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Brief Insights

Jaishankar Slams Western Double Standards Over Operation Sindoor



External affairs minister S. Jaishankar on Wednesday criticised what he described as Western double standards in the international response to conflicts, citing “free advice” offered to India during Operation Sindoor last year and questioning why distant countries express concern without examining levels of violence in their own regions. Addressing members of the Indian community in Luxembourg, Jaishankar said that nations far removed from South Asia often urge India to refrain from actions that might raise tensions, yet they themselves overlook instability closer to home. He said such reactions frequently reflect self-interest rather than genuine concern. “People sitting far away will say things, sometimes with application of mind, sometimes not, some-

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Encounter Continues in Kathua's Kamadh Nullah Amid Challenging Conditions



An intense encounter between security forces and a group of armed militants in the Kamadh Nullah area of Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district continued through Wednesday, with forces maintaining pressure despite unforgiving terrain and deteriorating conditions. The operation, which began early in the day after contact was established, has stretched into the evening as personnel navigate dense vegetation, steep gradients and limited visibility. Officials indicated that while the option of pausing the operation overnight was being considered to prevent collateral damage, the security grid around the area has been further tightened. Additional reinforcements are being deployed to ensure the militants—believed to be cornered—are denied any escape route from the cordoned-

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Harshvardhan Rane Returns to Hyderabad, Embraces Nostalgia and Upcoming Projects: P7

Hyderabad Records Its Best Ever Office Leasing Year at 11.4 mn Sq Ft: P8



BJP To Focus On Women-Centric Issues Ahead Of Polls

The BJP's women's wing in poll-bound West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Assam and Puducherry has been activated to spearhead a massive campaign blitz to woo the female voters.

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The BJP top brass, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be leaning more on women-centric issues and the Centre's role in empowering them in a bid to cash in on female votes, who in the recent polls have shown a tilt towards the saffron party, in the run-up to the elections in four states and a Union territory this year. The BJP plans to focus on the women vote-



bank to dominate the narrative during electioneering and ensure winnability in the impending polls. The BJP's women's wing in poll-bound West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Assam and Puducherry has been activated to

spearhead a massive campaign blitz to woo the female voters. As the polls near, the BJP will be deploying all its women leaders, including ministers. To review preparedness for poll-bound states and ramp up its women outreach campaigns, a meeting of election in-charges and co-incharges of the BJP's women's wing of West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Assam and Puducherry was called on Tuesday at the BJP national head-

quarters. The party insiders said that during the meeting discussions centred on mobilising women workers, outreach programmes and state-specific election strategies. “The entire discussion in the meeting was centred around strengthening grassroots presence by carrying out various activities, effective engagement with the women electorate and their participation in the poll processes,” the BJP sources said.

Nampally Court Rejects iBomma Ravi's Bail Plea

HYDERABAD: A local court in Nampally has rejected the bail plea of iBomma founder Emandi Ravi. Ravi was arrested on November 15, 2025 in connection with the multi-million movie piracy and betting advertisement network involving iBomma. Ravi sought bail in five cases booked by the Hyderabad police. The police brought to the notice of the court that chances of Ravi fleeing abroad were more as he possessed another country's passport. After hearing the arguments, the court dismissed the bail plea petitions.

The Central Crime Station (CCS) police arrested Ravi, who was wanted for running one of India's largest movie piracy networks that leaked dozens of copyrighted South Indian films and OTT content. Officials described the arrest as a major breakthrough that could save the Telugu film industry from losses worth thousands of crores. Ravi, who had dared the police to arrest him, was picked up from an apartment in Kukatpally after flying in from France. Police said they tracked him using data from international servers and advanced monitoring tools. During the raid, officials seized laptops, heavy-duty hard disks, computers and HD prints of several films. Minutes after the arrest, Rs.3 crore in his international bank account was frozen. There are more than 40 complaints and several criminal cases against Ravi in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Based on his confession, a special team has been formed to trace his associates and conspirators who remain at large.

