BRS Leader Anand Goud Attacked in Goshamahal

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BRS Goshamahal leader Anand Goud lodged a police complaint on Sunday alleging that he was attacked while supervising public works in the Goshamahal constituency. Later, addressing the media, he condemned the incident as an act of political rowdiness and asserted that such intimidation would not deter him from public service. Anand Goud stated that for the past 35 years he has been actively involved in public service in Maharaj Ganj and Goshamahal, irrespective of party affiliations. He said that whenever residents approach him with issues related to electricity,



drinking water, roads, or other civic amenities, he personally visits the locations along with concerned officials to ensure timely resolution. He explained that on Sunday morning, following a long-pending public complaint in the Machhli Market area, he was overseeing official work along with government officials. At that time, supporters of Begum Bazar BJP corporator Shankar Yadav allegedly arrived at the spot and began verbally abusing him. According to Anand Goud, soon

thereafter, Shankar Yadav himself, along with BJP leader Raja Singh's personal assistant Krishna and others, reached the location, used foul language, physically assaulted him causing injuries, and attempted to threaten and intimidate him. He said that obstructing government work and indulging in violence was a gross violation of democratic principles and the rule of law. Anand Goud made it clear that he would not succumb to threats and would continue to serve

the people of Goshamahal with unwavering commitment. He further alleged that instead of addressing public grievances, certain BJP leaders and corporators were encouraging a culture of rowdy politics, which he termed highly condemnable. He demanded strict legal action against Shankar Yadav, Krishna, and others involved in the incident to prevent such occurrences in the future. In conclusion, Anand Goud appealed to the Hyderabad Police Commissioner to take serious note of the incident, ensure his safety as well as that of the public, and uphold the supremacy of law in the Goshamahal area.

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