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Telangana Will Be Back In SC Next Week to Stop AP, Says Uttam: P8

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Brief Insights

Switzerland to Freeze Any Maduro Assets With Immediate Effect

The Swiss government said Monday that it had decided to freeze any assets held in Switzerland by the deposed Venezuelan president Nicolas Maduro or his associates "with immediate effect". Bern said it had reached its decision after Maduro was seized in Caracas in a shock US military operation, and brought to New York to face narco-trafficking charges. Describing the situation as "volatile", the Swiss government said in a statement that it wanted "to ensure that any illicitly acquired assets cannot be transferred out of Switzerland in the current situation". "It has therefore decided, as a precautionary measure, to freeze any assets held in Switzerland by Mr Maduro and other persons associated with him," it said. "The asset freeze comes into force today with immediate effect and will remain valid for four years until further notice." The government added that "should future legal proceedings reveal that the funds were illicitly ac-

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SC refuses bail to Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam in Delhi riots case

Activists Gulfisha Fatima, Meeran Haider, Shifa Ur Rehman, Mohd. Saleem Khan and Shadab Ahmad have been given bail

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Monday refused bail to activists Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam in the 2020 Delhi riots conspiracy case but granted it to five others, citing "hierarchy of participation" and saying all accused in the case do not stand on the same footing.

There was a prima facie case against Khalid and Imam under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, a bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N V Anjaria said. While the two will remain in jail, activists Gulfisha Fatima, Meeran Haider, Shifa Ur Rehman, Mohd. Saleem Khan and Shadab Ahmad have been given bail.

According to the court, delay in trial does not operate as a "trump card" which automatically displaces statutory safeguards.



"All the appellants do not stand on equal footing as regards culpability. The hierarchy of participation emerging from the prosecutions case requires the court to examine each application individually," the bench said, adding that the roles attributed to them are different. "This court is satisfied that the prosecution material disclosed a prima facie allegation against the appellants Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam... This stage of proceedings does not justify their enlargement on bail," the apex court said.

On December 10, the top court reserved its verdict on separate pleas of the accused after hearing arguments from Solicitor General Tushar Mehta and Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing for Delhi Police, and senior advocates Kapil Sibal, Abhishek Singhvi, Siddhartha Dave, Salman Khurshid and Sidharth Luthra, appearing for the accused.

The February 2020 riots in northeast Delhi left 53 people dead and more than 700 injured. Strongly opposing the bail pleas, Delhi Police said

the riots were not spontaneous but an orchestrated, pre-planned and well-designed attack on India's sovereignty.

Raju contended that all the participants are liable for each other's acts in a conspiracy. Acts of one conspirator can be attributed to others. Imam's speeches can be attributed to Umar Khalid. And Imam's case will be considered as evidence against the others, he told the bench, which conducted hearings on the bail pleas on multiple days.

The additional solicitor general argued that Khalid deliberately planned to leave Delhi before the riots as he wanted to deflect responsibility. Seeking bail, Imam expressed anguish before the apex court for being labelled a "dangerous intellectual terrorist" without a full-fledged trial or a single conviction.

Massive Fire Erupts After Gas Leak From ONGC Rig

Firefighters and police personnel joined the operations to bring the situation under control.

AMALAPURAM
Wakeup telangana

Panic gripped Irusumanda village of Malkipuram mandal in Dr. BR Ambedkar Konaseema district on Monday afternoon after a massive fire broke out at the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's (ONGC) well caused by a pipeline leakage. There were no reports of death or injury, according to preliminary information. The sudden blaze forced villagers to flee for safety as thick gas spread into the village like dense fog, and smoke engulfed the area. According to preliminary information, when the work-over rig operations were underway, a large volume of gas mixed with crude oil reportedly gushed out with force and ignited, causing the fire. The blaze, which went up to 100 feet high, destroyed hundreds



of coconut trees in the vicinity. Locals informed the district officials, and the Mandal Tehsildar rushed to the site and inspected the affected area. ONGC officials reached the site to assess the situation and analyse the cause of the incident. The Konaseema district administration is also attending to the incident and coordinating firefighting and safety measures at the site.

Officials have evacuated villagers of the Irusumanda village and are informing the locals situated within a five-kilometre range to leave their homes

as a precautionary measure. Vasamsetti Subhash, Minister of Labour, Factories, Boilers, and Insurance Medical Services, inquired about the incident and held discussions with the district collector and ONGC representatives. He directed officials to ensure the fire was contained swiftly to prevent further inconvenience and danger to the public. Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu inquired about the gas leakage and spoke to Ministers Atchannaidu and Vasamsetti Subhash, along with senior officials, to review the situation.

On 15th Parole, Gurmeet Ram Rahim Walks Out of Prison



Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, serving a 20-year jail term for raping two of his disciples, walked out of the Sunaria jail in Rohtak on Monday after he was granted a 40-day parole -- the 15th time since his conviction in 2017. Singh will stay at his Sirda-headquartered Dera during the 40-day period, said Dera spokesperson and advocate Jitender Khurana. Singh and three others were also convicted in 2019 for the murder of a journalist more than 16 years ago. He last stepped out of prison on a 40-day parole in August 2025. He was granted a 21-day furlough in April 2025 and a 30-day parole in January 2025, ahead of the February 5 Delhi assembly polls. Similarly, he walked out of prison on a 20-day parole on October 1, 2024, days before the October 5 Haryana assembly polls.

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Temperatures set to dip further as fog blankets Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

While extensive fog cover is expected to continue across Hyderabad and districts of Telangana, reports indicate that temperatures are likely to drop by a degree or two in the coming few days.

According to recent national forecasts from the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), New Delhi, there has been a transition in wind patterns. As a result, a gradual fall in minimum temperatures by 2 degree C to 4 degree C is forecast over Central India, which includes the northern borders of Telangana, over the next 3 to 4 days. According to IMD New Delhi, the reason for the sudden change is the movement of cold northerly and north-westerly winds following the passage of a western disturbance in the north. Minimum temperatures

Dense fog continues to blanket Hyderabad and several districts of Telangana as the IMD forecasts a further drop in minimum temperatures over the next few days, with commuters advised to exercise caution on roads and monitor flight schedules.

in districts that have borne the brunt of the cold wave this winter season, including Adilabad, Kumram Bheem Asifabad, Sangareddy and Medak, are expected to witness a further drop between 3 degree Celsius and 5 degree Celsius. Under its influence, Hyderabad and its surrounding regions are also expected to witness chillier weather conditions in the coming days. Meanwhile, in the light of dense fog, the IMD Hyderabad authorities have urged commuters to exercise extreme caution. Motorists, particularly on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) and national highways, are advised to use low-beam headlights and fog lamps.

Kavitha Announces New Political Party, Breaks Down in Council

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In an emotional address to the Telangana Legislative Council on Monday, MLC K. Kavitha announced that her organisation, Telangana Jagruthi, will be transformed into a full-fledged political party to contest the forthcoming elections. Visibly moved, Kavitha told the House that she had faced "suppression of personal free-

dom" and "deep humiliation" within her former party, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi. She said she had discharged every responsibility assigned to her with commitment, but was targeted when she began questioning the party's functioning. "If there is no internal democracy within a party, how can it protect democracy in the state?" she asked.

Launching a sharp attack



on the BRS leadership, Kavitha alleged that the party had turned into a "political rehabilitation centre for betrayers of the Telangana movement." She further claimed that she was left to fend for

herself when central agencies initiated action against her, stating that the Bharatiya Janata Party acted out of political vendetta against her father, K. Chandrashekar Rao, while her own party failed to stand by her.

Targeting the previous state government, Kavitha levelled sweeping corruption allegations, saying irregularities had marred projects ranging from the Martyrs' Memorial to

Collectorate buildings. Citing the Siddipet Collectorate, she claimed it was washed away in a single spell of rain, calling it emblematic of poor construction and governance. She also accused the BRS regime of abandoning the core objectives of the Telangana movement — Neellu, Nidhulu, Niyamaku (water, funds and jobs) — and of failing to honour martyrs or support activists.

Man Held After Attack on U.S. Vice President Home

WASHINGTON
Wakeup telangana

A man was taken into custody early Monday after an overnight incident at the Cincinnati residence of U.S. Vice President JD Vance, in which several windows were broken. Authorities confirmed that no injuries were reported and the Vice President and his family were not present at the time. According

to the U.S. Secret Service, agents protecting the home in the East Walnut Hills neighbourhood noticed a suspicious individual near the property shortly after midnight and observed damage to the windows. Local media photographs showed shattered glass at the residence.

The Secret Service immediately alerted the Cincinnati

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SC Seeks Centre's Decision on EPF Wage Ceiling in 4 Months

Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), which administers social security schemes for employees, currently excludes from coverage those whose wages exceed Rs 15,000 per month

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Centre to consider taking a decision within four months on the revision of wage ceiling for the Employees Provident Fund Scheme (EPFO) which has not been revised in the last 11 years. A bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and A S Chandurkar passed the

order on a plea filed by activist Naveen Prakash Nautiyal claiming that the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), which administers social security schemes for employees, currently excludes from coverage those whose wages exceed Rs 15,000 per month.

Advocates Pranav Sachdeva and Neha Rathi, appearing for the petitioner,



said the wage revision has not taken place in over a decade despite the fact that the minimum wage notified by the central government and by var-

ious states is more than the EPFO wage ceiling of Rs 15,000 per month. Sachdeva said this has deprived the majority of workers of the benefits and protection of the EPFO scheme, which is essentially a social welfare scheme.

The petitioner has submitted that those employees who earn more than the wage ceiling are excluded from availing the

EPFO scheme. The bench disposed of the plea filed by Nautiyal and asked him to make a representation to the central government within two weeks along with a copy of the order which will be decided by the central government within four months. Nautiyal's plea said it is seeking enforcement of fundamental rights under Articles 14

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ESTD-1960.