SC Warns States Over Stray Animal Menace

Recurrence of dog bite incidents within institutional areas, including sports complexes, reflected not only administrative apathy but also a “systemic failure” to secure these premises from preventable hazards: SC

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Flagging that it is impossible to predict an animal's behaviour or know whether a dog is “in a mood to bite”, the Supreme Court on Wednesday expressed serious concern over the failure of civic bodies to comply with rules and court directions, noting that people were dying not only due to dog bites but also in road accidents caused by stray animals. A three-judge Bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and N.V. Anjaria observed that roads must be kept free of stray animals. “It is not only dog bites but also roaming stray animals that are proving dangerous and causing accidents. No one knows which dog is in what mood in the morning. Civic bodies



must strictly implement rules, guidelines and directions,” the Bench said. The apex court was hearing pleas seeking modification of its earlier orders, filed by dog lovers as well as those demanding stricter enforcement. The hearing was taken up after lawyers and animal activists contended that they were not heard before the court passed its order on November 7. Justice Mehta pointed out that two Rajasthan High Court judges had met with accidents in the past 20 days due to stray animals, with one of them still suffering from spinal injuries. “It is a serious issue,” he remarked.

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US Seizes Venezuela-Linked, Russian-Flagged Oil Tanker

WASHINGTON Wakeup telangana

The U.S. seized a Russian-flagged oil tanker that was being shadowed by a Russian submarine on Wednesday, after a more than two-week-long pursuit across the Atlantic as part of a U.S. “blockade” of Venezuelan oil exports, two U.S. officials told Reuters. This appeared to be the first time



in recent memory that the U.S. military has seized a Russian-flagged vessel. The operation took place after the tanker, originally

known as the Bella-1, slipped through a U.S. maritime blockade of sanctioned tankers in the Caribbean and rebuffed

U.S. Coast Guard efforts to board it. The seizure effort was first reported by Reuters.

In a post on X, the U.S. military's European Command said the Trump administration had seized the vessel for violating U.S. sanctions. “The blockade of sanctioned and illicit Venezuelan oil remains in FULL EFFECT — anywhere in the world,” U.S. Defense Sec-

retary Pete Hegseth said in reply to that post. The U.S. officials, who were speaking on condition of anonymity, said Wednesday's operation near Iceland was being carried out by the Coast Guard and U.S. military.

The Coast Guard did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The officials said Russian military vessels were in the

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Ruckus Over Shifting of Temple Obstructing NH in Anantapur

ANANTAPUR Wakeup telangana

Shifting of Goddess Mysore Sarojamma Temple on the Anantapur-Chitradurg national highway on outskirts of Anantapur led to turmoil when a group of people, including the transgender, reinstalled the idol at the same location after it had earlier been shifted to the nearby Kakkalapalli village. Following a complaint by the

tahsildar, Anantapur Rural police have registered cases against nine persons, including temple priest and the transgender for obstructing officials from performing their duties.

According to information, the Sarojamma Temple came up while the national highway authorities had been building the road between Anantapur and Chitradurg.

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FY26 GDP to Hit 7.4% on Strong Mfg, Services Push

Services and manufacturing-led expansion lifts GDP outlook, reinforcing India's resilience amid global economic uncertainty

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

India's economy is projected to grow at a robust 7.4 per cent in 2025–26, up from 6.5 per cent in the previous financial year, driven by strong performances in the services and manufacturing sectors, according to the First Advance Estimates released by the National Statistics

Office (NSO) on Wednesday.

With this growth, India is set to retain its position as the world's fastest-growing major economy. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had expanded by 9.2 per cent in 2023–24. The data showed that Gross Value Added (GVA) is estimated to rise by 7.3 per cent in 2025–26, compared to 6.4 per



cent in 2024–25. Manufacturing GVA is expected to grow by 7 per cent, a sharp improvement from 4.5 per cent last year, while the services sector is projected to ex-

pand by a strong 9.1 per cent, up from 7.2 per cent. Growth in the agriculture and allied sector, however, moderated to 3.1 per cent, compared to 4.6 per cent in the previous fiscal. According to the NSO, real GDP at constant prices is estimated at Rs 201.90 lakh crore in FY26, against Rs 187.97 lakh crore in FY25. Nominal GDP, which in-

cludes inflation, is projected to reach Rs 357.14 lakh crore, growing at 8 per cent, lower than the 10.1 per cent estimated in the Union Budget last year.

In dollar terms, India's GDP is expected to touch USD 3.97 trillion (at USD 1 = Rs 90). The advance estimates will form the basis for the Union

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Palamuru Project 90% Complete Under BRS, Congress Neglecting Farmers: BRS

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) on Wednesday alleged that the Palamuru–Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Project was 90 per cent completed during the BRS government and accused the Congress-led Telangana government of deliberately neglecting the project, causing severe hardship to farmers.

BRS leaders said that despite the project being close to completion, the Congress government has failed to switch on the motors and lift Krishna river water, resulting in drying crops across Palamuru region. They alleged that the government is conspiring to drain the project without utilizing Krishna waters.