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aage

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

Assembly Clears GST, Earth Sciences Varsity Bills

House grants legal status to Earth Sciences University, aligns GST law with Centre

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Assembly on Monday approved two key legislations — the Telangana Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2026, conferring legal status on the Dr Manmohan Singh Earth Sciences University, and the Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to align State law with Central provisions. Excise and Prohibition Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, who piloted the GST Amendment Bill, pegged the State's loss under GST 2.0 at Rs 7,000 crore. Replying to MIM floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi, he said the State GST



unit had outperformed the Central unit with 91 per cent tax filings against 88 per cent. On enforcement, he clarified that the Centre's guidelines did not permit measures such as installing CCTV cameras to monitor compliance.

The minister pointed out that Telangana's contribution to the Central pool was Rs 2.02 lakh crore, of which it received back only Rs 55,630 crore. He highlighted that southern States were being deprived of funds, citing Karnataka's contribution of Rs 9.82 lakh crore against a return of Rs 1.56 lakh crore. Explaining the amendments, the minister said a new Section 74A had been inserted to allow reclassification of assessment proceedings between fraud and non-fraud cases, as warranted by facts. He added that, in line with a Supreme Court ruling, extra neutral alcohol used in liquor manufacture had been excluded from GST through an

amendment to Section 9. Health Minister Damodara Rajanarsimha introduced the Universities Amendment Bill to establish the Dr Manmohan Singh Earth Sciences University. He announced that Rs 500 crore would be allocated over the next two years for its development, with 310 acres earmarked for expansion. "The Singareni mines, Godavari river and forest wealth of Kothagudem will serve as a 'living laboratory' for students," he said. The university, inaugurated by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy in December 2025, has been named after Dr Manmohan Singh as a tribute to his services, Mr. Rajanarsimha added.

CCTV to monitor sand quarries, curb illegal transport: Collector

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Collector Pamela Satpathy and Commissioner of Police Gautham instructed TGMDC officials to install CCTV cameras at sand quarries to record the loading and weighing of sand. Cameras should also be established in record rooms wherein the details of sand lorries are being recorded. So that illegal transportation of sand would be controlled. The collector along with Commissioner of Police Gautham visited sand quarries, weighing and check posts in Challur of Veenavanka mandal and Pachunur of Manakondur mandal on Monday evening.

They personally examined loading and weighing of sand at Challur TGMDC sand quarry and enquired details by interacting with staff. Earlier, they examined waybills and DDs at Pachunur checkpost. Instructing TGMDC staff to strictly follow government norms while loading sand in lorries, they warned to take serious action if anybody shows negligence in the issue. They instructed the staff to weigh lorries



before and after loading of sand. Moreover, the entry and exit details of each and every lorry engaged in sand transportation must be uploaded in the sand audit App. There was no question of excusing staff if any irregularities took place. Drivers should cover sand lorries with tarpaulins while transporting sand thus that latter would not fell on the road.

Sand should be loaded according to DDs paid by customers, they instructed and warned to register cases if any mistakes were done. Stating that staff of sand quarries should be alert, they said that the district administration would take all steps to check illegal transportation and illegal storage of sand.

BRS Women leaders Slams Kavitha Over Remarks on KCR, BRS

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former MLA Sunitha on Monday launched a sharp attack on BRS MLC K. Kavitha at Telangana Bhavan, accusing her of weakening the party and hurting the sentiments of Telangana activists by raising personal grievances instead of public issues. Sunitha alleged that attempts were being made to portray BRS president KCR as a "puppet," warning that such narratives were unacceptable and disrespectful to the leader who played a central role in the formation of Telangana. She said party cadres were being orchestrated from behind the scenes and cautioned against testing the patience of BRS workers. Questioning Kavitha's political conduct, Sunitha pointed out contradictions in her decisions, including



resigning from the MLC post four months ago but continuing in office, and attending the Legislative Council despite the party boycotting the Assembly. She also questioned why issues related to Anganwadi workers and Aayas were not raised in the Council, despite claims of meeting such groups regularly. Referring to Kavitha's political rise, Sunitha stated that after losing the MP election, she was immediately accommodated as an MLC, replacing senior leader Vinod Kumar. She rejected allegations of lack of internal democracy in BRS, arguing that Kavitha herself held significant influence and had distributed party posts during her tenure. Sunitha

recalled the Telangana movement, stating that many leaders, including Gutta Sukhender Reddy, actively participated from the beginning, while Kavitha joined later. She emphasized that opportunities given to Kavitha as MP and MLC were based on her work within the party. The former MLA also criticized Kavitha for speaking on personal matters in the Legislative Council, asserting that the forum should be used to raise public issues. She alleged that Kavitha's statements during the liquor case and social media posts praising the BJP caused damage to the party and hurt minority sentiments.

Annual Day Celebrations at Jhansi Shanti Niketan School

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Jhansi Shanti Niketan School, Jambagh, celebrated its Annual Day with great enthusiasm at Ashok Function Hall, Jambagh. The programme was graced by former Haryana Governor Sri Bandaru Dattatreya Ji as the Chief Guest, adding prestige to the occasion. Sri Rakesh Jaiswal, Corporator of Jambagh Di-



vision, attended as a special guest and appreciated the school's efforts in promoting quality education and moral values. Ad-

ressing the gathering, he assured continued support for educational initiatives and community development. Students captivated the audience with colourful cultural performances, including dances and skits. The event, well organised by Sri Shivkumar Sharada Bobbili Ji, concluded on a joyful note, reflecting the school's commitment to holistic student development.

Pankaj Agrawal Wins VP Post in Hyderabad Silk Merchants Polls



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Pankaj Kumar Agrawal secured a decisive victory for the Vice President position in the Hyderabad Wholesale

Art Silk Cloth Merchants Association elections. He was felicitated by Chetan Agrawal and Anoop Agrawal in recognition of his achievement.

CC cameras inaugurated at Kethana Avenue

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Kethana Avenue Residents Welfare Association (RWA), Fathullaguda, has successfully inaugurated newly installed Closed-Circuit (CC) cameras in the colony, marking an important step towards strengthening public safety and security. The CC cameras were inaugurated by Nagole

Corporator Chintala Aruna in the presence of Nagole Circle Inspector Maqbool Jani, and Chintala Surender Yadav, along with office bearers of the Kethana Avenue RWA, colony residents, and members of the Seervi Samaj. The proactive efforts of Kethana Avenue Residents Welfare Association in prioritizing the safety and security of the residents were appre-

ciated and it was emphasized that the installation of CC cameras would help in crime prevention, monitoring anti-social activities, and improving coordination with the police department. A major portion of the cost for the CC cameras was borne by the residents of Kethana Avenue, Fathullaguda, with additional support provided through corporator funds.

Traffic Home Guards Honoured for Pigeon Rescue



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Two Home Guards of the Begumpet traffic police were felicitated on National Bird Day for rescuing a pigeon trapped on an advertising hoarding at the Bowenpally crossroads, an incident that posed a threat to both the bird and traffic movement. Home Guards S. Gopal (HG 3017) and Md. Afsar (HG 7281) responded promptly after noticing the distressed pigeon. While Gopal climbed the hoarding to free the bird, Afsar managed traffic

from below to ensure public safety.

The Home Guards were felicitated by G. Shankar Raju, ACP, Traffic-I, North Zone, along with G. Janaki Ramulu, additional inspector of police, Begumpet traffic police station. Shankar Raju said a "reward roll" would be submitted to higher authorities to recognise and encourage such exemplary service. Officials said the act reinforced the message that traffic discipline extends beyond road safety to protecting all lives on the road, including birds.

Dasoju Flags Secunderabad's Omission in GHMC Reorganisation Talk

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS MLC Dr Sravan Dasoju raised concerns in the Legislative Council questioned the absence of the name of Secunderabad in the discussions around a possible reorganisation of the GHMC. Dr Dasoju said he had heard that the city could be reorganised into units named Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Malkajgiri. He pointed out that Secunderabad, a city with more than 200 years of history, did not figure in these discussions. While there had been no formal announcement by the government, he noted, the reports and discussions themselves were worrying. Dr Dasoju said that



just because Chief Minister Revanth Reddy once represented the Malkajgiri Lok Sabha constituency, the city could not be reorganised or named around that identity. He appealed to the government to protect the history and identity of Secunderabad and ensure it was not erased through administrative restructuring. Later, Dr Dasoju took to X to elaborate on his concerns. In his post, he said He noted that Secunderabad was not merely a postal code or

a bureaucratic block on a map. Secunderabad, founded in 1806, was not merely an administrative unit but a city with a distinct culture and civic identity. He warned against attempts to dilute or remove that identity in the name of reorganisation. He also said decisions affecting historic cities should not be taken without public discussion or consultation.

Dr Dasoju added that Secunderabad belonged to its people and generations that built it, and any move affecting its identity would face opposition. "Attempting to wipe out such a historic city under the guise of 'reorganization' is nothing short of cultural vandalism," he added.

Vivekananda Accuses Revanth Reddy of Misleading Assembly, Seeks Privilege Motion

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS Assembly Whip K.P. Vivekananda on Monday launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the Congress government, accusing them of misleading the Assembly and deceiving the people of Telangana. Addressing a press meet at the Assembly Media Point, Vivekananda said the Congress came to power on a "foundation of lies" and continues to run the government by betraying public trust. He alleged that the Chief Minister has repeatedly spoken falsehoods on the floor of the Assembly and claimed that people are no longer in a position to believe Revanth Reddy's statements. Vivekananda said the Chief Minister even swore on gods during discussions on the Palamuru and Rangareddy irrigation projects, which



he termed as acts of deception that further eroded public confidence.

Referring to irrigation issues, the BRS leader accused Revanth Reddy of lying through a Power-Point presentation in the Assembly, particularly on the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation project. He asserted that Harish Rao had clearly explained who actually stopped the project, contradicting the Chief Minister's claims. Vivekananda also alleged that the Assembly was misled on matters discussed in the Apex Council and on Krishna river water sharing, creating an impression that a permanent agreement had been reached. Stating that the Chief

Minister was "caught red-handed" for speaking lies, Vivekananda said BRS had moved a privilege motion against Revanth Reddy and urged the Speaker to accept it. He demanded that the Chief Minister apologise to the people for misleading the House.

Vivekananda further accused the Congress of suppressing the opposition by denying BRS members the microphone and alleged that the Assembly had been reduced to a "Kaurava assembly." He criticised the government for allegedly running Zero Hour for four hours and claimed that slinging mud at BRS had become the Congress agenda.

He concluded by asserting that the Congress was trampling on Telangana's rights and clarified that women leaders had already responded to the issue raised by Kavitha in the Legislative Council.

IIT Hyderabad hosts first Inter-IIT undergraduate innovation meet



Undergraduate students from Indian Institutes of Technology across the country showcased their innovations during the first-ever Inter-IIT Undergraduate Innovation Meet, titled "Reimagining Innovation in Science and Engineering @ IIT", organised at the IIT Hyderabad campus at Kandli in Sangareddy district on Saturday. At least 1,000 student innovators, pursuing diverse undergraduate courses across various IITs, displayed their projects at the event. Students from IIT (BHU) Varanasi won the first prize for developing a handheld micro-imaging device. Arkya Jyothi Ghosh and Supratim Mahapatra, fourth-year B. Tech students from IIT (BHU) Varanasi, received a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh for their innovation. Multiple cash prizes were also awarded to other innovators. Special Chief Secretary to the Telangana government and Chairman of the Board of Governors of IIT Hyderabad BVR Mohan Reddy, Director of IIT Hyderabad BS Murty, and several other dignitaries participated in the programme.

SC Dismissed State's Petition Against T. Harish Rao

Based on a complaint filed by Siddipet-based real estate businessman Chakradhar Goud in 2024, the Panjagutta police had registered a case, alleging illegal tapping of his phone by Harish Rao and Radhakishan Rao.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant relief to BRS senior leader T. Harish Rao, the Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a special leave petition filed by the Telangana government concerning a phone-tapping case registered against him by the Panjagutta police. The apex court bench, comprising Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan, declined to interfere with the Telangana High Court's earlier order, which had quashed the FIR against Harish Rao and former DCP Radhakishan Rao.

The case originated from a 2024 complaint filed by Siddipet-based real estate businessman Chakradhar Goud, alleging that Harish Rao and Radhakishan Rao had illegally tapped his phone. Following the complaint, Panjagutta police registered a case against the two. Harish Rao and Rad-



hakishan Rao approached the Telangana High Court, seeking the quashing of the FIR.

In March 2024, the High Court ruled in their favor, stating that there was no evidence linking them to the alleged offence. Unsatisfied, the complainant challenged the High Court order in the Supreme Court, which dismissed the appeal. Subsequently, the Telangana government moved the Supreme Court again on June 18, arguing that the investigation was ongoing and that Harish Rao needed to be

questioned in connection with the case.

However, the apex court bench found no justification to reopen the matter, noting the High Court's detailed and reasoned findings. The court observed that a similar special leave petition filed earlier by Chakradhar Goud, who is also a Congress leader, had already been dismissed. The bench questioned how the state could seek a different outcome in proceedings arising from the same allegations, emphasizing that police authorities could not expect two contra-

dictory verdicts on identical charges.

Represented by senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, the Telangana government argued that Harish Rao had allegedly ordered the phone tapping through Radhakishan Rao and requested permission to continue the investigation. The Supreme Court bench, however, refused to entertain the request, stating that there was no fresh material that warranted intervention. It also rejected the state's plea to reconsider specific portions of the High Court judgment.

With this decision, the Supreme Court has effectively upheld the High Court's earlier order, bringing closure to a case that had political and legal implications in Telangana. The ruling reinforces the principle that once a thoroughly reasoned judgment is delivered by a high court, higher courts will be reluctant to reopen matters without new evidence.

Haritha IVF & Fertility Centre Inaugurated at KPHB; Free Consultations Announced

State-of-the-art fertility centre launched at KPHB, offering advanced IVF services and free consultations for couples.



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Haritha Hospitals on Monday inaugurated its state-of-the-art Haritha IVF & Fertility Centre at KPHB Phase 1, strengthening access to advanced reproductive healthcare in the city. The centre was inaugurated by Kukatpally MLA Madhavaram Krishna Rao along with KPHB Corporator Sirisha Babu Rao, in the presence of several medical and social dignitaries. As part of the launch, the hospital announced a Free Consultation Drive for couples aspiring to become parents, offering expert medical

guidance and preliminary diagnostic support at no cost. The newly opened facility, themed "A Celebration of Hope & New Beginnings," functions under the hospital's Complete Woman and Child Care initiative. It features a modern embryology laboratory and a specialized medical team focused on ethical practices and improved success rates in fertility treatments.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Haritha Shava and Dr. Upender Shava said the centre aims to make advanced IVF and fertility services affordable and accessible to a wider section of society. "Our

objective is to bridge the gap between hope and parenthood through high-quality, patient-centric fertility solutions," Dr. Haritha Shava said.

The inauguration event was attended by distinguished guests including FOGSI President Dr. Shantakumari, Padma Shri awardee Dr. Manjula Anagani, IMA KPHB President Dr. Chandra Mohan, former IRS Chief Public Relations Officer Panabaka Krishnaiah, ACP Vijayawada K. Prakash Rao, Pastor K. Jyoti Kishore of JCNM Ministries, and Y. Angel Devi Guru of Almighty Ministry.

Dr. Srirangam Satyam Emphasises Eye Care at Free Eye Camp in Fathenagar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

PCC Member and TPCC Official Spokesperson Dr. Srirangam Satyam stressed the importance of eye care, stating that "to witness the beauty of this world, protecting our eyes is essential," while addressing people at a free eye check-up camp organised at Fathenagar Division near the Ganesh Temple.

The camp was conducted under the leadership of Congress youth leader Kukkala Vinay Mudiraj, with the support of Babaji Netralaya Hospital. Dr. Satyam attended the



programme as the chief guest, personally underwent an eye examination, and later distributed spectacles to beneficiaries. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Srirangam Satyam said that among all human organs, eyes are

the most delicate and vital, and negligence towards eye health can lead to a dark future. He expressed concern over increasing screen exposure among children, particularly the habit of feeding infants while showing

mobile phones, which may damage the retina. Excessive use of mobile phones and video games by children, he warned, could lead to long-term vision problems.

Dr. Satyam urged people to make full use of free medical camps and adopt preventive eye care practices for a healthier life. The programme witnessed the presence of TPCC Protocol Secretary Suraj Tiwari, Division President Kukkala Ramesh Mudiraj, senior Congress leaders, party workers, and a large number of local residents, making the camp a grand success.

SC Verdict Shields Harish Rao, Slams CM's Politics

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Chairman of the State Geetha Corporation, Palle Ravi Kumar Goud, said the Supreme Court verdict has delivered a strong setback to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy over what he described as attempts to harass BRS Deputy Leader Harish Rao through illegal and politically motivated cases. Reacting to the ruling, Ravi Kumar Goud said the Supreme Court's decision not to order any investigation against Harish Rao in the phone-tapping case is a significant and welcome development. He stated that the verdict exposes what he termed the "petty political tactics" of the Congress government and reinforces the credibility of Harish Rao, who, he said, has been consistently raising public issues.



He asserted that under the guidance of KCR, Harish Rao has been relentlessly fighting against the Congress government's alleged fraudulent promises and the exploitation of Krishna and Godavari river waters, which he said are adversely affecting Telangana's interests. According to him, the court's decision strengthens the opposition's stand and reflects public sentiment against misuse of power.

Illegal Cattle Blood Racket Busted



Two men were caught extracting blood cruelly from sheep and goats at a butcher's shop in Keesara, where police seized 130 packets of blood stacked with 'human blood' stickers. According to officials, the duo identified as — Sanjeev, a doctor, and Sonu, caretaker of the shop — had drawn blood from 30 cattle that were alive using vacutainer needles meant for human sample collection. Each packet contained 750 ml and was priced at ₹5,000.

Veterinary doctors confirmed that cattle blood cannot be sold or injected into humans under any circumstances. Investigators said the men were supplying the blood to a trading company in Kacheerla for use in blood agar plates, which laboratories employ to detect pathogens. Authorities stressed that such collection requires prior approval from the Animal Welfare Board and must not violate anti-cruelty norms. Though Keesara police have not registered a case, they alerted the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and the Animal Husbandry Department. GHMC officials booked a case, seized the packets, and wrote to the collector and district magistrate.

Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin Urges Support for AIMIM in Nanded Poll Meet



Barrister Asaduddin Owaisi addressed a massive public meeting at Peerburhan Nagar in Nanded, Maharashtra, as part of the Municipal Corporation Election 2026 campaign. Addressing the gathering, Owaisi appealed to the people of Nanded to turn out in large numbers on January 15 and vote to ensure the victory of AIMIM candidates.

Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin, who also addressed the public meeting, urged voters to support AIMIM and strengthen the party's presence in the municipal body.

BJP Steps up Booth Revamp Ahead of 2028 Civic Polls

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BJP state president N. Ramchander Rao has directed party cadres to fortify the organisation from the booth level, urging them to transform every polling unit into a "powerhouse" ahead of the municipal, GHMC and 2028 Assembly elections. Addressing a state-level Booth Nirman Abhiyan workshop at the party headquarters on Monday, Rao stressed adoption of the 'panna pramukh' system — first successfully used in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat — assigning a dedicated worker for every 50 voters to "own and protect" each booth. He called for mapping

voter lists in all areas, identifying weak booths where the BJP had finished second in past polls, and converting them into strengths through sustained public engagement. Rao emphasised door-to-door communication of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's welfare schemes, projecting that combining the "Modi wave" — which delivered eight Lok Sabha seats — with robust booth structures could yield up to 16 parliamentary seats in Telangana. The party has begun strengthening booth committees state-wide, building on recent MLC poll triumphs where sharp strategies clinched two crucial wins. Under the Abhiyan, booth pres-

idents lead teams of 10–15 members, including panna pramukhs. This structure integrates with mandal, district and state units for seamless coordination, handling year-round tasks such as collecting voter demographics and preferences. A BJP functionary said data-driven tools such as Saral and NaMo apps enable real-time tracking and segmentation by age, caste and turnout history. Cadres conduct door-to-door Sampark Abhiyan drives, festival outreach, missedcall campaigns, training workshops and performance monitoring to ensure accountability. Rao described the booth president as the party's

"pivotal pillar", underscoring that booth construction is a continuous mission, not a one-day affair. He mandated district-level workshops to cascade the drive down to mandals. The Abhiyan aims to treat each polling station as a winnable fortress—maximising turnout, redressing grievances, countering opposition narratives and minimising vote leakage through election-day logistics such as transport and mock polls. State in-charge Abhay Patil, organisational general secretary Chandrasekhar Tiwari, general secretaries Vemula Ashok, Dr N. Gautham Rao and Tulla Veerender Goud, secretaries.

Israeli Forces Expand 'Yellow Line', Further Squeezing Civilians in Eastern Gaza

Israeli expansion of Gaza's 'yellow line' squeezes civilians, intensifies displacement, threatens Salah al-Din corridor despite ongoing ceasefire violations

GAZA
Wakeup telangana

Israeli military forces have expanded the so-called "yellow line" in eastern Gaza over the past 24 hours, intensifying pressure on Palestinian civilians and further shrinking the areas available for shelter, according to Al Jazeera teams reporting from the ground. The expansion has focused on the eastern Gaza City neighbourhoods of Tuffah, Shujayea and Zeitoun, forcing thousands of displaced residents into increasingly overcrowded pockets of the besieged enclave. The latest military moves are also pushing Israeli forces closer to Salah al-Din

Street, a key north-south artery in the Gaza Strip. As operations intensified on Monday, families sheltering near the road were forced to flee amid fears of imminent attacks, underscoring the continued volatility of the situation despite an existing ceasefire agreement.

Israel now physically occupies more than 50 percent of the Gaza Strip, according to field reports. Since the ceasefire took effect in October, Israeli attacks have killed at least 414 Palestinians and injured more than 1,100 others in what Palestinian officials and international observers describe as repeated violations of the truce mediated by



the United States. Al Jazeera correspondent Hani Mahmoud, reporting from Gaza City, said the expansion of the "yellow line" is systematically reducing habitable areas for civilians. "The ongoing Israeli attacks on the ground

are meant to eat up more territory across the eastern part of Gaza, shrinking the total area where people are sheltering," he said. Mahmoud added that displacement has dramatically increased population density in remaining

neighbourhoods. "Everyone is cramped here. In many areas, the population has not just doubled but tripled because people are unable to return to their homes in Zeitoun, Shujayea and Tuffah," he said. Residents reported

near-constant drone activity, artillery fire and explosions throughout Sunday night and into Monday. "The sound of drones only faded briefly after hours of buzzing and explosions that could be heard clearly," Mahmoud said, describing a tense atmosphere across Gaza City. Heavy Israeli artillery bombardment and helicopter fire also resumed on Monday in southern Gaza, particularly north and east of Rafah and Khan Younis. Medical sources told Al Jazeera that at least three Palestinians were killed in separate attacks in Khan Younis on Sunday. In central Gaza, a five-storey residential

building belonging to the al-Shana family in the Maghazi refugee camp collapsed after sustaining damage from Israeli bombardment late last year. Civil Defence teams are continuing search and rescue operations, while local media reported that at least five people were injured in the incident. Meanwhile, uncertainty surrounds the possible reopening of the Rafah crossing with Egypt. While some residents hope it could allow access to medical care, reunite families and ease restrictions, many fear it may function as a one-way exit, raising concerns about permanent displacement and the right of

return. Mahmoud said Israeli authorities are pushing for Rafah to operate primarily as an out-bound crossing. "So far, there is nothing concrete on the ground beyond headlines suggesting Rafah may open in the coming days," he reported. According to Gaza's Ministry of Health, at least 71,386 Palestinians have been killed and more than 171,000 injured since the war began in October 2023. Despite growing humanitarian needs, Israel continues to restrict the entry of international aid, a claim disputed by the United Nations and relief agencies operating in Gaza.

Mumbai Mayor Will Be Marathi, Chant Vande Mataram

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

As the debate over the religion and language of Mumbai's next mayor intensifies, the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena on Monday asserted that the mayor would be a Marathi who chants Vande Mataram. Earlier, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis had said the next Mumbai mayor would be a Hindu and a Marathi. The remarks come amid efforts by leaders of the ruling Mahayuti alliance to counter the narrative pushed by Shiv Sena (UBT) and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) that a North Indian would be



elected mayor if the alliance wins the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) elections. "Mumbai's mayor will be one who chants Vande Mataram. Mahayuti's mayor will love the city and work for its development, and will be a Marathi manoos," Shiv Sena spokesperson Shaina NC said. Ms. Shaina also accused the oppo-

sition of practising "politics of hate" and alleged that Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray held "regressive views". "It was Aaditya Thackeray who induced Rashid Mamu. He joined Umar Khalid at the Gateway of India protest, despite Uddhav Thackeray blocking him earlier when he was chief minister. They are plotting to turn Mumbai into

Mamdani — or, as New York likes to say, make it into Mumbai. We will never allow that to happen," she said. Rashid Mamu is a former mayor of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar (earlier known as Aurangabad), who joined the Shiv Sena (UBT) last month. The BJP and Shiv Sena have accused him of opposing the name change of the city and holding protests in which 'Pakistan Zindabad' slogans were raised. Umar Khalid had participated in a protest at Gateway of India in January 2020 against the reported attack on students inside Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University.

New National Mission Aims to Create 100 Million Jobs in India Over Next Decade

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A group of veteran industry leaders on Monday announced the launch of the 'Hundred Million Jobs', a national initiative aimed at creating 100 million jobs in India over the next decade, as the country grapples with inadequate employment despite rapid economic growth. A statement issued by organisers said that the initiative was announced by industry leaders like Harish Mehta, co-founder of software industry body Nasscom, A J Patel, founder of global entrepreneur network The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE), and K Yatish Rajawat, founder of the Cen-

tre for Innovation in Public Policy (CIPP). "India's working-age population is expanding by around 12 million people each year, while traditional job engines such as manufacturing have struggled to scale. The country needs to generate 8-9 million jobs annually to absorb new entrants and capitalise on its demographic dividend," the founders said. Despite being among the world's fastest-growing major economies, India has seen employment growth lag output expansion. Automation and artificial intelligence are reshaping business models and reducing entry-level roles across sectors, raising concerns that economic growth

could become increasingly disconnected from job creation. The Hundred Million Jobs mission places entrepreneurship, reskilling and job-intensive enterprise development at the centre of India's employment strategy. The initiative aims to make job creation a core metric of economic development, with a focus on distributed and resilient livelihoods across regions. "Hundred Million Jobs is a systems-led effort to strengthen job creators - entrepreneurs, MSMEs and employers - by aligning skills, enterprise, data and policy to deliver resilient, dignified livelihoods for the next generation," Mehta said

in a statement. Patel said that startups and small enterprises, which account for about 30 percent of India's GDP and are its largest employers, must be scaled beyond major cities. "If India is to generate 8-9 million jobs a year, some structural barriers need to be addressed so entrepreneurship becomes an aspiration for many and a practical engine of mass employment," he said. Rajawat, however, described India's employment challenge as a systems challenge calling for a shift in both business and government mindsets. He said the mission is built around a seven-pillar framework designed to enable job creation across regions and sectors.

India Fast-Tracks J&K Hydrel Projects With Indus Water Treaty in Abeyance

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

With Indus Water Treaty under abeyance, India has increased the pace of new hydrel projects it is undertaking in Jammu & Kashmir. However, Union power minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday said that J&K power projects are back on track and delays are resolved after Indus Waters developments. "All power projects in Jammu and Kashmir, including major hydroelectric projects in Kishtwar, are progressing strictly as per their stipulated timelines, asserting that long-pending issues which had earlier hampered their execution have now been resolved," Khattar said.



to the Union Territory where he reviewed various projects. The ministry also released pictures of new projects it is undertaking on Chenab river after abeyance of Indus water treaty last year. Issuing the statement, the ministry also said that on Sunday, Khattar arrived at NHPC's Dulhasti Power Station, Kishtwar and was received by top officials of Chenab Valley Power Projects Limited (CVPP), and other officials of NHPC and CVPP. On Monday, the minister inspected all three projects

of CVPP, namely Pakal Dul (1000 MW), Kiru (624 MW), and Kwar (540 MW), and held a review meeting with the project heads and contractors," the statement said, adding that the CMD, NHPC, briefed the minister in detail on various aspects of the three under-construction projects, following which the minister issued directions to commission the Pakal Dul and Kiru projects by December 2026 and the Kwar project by March 2028.

Man Held After.....

The Secret Service immediately alerted the Cincinnati Police Department. The suspect, described as an adult male, was detained by Secret Service personnel and formally taken into custody by city police. His identity has not yet been released.

Law enforcement officials said multiple windows were damaged and there was evidence of exterior property damage. While investigators believe the suspect may have attempted to gain entry, authorities said he did not successfully enter the residence.

The Secret Service confirmed that Vice President Vance and his family were away from the Ohio home when the incident occurred and were not in danger.

Federal and local agencies, including the Secret Service, Cincinnati Police, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, are jointly investigating the incident. Officials are working to determine the suspect's motive and whether the residence was deliberately targeted. Possible state and federal charges are under consideration. Authorities have released limited information about the suspect, and no formal charges have been announced so far. Officials also

said there is no immediate indication linking the incident to broader political developments.

Security around the residence had been heightened in recent days due to Vice President Vance's presence in Cincinnati, with temporary road closures and checkpoints that were lifted shortly before the incident.

Deeply concerned.....

The move, decided under Switzerland's Federal Act on the Freezing and the Restitution of Illicit Assets Held by Foreign Politically Exposed Persons, comes in addition to existing sanctions on Venezuela in force since 2018, which also include asset freezes, the government said. The new asset freezes "target individuals who have not previously been sanctioned in Switzerland", it said.

The government said it was monitoring the situation unfolding in Venezuela closely, and called "for de-escalation, restraint and compliance with international law, including the prohibition of the use of force and the principle of respect for territorial integrity". It highlighted Switzerland's repeated offers of its "good offices to all sides in order to find a peaceful solution to the situ-

ation".

Bern said that "the reasons behind Mr Maduro's fall from power do not play a decisive role in asset freezes... nor does the question of whether the fall from power occurred lawfully or in violation of international law". The decisive factor, it said, was that "a fall from power has occurred and that it is now possible that the country of origin will initiate legal proceedings in the future with regard to illicitly acquired assets".

On 15th Parole.....

He last stepped out of prison on a 40-day parole in August 2025. He was granted a 21-day furlough in April 2025 and a 30-day parole in January 2025, ahead of the February 5 Delhi assembly polls. Similarly, he walked out of prison on a 20-day parole on October 1, 2024, days before the October 5 Haryana assembly polls. In August 2024, Singh was granted a 21-day furlough. He was also permitted a three-week furlough from February 7, 2022, barely two weeks before the Punjab assembly polls.

Sikh organisations, such as the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, have in the past criticised the grant of relief to Singh.

In May 2024, the Punjab and Haryana High Court acquitted Singh and four others in the 2002 murder of the sect's former manager, Ranjit Singh, citing "tainted and sketchy" investigations into the matter and overturning a special CBI court order which sentenced them to life imprisonment. The CBI had held Singh guilty of hatching a criminal conspiracy with his co-accused. Singh remained at his Dera's ashram in Baghat district of Uttar Pradesh during many of the past 14 occasions when he came out of prison.

SC Seeks Centre's...

It said the wage ceiling has historically been revised inconsistently, sometimes after 13-14 years, without any fixed periodicity or linkage to relevant economic indicators such as inflation, minimum wages, per capita income or consumer price index. "This erratic approach has resulted in the exclusion of large sections of the workforce, contrary to the object of providing social security to employees in the organised sector. The Public Accounts Committee of the 16th Lok Sabha and the EPFO's own Sub-Committee (2022) have both recommended periodic.

FROM FRONT PAGE

CRIME

CCS Files Chargesheet Against Sahiti Infratech for Real Estate Fraud

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Central Crime Station (CCS) has filed a charge-sheet against Sahiti Infratech Ventures India Pvt Ltd (SIVIPL) and its managing director for perpetrating hundreds of crores of rupees worth real estate fraud. The police had arrested its managing director Boodati Lakshminarayana and former director Sandu Purnachandra Rao in December. According to CCS investigators, SIVIPL and its promoters have cheated more than 2,500 customers of over Rs 842 crore by offering "pre-launch" deals for residential projects without owning the required land or securing mandatory permissions from authorities such as

the HMDA and the GHMC. The CCS registered multiple FIRs against the firm and its directors following complaints from aggrieved buyers. Based on these cases, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) launched a parallel probe under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). As part of the investigation, Lakshminarayana was arrested by the ED in September 2024, having earlier been taken into custody by the police in December 2022. Former director Purnachandra Rao was arrested by the ED in August 2025. The ED has since filed prosecution complaints before a special PMLA court at Nampally, which has taken cognisance of the case.

Fire Breaks Out at Plywood Godown, No Casualties

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A massive fire broke out at a plywood waste storage godown at BNK Colony in Tad-bund in the early hours of Sunday, triggering a swift response from the fire department. Fire tenders from the Chandulal Baradari Fire Station, along with a water bowser from Rajendranagar and a water tender from Moghal-pura Fire Station, were rushed to the spot. Fire personnel immediately took up firefighting operations and brought the blaze under control. Officials said the fire was confined to waste



plywood material stored in the godown. The fire was completely extinguished by 1 pm. Fortunately, no one was present at the premises at the time of the incident and no casualties were reported, though the stored material was gutted in the blaze. District Fire Officer (DFO) Vajje Bhanu Pratap said the fire call was received at 4.10 am and firefighters worked for several hours to douse the flames.

Retd. Govt Staffer Falls Prey to Fake Stocks, Loses Rs 12.36 Lakh

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



A retired government employee from Malkajgiri fell victim to an online trading scam and was cheated to the tune Rs 12.36 lakh after being lured through a social media advertisement. The complainant came across an advertisement on Instagram in September, which was promoting online trading services offered by a firm claiming to be NAKA

Solutions. After submitting his personal details, he received a phone call from an individual, who introduced himself as company representative based in the United Kingdom and persuaded him to begin investing through a mobile application. Initially, the complainant invested small sums and

profits were shown on the dashboard. The victim started trusting firm and their investment tips. Subsequently, a woman claiming to be his financial advisor contacted him and encouraged further investments, particularly in gold trading where she assured him of high returns. Trusting their assurances, the complainant invested larger sums of money. Police said the accused later displayed fake profits amounting to nearly USD

57,000 on the trading platform. However, when the complainant attempted to withdraw the amount, he was asked to pay additional sums towards currency conversion charges, taxes, and other processing fees. Thereafter, two other individuals contacted him from different international numbers, directing him to make further payments through cryptocurrency platforms such as Binance and Atomic accounts.

39-year-old Woman Dies By Suicide In Madhapur

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 39-year-old woman died by suicide at her residence in Bikshapati Nagar, Kondapur, on Saturday night. The deceased, T. Anantha Laxmi, worked as a security guard and lived in a rented house with her husband, Srinivas, a driver, and their two children — one studying Intermediate and the other in Class 8. According to Madhapur sub-inspector Santosh Kumar, Anantha Laxmi took the extreme step while her husband was away at work. She had

sent the children out to play before the incident. Later that night, she reportedly called her husband and asked him to "stay happy." When she stopped responding to further calls, Srinivas alerted the house owner, who broke open the door after repeated knocks went unanswered. She was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared her dead on arrival. The body was later shifted to Osmania General Hospital for postmortem. Police said no suicide note was found. "She was suffering from health issues.

Five arrested for daylight jewellery shop robbery in Nagaram

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Keesara police on Monday arrested five persons for a daylight robbery at a jewellery shop in Nagaram on January 2. The arrested persons have been identified as Nazeem Azeem Kotadiya (39), Bishu Karma Eknadar Singh (24), Mohd Saif Ali alias Adnam (23), Rajendar Singh alias Raj Singh (19), and Ratan Singh Bahadur alias Ratan (23). Police said two of the suspects first entered the shop posing as cus-

tomers, after which two others barged in armed with an axe and a dummy pistol and attacked the shop owner, Sandeep Gehlot. Though injured on the head, he resisted and managed to recover most of the jewellery. The accused fled on a motorcycle with some gold ornaments. All five were arrested following technical analysis and eyewitness leads. Police said most of the suspects are habitual offenders. A car, a bike used in the crime, and a dummy pistol were seized.

Unrestricted Access to Pool Blamed for Boy's Drowning

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



The drowning of a three-year-old boy in a swimming pool at the Vertex Prime gated community in the KPHB Colony limits highlighted safety lapses in gated communities, as no security guard or lifeguard was reportedly present at the pool at the time of the incident. Speaking on pool safety norms followed in large gated communities, My-Home Vihanga vice-president Praveen Rao said the presence of trained personnel is non-negotiable. "One designated lifeguard and one security guard, deployed round-the-clock in two shifts, are mandatory for any society with a functional swimming pool. This is a basic safety requirement one must follow," he said. He said societies must

also ensure the availability of children's safety equipment, such as inflatable jackets or floatation devices, strict access control, and clearly defined pool timings. "Major lapses usually happen when residents enter the pool area outside designated hours or when parents say they are 'just watching' and step away, either for a walk or to attend phone calls. Leaving children unsupervised, even for a few minutes, is often the reason which could turn fatal," he said. On surveillance, Praveen Rao pointed out practical

limitations. "Due to concerns over women's privacy and modesty, cameras are usually not placed to directly cover the pool. However, surrounding access areas should always be monitored," he explained. Highlighting similar concerns, My Home Avatar joint secretary Pujitha Balireddy said parental vigilance plays a crucial role in preventing such tragedies. "As a mother of two children, I would place nearly 80 per cent of the responsibility on parents. Children must be clearly instructed not to enter swimming pools or even lifts without parental supervision. That alone can prevent many accidents. I do this with my kids," she said. Pujitha, however, stressed that responsibility does not end with parents. "Management and RWAs

also have a duty of care. In our community, we conduct internal meetings regularly and issue clear instructions regarding pool usage. We ensure the presence of two lifeguards and one security guard, as there are three separate pools — for toddlers, men, and women," she said. She explained that while the toddler pool is officially restricted to children below three years, enforcement on the ground is stricter. "Our guards ensure that children entering the pool are above seven years of age and that parental supervision is mandatory at all times," she added. She also stressed the importance of regular maintenance and safety audits. "Annual third-party checks are conducted to assess parameters such as pH levels, bleaching, filtration systems.

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

Imam Ali

EDITORIAL

FRESH START FOR BJP WITH A YOUNG WORKING CHIEF

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The BJP's search for a new national president has culminated in the appointment of Bihar minister Nitin Nabin as its working president by the party's parliamentary board. This marks the generational shift within the party, and hence a momentous decision. Once the party goes through the organisational motions and confirms him as the topmost office-bearer, Nabin, 45, will be the youngest president of the 45-year-old party. The new BJP boss is ideologically rooted in the party, and has organisational and administrative experience not many of his age would command. The five-time legislator has been a member of the Bihar Cabinet twice. His grooming in the Akhil

Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, affiliated to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, and his stint with the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, the BJP's youth wing, point to his standing within the larger Sangh parivar. The organisational positions he held, including that of the party in-charge of Chhattisgarh, must have given him an inside view of the party organisation. The leadership must have taken into account his lack of experience in holding a national position while naming him for the working president's post. The period under incumbent president J.P. Nadda should help him get an exposure to the challenges of the position. The choice of Mr Nabin is perfectly in line with the party's focus on identifying young leaders for

senior and critical positions. It may be remembered that several of the party's chief ministers, including Yogi Adityanath (Uttar Pradesh), Devendra Fadnavis (Maharashtra), Mohan Charan Majhi (Odisha), Mohan Yadav (Madhya Pradesh), Vishnu Deo Sai (Chhattisgarh) and Bhajan Lal Sharma (Rajasthan) were all under 60 when they were chosen for the post. The new young boss will be working with those young veterans. Unlike the BJP bosses in the past, the new working president has the experience of working in a coalition and under a chief minister who does not belong to his party. Bihar's NDA is led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and the BJP gracefully accepted his leadership within the formation even though.



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Oil stocks sharply higher after US action in Venezuela

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Shares of major US companies in the energy sector are sharply higher on Monday, January 5, after President Donald Trump announced plans to take control of Venezuela's oil industry and said American companies would revitalise it after capturing President Nicolas Maduro. While the US action is unlikely to have an immediate impact on crude prices, given the current glut in the market, it could upend energy markets. Venezuela's oil industry is in disrepair after years of neglect and international sanctions. Some oil industry analysts believe that Venezuela could double or triple its current output of about 1.1 million barrels of oil a day and return the na-



tion to historic production levels relatively quickly; others see a much longer road ahead. "While the Trump administration has suggested large US oil companies will go into Venezuela and spend billions to fix infrastructure and other risks, along with current relatively low oil prices, could prevent this from happening anytime soon," wrote Neal Dingmann of William Blair. Material change to Venezuelan

production will take a lot of time and millions of dollars for infrastructure improvement, he said. Any investment in Venezuelan energy infrastructure right now would take place in a weakened global energy market. Crude prices in the US are down 20 per cent compared with last year. The price for a barrel of benchmark US crude hasn't been above USD 70 since June, and hasn't touched USD 80 per barrel since the summer of 2024.

JPMorgan foresees a brief, sharp dip in Venezuelan production, but said recovery is expected to be swift. Production could reach 1.3 million to 1.4 million barrels per day within two years of a political transition. "With new investments and major institutional reforms, output could potentially expand to 2.5 mbd over the next decade," JPMorgan wrote. There are several factors that could impact Venezuelan production, including how quickly a government transition can take hold and how fast and willing multinational oil companies are to reenter the country, wrote John Freeman of Raymond James. At the opening bell, shares in the energy sector moved broadly higher, particularly companies with large refinery operations.

Venezuela produces the kind of heavy crude oil that's needed for diesel fuel, asphalt and other fuels for heavy equipment. Diesel is in short supply around the world because of the sanctions on oil from Venezuela and Russia, and because America's lighter crude oil can't easily replace it. Big refiners like Valero, Marathon Petroleum and Phillips 66 rose between 5 per cent and 6 per cent at the opening bell. Oil-field service companies, those that actually go into the field and do the drilling and upkeep, rose even more sharply. SLB and Halliburton rose between 7 per cent and 8 per cent. Major oil exploratory companies, including ExxonMobil, Chevron and ConocoPhillips, rose between 2 per cent and 4 per cent.

Yamaha's Special Pricing on Its Flagship R15 Series

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana



Since its introduction, the Yamaha R15 has been instrumental in shaping India's entry-level performance motorcycle segment, earning widespread recognition and strong acceptance among the country's youth for its race-derived design, cutting-edge technology, and everyday rideability. With over one million units produced in India, the R15 stands as a milestone product that reflects Yamaha's strong manufacturing capabilities and its deep-rooted connection with Indian motorcycling culture. Powered by Yamaha's advanced 155cc liquid-cooled, fuel-injected engine, combined with the

brand's proprietary DiA-Sil cylinder technology and the renowned Delta-box frame, the R15 continues to set benchmarks in performance and handling. The motorcycle delivers segment-leading performance along with a suite of advanced features, including Traction Control System, Assist and Slipper

Clutch, Quick Shifter on select variants, Upside-Down Front Forks, and Linked-Type Monocross Suspension. With its track-inspired design and unmistakable racing DNA, the Yamaha R15 series remains one of the most aspirational and performance-driven motorcycles in India.

More tariff hike by US on India may hit exports: Experts

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Any move by the US to further increase tariffs or import duties on Indian goods could severely impact the country's exports to Washington, experts said. However, they said, it may also push exporters to accelerate diversification and de-risk their overseas markets. US President Donald Trump, speaking to reporters on Sunday, said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi knew he was unhappy with India's purchases of Russian oil and that Washington could raise tariffs on New Delhi "very quickly." The experts added that as the tariff threat hardens, India must take a 'clean call' on Russian oil. "Indian exports to the US have already fallen 20.7 per cent between May and November 2025, and further tariff escalation could trigger a steeper decline," economic think tank GTRI said on Monday. It said that Indian goods are already facing a steep 50 per



cent tariff, with 25 per cent tied directly to Russian crude purchases. "India, unlike China, does not have strategic leverage over the US. China is the biggest buyer of Russian Crude, but the US has ignored it, fearing consequences. India has doubled imports of petroleum crude and products from the US, but the US will ignore this," Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) Founder Ajay Srivastava said. Apex exporters' body FIEO too said that beyond the existing 50 per cent tariff, a further hike by the US "will badly hit Indian exports, particularly in traditional sectors of exports". "But they can also act as a catalyst for faster diversification and

de-risking. While some price-sensitive trade may shrink, such pressures encourage exporters to reduce over-dependence on a single market, explore alternative destinations, and upgrade products and processes," Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) Director General Ajay Sahai said. After recording negative growth for two consecutive months, India's merchandise exports to the US rose 22.61 per cent to USD 6.98 billion in November despite the steep tariffs on domestic goods. During the April-November period of this fiscal year, the country's exports to the US increased 11.38 per cent to USD 59.04 billion, while imports rose 13.49 per cent to USD 35.4 billion. The threat by the US President came at a time when the two countries were negotiating a bilateral trade agreement. So far, six rounds of negotiations have been held for that. The pact includes a framework deal to resolve the 50 per cent tariffs on

Indian goods entering America. On December 23 last year, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said India is actively engaged in trade discussions with the US, and hopes to conclude the talks "sooner than later" in a manner that restores deeper market access for domestic exporters. US Deputy Trade Representative Rick Switzer was recently here with his team to take stock of these talks. The latest round of two-day talks concluded on December 11, 2025. The Indian industry and exporters are eagerly awaiting the conclusion of negotiations and the announcement of a deal, as high import duties are hurting their shipments to America. Though they are exploring other markets to maintain their export profits, the US remains a key destination for them, accounting for about 18 per cent of their exports. As part of the pact, the US is seeking duty concessions on agricultural products such as almonds, corn, and apples, as well as on industrial goods.

AMARAVATI
Wakeup telangana

India has introduced an e-Production Investment Business Visa called e-B-4 Visa that Chinese businessmen can apply for to travel to India for specific business activities, including installation and commissioning of equipment. A latest advisory on the Indian Embassy website here said the e-B-4 Visa, which was introduced on January 1, can be applied for online without visiting the embassy or agents. The new visa is introduced in view of the growing demand for business visas to travel to India. It will be issued in about 45 to 50 days, with permission to stay in India for up to six months. The visa can be applied



for installation and commissioning, quality check and essential maintenance, production, IT and ERP ramp-up, training, supply chain development for empanelling vendors, plant design and bring-up, senior management and executives, according to the advisory. The Indian companies desirous of inviting Chinese nationals for activities on e-B-4 Visa can also apply by registering on DPIIT's NSWS (National Single Window

System) portal at <https://www.nsws.gov.in/> under the tab 'Login-Business User Login'. Applicants can submit an application for an e-B-4 Visa online on the portal <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in> under the tab 'For e-Visa by Bureau of Immigration, apply along with mandatory supporting documents, it said. India and China have, in recent months, agreed on several people-centric steps to reset their ties.

Samsung Unveils 'Your Companion to AI Living' Vision at CES 2026

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Samsung Electronics on Monday unveiled its "Your Companion to AI Living" vision at The First Look during CES 2026, outlining how artificial intelligence will power a deeply connected ecosystem across TVs, home appliances, mobile devices and health platforms. Addressing the event, TM Roh, CEO and Head of Samsung's Device eXperience (DX) Division, said the company is embedding AI across all product categories to deliver more personal, meaningful everyday experiences. Leveraging its global connected ecosystem, Samsung aims to transform devices into intelligent companions rather than standalone products. At the heart of Samsung's



display showcase was the 130-inch Micro RGB TV, featuring micro-sized RGB light sources for enhanced color accuracy and picture quality. Powered by the new Micro RGB AI Engine Pro, the display marks a major leap in large-screen visual technology. Samsung also introduced the Vision AI Companion (VAC), which uses contextual AI to recommend content, food, music and mood settings, extending the TV's role

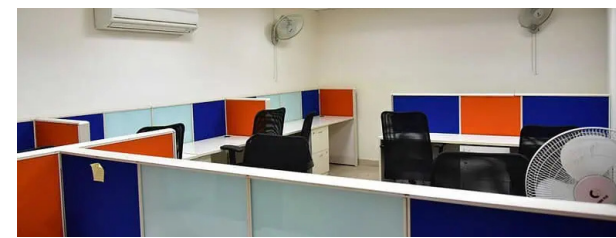
beyond entertainment. Samsung's 2026 TV lineup supports HDR10+ ADVANCED and introduces Eclipsa Audio, a new spatial sound system. The company also announced seven years of Tizen OS upgrades for its TVs. In gaming, Samsung revealed its most advanced Odyssey monitor lineup, including its first 6K 3D Odyssey G9. In the smart home segment, Samsung high-

lighted SmartThings, which now serves over 430 million users globally. The AI-powered Family Hub refrigerator, upgraded with Google Gemini-based AI Vision, enhances food recognition, meal planning and inventory tracking. New features such as "What's for Today?", FoodNote and Video to Recipe aim to simplify daily cooking decisions. Samsung also showcased new Bespoke AI appliances, including the Bespoke AI Laundry Combo, AI AirDresser and AI Jet Bot Steam Ultra, designed to reduce household workload through automation and smart sensing. A partnership with Hartford Steam Boiler was announced to help users reduce home insurance premiums through connected appliances.

Net office leasing up 25 pc in 2025 in top 8 Indian cities: Report

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Net leasing of office spaces rose 25 per cent last year to a record 61.4 million sq ft across eight major cities on strong demand from domestic and overseas companies, according to Cushman & Wakefield. Net leasing of office spaces stood at 49.1 million sq ft during 2024 in these eight cities. Net absorption or leasing represents the net change in office space occupied during the year. Real estate consultant Cushman & Wakefield on Monday released the data, showing that net office leasing rose in Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, Delhi-NCR, and Chennai but declined in Mumbai, Kolkata, and Ahmedabad.



"The last year's performance reflects more than record numbers, it signals a long-term growth trajectory anchored in strong fundamentals," said Anshul Jain, Chief Executive, India, SEA, MEA & APAC Office and Retail, Cushman & Wakefield. He projected that the office demand would remain strong during 2026, driven by expansion of global capability centres (GCCs) in India and rising technology adoption. As per the data, the net office leasing in Chennai almost tripled to 7 million sq ft last year from 2.4 million sq ft in the 2024

calendar year. Delhi-NCR witnessed a sharp growth of 82 per cent in net office leasing to 10.9 million sq ft during 2025 from 6 million sq ft in the preceding year. Bengaluru, the most prominent office market, witnessed a marginal rise in net office leasing to 14.4 million sq ft from 14.2 million sq ft in 2024. Office demand rose 65 per cent in Pune to 8.2 million sq ft from 5 million sq ft. In Hyderabad, the net leasing grew 15 per cent to 9.1 million sq ft from 7.9 million sq ft. However, Mumbai — the financial capital of India

witnessed a 12 per cent decline in office demand to 9.6 million sq ft from 10.9 million sq ft. In Kolkata, the demand dipped 5 per cent to 1.4 million sq ft from 1.5 million sq ft. Lastly, the net office leasing in Ahmedabad by 28 per cent to 0.8 million sq ft last year from 1.2 million sq ft in the preceding calendar year. According to Cushman & Wakefield, the gross leasing of office space also hit an all-time high at 88.7 million sq ft in 2025, up 1 per cent from 88 million sq ft in the preceding year. The gross leasing factors in all leasing activity in the market, including fresh take-up, open market renewals by occupiers as well as pre-leasing. New supply of office spaces rose 17 per cent to around 53 million sq ft during the last year.

Alia Bhatt's first post of 2026 is a fairytale moment with Ranbir, Raha

Actress Alia Bhatt's primary social media post of 2026 is a perfect tribute to her fairytale life with her husband Ranbir Kapoor and daughter Raha. Alia's latest post on Instagram is a photo of her dressed like a fairy godmother in a white dress, with a wand in her hand, while Ranbir is holding little Raha in the air. Alia's wish for her little angel went like this, "& up you go love.. happy 2026 (sic)". All three are seen twinning in white in the lovely glimpse from their New Year getaway.



Many netizens showered immense love on the post with comments such as "What a happy family", "Heart is so full, such a beautiful frame", and "Pics like these make me forget every other

complaint I keep having". Alia and Ranbir rang in the New Year with their little bundle of joy on a vacation to an undisclosed location. Last week, the three were captured at the Mum-

bai airport, as they posed for the shutterbugs before leaving for their holiday. Alia and Ranbir opted for comfortable athleisure as their off-duty look. It must be noted that the lovebirds are known to go on a holiday every year during the New Year. Work-wise, Alia and Ranbir will be seen sharing screen space in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's highly discussed love saga "Love & War," co-starring Vicky Kaushal. The movie will reportedly revolve around a dramatic wartime love trian-

gle, exploring the conflict between duty and desire. It is believed that the project is inspired by the Bollywood classic "Sangam", which featured Ranbir's grandfather Raj Kapoor, along with Vyjayanthimala and Rajendra Kumar. Over and above this, Alia will also be seen in an action-packed avatar in the latest instalment of the YRF spy universe, "Alpha", where she will be seen alongside Sharvari. The project will mark the spy universe's first female-led action film.

Prabhu Deva celebrates A R Rahman's birthday at 'Moonwalk' audio launch

The audio launch of Moonwalk turned into a musical spectacle as A R Rahman performed all five songs live, joined by Prabhu Deva and co-stars. The event celebrated Rahman's birthday, with over 10,000 fans in attendance. The film releases in May.

CHENNAI
Wakeup telangana

The unit of director Manoj N S's upcoming film 'Moonwalk', featuring actor Prabhu Deva in the lead, chose to celebrate Oscar winner A R Rahman's birthday at the grand audio launch event of the film by getting the ace musician to cut a cake on stage.

For the unaware, the Mozart of Madras, who has sung all five tracks in the film, is also making his acting debut in this feature film.

The much-awaited grand audio launch event of the feature film 'Moonwalk' turned into a musical night to remember on Sunday as the evening featured electrifying live performances by A R Rahman and Prabhu Deva. Director Manoj NS thanked the entire cast and crew for making the film truly memorable and expressed his confidence that 'Moonwalk' would



bring immense joy and happiness to audiences in theatres.

Excitement at the event peaked when A R Rahman made his first appearance on stage and immediately went on to perform all five 'Moonwalk' songs live. The live performance sent fans into a frenzy, transforming the evening into a true celebration of music. Actor Prabhu Deva, hailed as India's Michael Jackson, delivered a 10-minute dance tribute to A R Rahman, performing to all five 'Moonwalk' songs. He also danced along with his co-stars Yogi Babu, Aju Varghese, Arjun Asokan, Satz, and choreographer Sekhar.

The evening concluded on a high note as Prabhu Deva brought A R Rahman back on stage, getting the maestro to shake a leg to the iconic 'Mukala' song. It was followed by a grand cake-cutting ceremony to celebrate A R Rahman's birthday. The ace music director cut a cake along with the entire cast and crew of 'Moonwalk' in the presence of over 10,000 fans.

Actor Yogi Babu, who spoke on the occasion, shared his excitement about portraying 16 different roles in the film, calling it one of the most important characters that drives the story forward.

Vipul Shah's 'Beyond The Kerala Story' gets a release date; To be out on Feb 27



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Filmmaker Vipul Amrutlal Shah's much-awaited next, "Beyond The Kerala Story" has finally received a release date. The makers, Sunshine Pictures Limited, have revealed that the film is scheduled to arrive in cinema halls on February 27 this year. They unveiled a motion poster announcing the release date of the film on social media.

The asset on the clip went like this: "They said it was just a story. They tried to silence it.

They tried to discredit it. But the truth didn't stop. Because some stories don't end. This time, it goes deeper. This time, it hurts more. Beyond The Kerala Story". "...and it continues, Beyond the Kerala Story... Presented by Vipul Amrutlal Shah & Sunshine Pictures. Directed by Kamakhya Narayan Singh... Co-produced by Aashin A Shah... In cinemas on 27th February, 2026", the caption on the post read.

Refreshing your memory, the 2023 release "The Kerala Story" sparked widespread dis-

course across the country. Despite this, the project was able to bag not one but two National Awards, for 'Best Direction' and 'Best Cinematography'. Directed by Sudipto Sen and starring Adah Sharma, "The Kerala Story" revolves around the indoctrination of aspiring nurses, two Hindu and one Christian. The project is claimed to be based on true events that took place in a north Kerala district. Now "Beyond The Kerala Story" promises to be another hard-hitting narrative elevated both

in terms of storytelling and scale. The sequel returns to the rawness of real life, bringing forth voices of real victims, truths hidden in plain sight, and stories unfolding in our own neighborhoods. Produced by Vipul Amrutlal Shah under his banner Sunshine Pictures Limited, "Beyond The Kerala Story" has been directed by National Award winner Kamakhya Narayan Singh. Co-produced by Aashin A Shah, the film is set for a theatrical release on February 27.

Shreyas Iyer To Lead Mumbai in Remainder of Vijay Hazare

Iyer is also coming back after a long injury layoff having suffered a spleen laceration with internal bleeding during the third ODI against Australia in Sydney in October last year

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

India batter Shreyas Iyer was on Monday named Mumbai's captain for the remainder of the Vijay Hazare Trophy after regular skipper Shardul Thakur was ruled out due to an injury. Iyer is also coming back after a long injury layoff having suffered a spleen laceration with internal bleeding during the third ODI against Australia in Sydney in October last year. "Shardul has suffered an injury and has been advised to rest. We have other players such as Shivam Dube and Suryakumar Yadav available, and Shreyas Iyer has been named the



Mumbai captain for remaining matches." Mumbai chief selector Sanjay Patil told PTI on Monday without specifying the nature of Thakur's injury. With his availability subject to fitness, Iyer,

who is also the designated vice-captain for India in ODIs, was named in the three-match series starting against New Zealand in Vadodara on January 11. The other two ODIs against New Zealand

will be played on January 14 at Rajkot and January 18 at Indore. MCA secretary Dr Unmesh Khanvilkar said in a release, "Shreyas Iyer will take over the leadership responsibilities in place of Shardul Thakur, who has been ruled out of the tournament due to injury and is currently unavailable for selection." Iyer will lead Mumbai in their Group C match against Himachal Pradesh on Tuesday followed by the contest against Punjab on January 8. The Vijay Hazare Trophy's knockout matches will be played at the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru from January 12-18.

Hijab-Wearing Girls Shine at 2nd National Open Karate Championship 2026

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Neha Begum and Habeeba Begum, students of Meridian High School, Old City, Hyderabad, brought laurels to their school and community by winning medals at the prestigious 2nd National Open Karate Championship - 2026. Their remarkable achievement at the national-level event has been widely appreciated for both sporting excellence and social inspiration. The championship witnessed the participation of highly skilled karate players from various states across the country, making the competition extremely tough and competitive. Amid strong contenders, Neha Begum and Habeeba Begum impressed judges and spectators alike with



their discipline, confidence, and technical proficiency, ultimately securing podium finishes. What makes their success particularly noteworthy is that both athletes competed while proudly wearing the hijab, challenging stereotypes and sending a powerful message that dedication, determination, and talent transcend all barriers. Their performance stood as a symbol of empowerment and inclusivity, highlighting the growing

presence and success of girls, especially from minority communities, in martial arts and competitive sports. School authorities stated that the achievement reflects the students' consistent training, hard work, and commitment to excellence. Teachers and parents congratulated the young champions for their perseverance and discipline, noting that their success will inspire many other students to actively pursue sports along with academics.

Meridian High School management lauded Neha Begum and Habeeba Begum for becoming role models for young girls, encouraging them to break conventional limits and explore opportunities in sports at higher levels. The victory of the two students marks a significant milestone not only for Meridian High School but also for Hyderabad, reinforcing the spirit of courage, empowerment, and equal opportunity in Indian sports.

Firm to Produce Cold-Water Fish Rainbow Trout in Hyd

Food-grade rainbow trout, traditionally limited to cold hill regions, is now being produced inland near Hyderabad using controlled recirculating aquaculture systems, marking a shift in how high-value fish for consumption is farmed in India. The integrated aquaculture facility, set up by SmartGreen Aquaculture at Kandukur Mandal in Ranga Reddy district, uses a closed-loop recirculating aquaculture system (RAS) to grow trout in a biosecure indoor environment. The project involves an investment of about \$6 million and has a planned annual production capacity of 1,200 metric tonnes once fully scaled.

The facility was inaugurated on Monday, by Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Union fisheries minister. At the inauguration, Singh said the project demonstrated how technology could enable cold-water aquaculture beyond traditional geographies. "This is not sport fishing or stocking for recreation. This is entirely food production," said the company founder and managing director Aditya Rithvik Narra. "Our focus is on producing edible rainbow trout consistently, safely and close to the consumer." Unlike traditional open-water trout farming, which depends on natural cold streams, the RAS model allows precise control of temperature, oxygen levels and water quality. "Trout is a sensitive species. Even small variations can affect survival and quality," Narra said.

Cyber Cops Tie Up Film Chambers To Fight Movie Piracy



In a major step to combat digital film piracy, the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce (TFCC) to launch a coordinated action against online piracy. The MoU was signed in the presence of Director General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy, TGCSB director Shikha Goel and Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce president D. Suresh Babu. Suresh Babu said, "This is the first-of-its-kind initiative in India. We are thankful to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and DGP Shivadhar Reddy for initiating this process." DGP Shivadhar Reddy stated that digital piracy had evolved into an organised cybercrime ecosystem and required continuous coordination between law enforcement and industry stakeholders. He said the MoU marked a significant step towards institutionalising anti-piracy enforcement and protecting creative and economic interests.

Hyderabad man loses over Rs 2 lakh in cruise booking scam

A man from Kachiguda lost Rs 2.42 lakh after fraudsters posing as customer care executives of a cruise line allegedly duped him on the pretext of arranging Lakshadweep permit letters, police said on Monday.

According to a complaint lodged with the cybercrime police, the victim on December 26 came across a website offering cruise journeys to Kochi, Lakshadweep and Mumbai. Believing it to be genuine, he booked a cruise for four persons and paid an advance of Rs 23,680.

He was later contacted via an instant messaging app by individuals claiming to be customer care executives, who persuaded him to make multiple payments. On the pretext of securing Lakshadweep permit letters, including charges for two children, the accused extracted additional amounts in several instalments. The fraudsters repeatedly cited technical issues and assured refunds at checkout to induce further payments. They later claimed payment failures, cancelled the booking without valid reasons and demanded Rs 48,500 as cancellation charges, promising to refund the total amount.

The victim ultimately suffered a loss of Rs 2.42 lakh due to cheating and fraud, police said, adding that a case has been registered and an investigation is underway. Hyderabad cybercrime police have urged the public to be cautious while booking cruises online.

Sajjanar Warns of Strict Action on Chinese Manja

City police enforce strict ban on Chinese manja, warn of criminal cases to protect motorists, children, birds

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

City Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar on Monday warned that strict legal action would be taken against anyone involved in the sale, storage or use of banned Chinese manja during the Sankranti festival, with criminal cases to be registered without exception. Stating that there would be "no leniency," Sajjanar said the razor-sharp thread posed a serious threat to motorists, cyclists and birds. He added that clear instructions had been issued to field-level officers to en-



force the ban rigorously and initiate immediate legal action against violators. In posts on X, the commissioner cautioned citizens against the dangers of Chinese manja, saying it could cause fatal injuries, particularly to two-wheeler riders, and described it as a guaranteed threat to human life. Sajjanar noted that Chi-

nese manja, made of synthetic materials and coated with glass particles, does not decompose and remains in the soil for years, causing long-term environmental damage. The ban is being enforced under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. He said special surveillance has been put in place across the city, with task force teams and local police conducting joint surprise raids on kite shops, grocery stores and suspected go-downs. Transport agencies and parcel services illegally bringing Chinese manja from other states

are also under close watch, and owners will be booked if found involved. Highlighting the risks to children, Sajjanar said the thread has caused severe injuries such as severed fingers and fatal neck wounds to motorists, while its metallic elements also pose a risk of electrocution. Citizens were urged to report any sale or storage of Chinese manja by dialling 100, contacting the Hyderabad Police WhatsApp number 94906 16555, or approaching the nearest police station.

Cyberabad Reviews AI-Driven Arrive Alive Initiative

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The 'Arrive Alive 2026' road safety initiative was reviewed in Cyberabad as part of ongoing efforts to curb accidents and strengthen traffic enforcement. Cyberabad police commissioner M. Ramesh and joint commissioner Gajarao Bhupal met representatives of the programme to discuss how technology can be harnessed to monitor vio-



lations and support policing on busy corridors. Commissioner Ramesh took a test ride in an AI-

enabled traffic law compliance vehicle. Police said the vehicle can detect offences such as speeding and unsafe driving, and assist officers in day-to-day enforcement. Officials emphasised that the Arrive Alive programme is being rolled out statewide under the leadership of Director-General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy. The focus, they said, is on sustained enforcement and awareness rather than short-term campaigns, with the aim of reducing avoidable accidents and saving lives.

MANUU Students Protest Bid to Reclaim 50-acre Campus Land

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Students of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (Manuu) have strongly opposed a show-cause notice issued by the government proposing the resumption of 50 acres of university land, calling the move alarming and detrimental to public higher education. In a statement, the Manuu Students Collective said the notice reflected a troubling trend in which public universities were being viewed as surplus real estate rather than long-term academic resources meant for institutional growth.

Drawing parallels with earlier developments at the University of Hyderabad (UoH), where campus land had also come under scrutiny, the students warned of a pattern that reduces universities to land banks while overlooking their academic and social role. The collective argued that citing "non-utilisation" of land ignored structural delays caused by bureaucratic approvals, funding constraints and reliance on central



agencies such as the Central public works department. These systemic hurdles, they said, should not be used as grounds to reclaim land earmarked for educational expansion.

The statement urged the Manuu administration to treat the notice as a warning sign, pointing out that the university already faces a severe hostel shortage. Many students from marginalised, minority and economically weaker backgrounds struggle to secure accommodation, making expansion of hostel infrastructure urgent and unavoidable. Diverting campus land, the students cautioned, would only worsen access issues. They stressed that available land must be prioritised for student needs and future academic growth.

Din in Assembly amid MIM Walkout Over GST Bill

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Assembly on Monday witnessed uproarious scenes during the passage of the Telangana GST (Amendment) Bill, 2026, with BJP and MIM members clashing over ethanol blending in petrol and the state's revenue losses under the GST regime. BJP legislators attempted to storm the well of the House, while MIM staged a walkout protesting against the Bill. Introducing the Bill on behalf of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Excise and Prohibition minister Jupalli Krishna Rao said the amendment was a "technical updation" mandated by the Centre, though he admitted the state was losing revenues. MIM floor leader Akba-

ruddin Owaisi accused the Centre of pushing Telangana into a "debt trap" under the guise of 'one nation, one tax'. He alleged ethanol blending contracts were being cornered by Union minister Nitin Gadkari's family, causing damage to vehicle engines. "Government of India is surviving only because of the GST. MIM opposes it. Smaller states are suffering," he declared before walking out.

BJP legislators Payal Shankar, D. Suryanarayana Gupta and P. Harish Babu countered Owaisi, arguing that GST reforms had rationalised taxes and made four-wheelers more affordable for the middle class. They accused Owaisi of misleading the House, prompting sharp exchanges. Amid the din, Speaker's panel member

Revuri Prakash Reddy denied microphones to protesting BJP MLAs, leading to further commotion. Congress MLA Danam Nagender raised a point of order, saying only ministers or the Speaker should respond to queries directed at the Centre.

Government Whip Aadi Srinivas later demanded a ruling against BJP members for attempting to disrupt proceedings by marching to the well. BJP legislators Payal Shankar, D. Suryanarayana Gupta and P. Harish Babu countered Owaisi, arguing that GST reforms had rationalised taxes and made four-wheelers more affordable for the middle class. They accused Owaisi of misleading the House, prompting sharp exchanges.

Telangana Will Be Back In SC Next Week to Stop AP: Uttam

Uttam Kumar Reddy said "it was due to our pressure that AP government halted work on Rayalaseema lift irrigation scheme."

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday said he would personally attend the next hearing in the Supreme Court on Telangana's petition seeking directions to the Centre not to grant any permissions to Andhra Pradesh's proposed Polavaram-Nallamalasagar Link Project (PNLP). He also informed that another round of consultations with the legal

team representing Telangana would be held in the next few days to strengthen the State's case.

Speaking to reporters during an informal interaction at the Telangana Assembly, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the matter was listed before the Supreme Court on Monday, but the hearing was adjourned to next Monday. The apex court, he said, advised Telangana to approach the issue through a suit petition instead of a writ peti-



tion. "We will follow the court's advice and again seek a stay order from the Supreme Court at the next hearing," the minister stated. Uttam Kumar Reddy asserted that the Telangana government was opposing

the PNLN at every available forum, including the Godavari River Management Board, Polavaram Project Authority, Central Water Commission, Union Ministry of Environment, and the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti. He said Telangana's consistent argument was that the proposed project violates the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT) 1980 award and established inter-State river water sharing rules. "Our objections are based on

law and facts, and all these authorities have agreed with our viewpoint," he claimed. Clarifying allegations made by BRS leader T. Harish Rao, the minister said the letter being cited as evidence of approval was merely an internal communication of the Central Water Commission and not an official clearance for the project. He added that the CWC had written to the Telangana government on December 4, supporting the

State's position. "Not just Telangana, even Maharashtra and Karnataka have raised strong objections to the PNLN," he noted.

Uttam Kumar Reddy further said sustained pressure from the Telangana government had already forced the Andhra Pradesh government to halt works on the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme, demonstrating the effectiveness of Telangana's firm stand on inter-State water issues.

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