Referring to the Jurala project, BRS leaders said the reservoir has dried up and a crop holiday was announced in the area. They questioned



how reservoirs would be filled when Jurala itself is being allowed to dry. They also criticized the appointment of an officer who previously worked in Andhra Pradesh as an advisor in Telangana, alleging that he would safeguard Andhra’s interests instead of Telangana’s. Questioning the government’s decisions, BRS leaders asked whether Telangana lacked capable intellectuals and engineers, and why officials associated

with Andhra Pradesh were being appointed. They recalled that during the BRS regime, irrigation water was supplied to farmers on time and there was never any discussion about breaking RDS gates. Former chief minister K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), they said, fought alone to protect Telangana’s water rights.

They stated that although engineers initially claimed it was impossible to draw water from Jurala, the Pala-

murmu project—designed by engineers and not by any political party—was taken forward under KCR’s leadership using Srisailem waters, which Telangana has a rightful share in. BRS leaders said the Jurala project was constructed at a location capable of storing 217 TMC of water, based on the advice of retired engineers, to handle situations like the current one. However, they alleged that even though reservoirs with a combined capacity of 3.5 TMC are ready, the Congress government has failed to utilize Krishna water, leaving farmers’ fields dry.

They further alleged that ministers were making baseless statements, claiming canals were incomplete, while ground-level work shows that 90 per cent of the project was finished during the BRS government. They accused the government of being unable to even pay electricity bills for

running the motors. Criticising the Congress government, BRS leaders said not a single new work has been taken up since it came to power. They also alleged negligence in handling the SLBC accident, stating that even the bodies of the deceased workers have not been recovered.

The BRS demanded that the remaining 10 per cent of the Palamuru project be completed immediately and irrigation water supplied to farmers. They announced plans to visit every village to explain what they termed as injustice and fraud being committed against Palamuru farmers. Warning the Congress government, BRS leaders said people would respond wisely if negligence continued and asserted that once BRS returns to power, the Palamuru project would be fully completed and irrigation water ensured for farmers.

KTR Crossing Limits, Public Offended: Congress

HDYERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Adi Srinivas, Government Whip and CLP Media Center convenor, launched a scathing attack on BRS working president K T Rama Rao (KTR), alleging that the former minister has lost political balance and moral authority. Srinivas said KTR lacks the courage to speak in the Assembly before Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and is instead “roaming on roads and indulging in distractions.”

Addressing the media, Srinivas accused KTR of avoiding serious Assembly debates and resorting to what he described as “political theatrics” outside the House. He alleged that



KTR is making excessive and abusive remarks against Rahul Gandhi and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, which have deeply offended the public and Congress workers. Srinivas demanded an immediate public apology from KTR to Rahul Gandhi and Revanth Reddy.

The Congress leader claimed that KTR is struggling to control himself, both politically and personally. He alleged internal conflicts within the BRS family, stating that

KTR is fighting with Kavita at home and Harish Rao in the Assembly, which, according to him, explains his absence from legislative discussions. Srinivas said KTR’s statements have crossed all limits of decorum and dignity.

Raising key policy questions, Srinivas asked why BRS leaders avoided the Assembly when discussions were held on Krishna water sharing. He questioned the shift of the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project source from Jurala to Srisailem and demanded clarity from the BRS. He also alleged that Kavita herself has raised questions regarding the role of the Harish Rao Commission and its alleged greed behind the source shift.

Yennem Srinivas Reddy Slams KCR, Says BRS Failed as Opposition

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Mahabubnagar MLA Yennem Srinivas Reddy launched a sharp attack on BRS president KCR,

questioning the party’s role and credibility both inside and outside the Assembly. Addressing the media, Srinivas Reddy asked how leaders who failed to attend the Assembly could claim to know what transpired inside the House. He said such statements expose BRS’s lack of seriousness and political responsibility. According to him, the time has come for KCR to take “political asceticism” and step aside from active politics.

The MLA alleged that KCR appears in public only when he is in power and has consistently failed to come out for the people during times of need. This, he said, clearly proves that BRS is ineffective even as an opposi-



tion party. “BRS has completely lost its relevance,” he remarked.

Srinivas Reddy further claimed that internal conflicts have begun surfacing within BRS, describing the situation as a “fire inside the BRS house.” Referring to KCR’s recent press conference, he said that warning people about consequences if someone “pretends to sleep” reflects political frustration rather than leadership.

He accused KCR of betraying Telangana on critical water issues and questioned the moral authority of holding press meets on the same subject now. “KCR has repeatedly insulted the people of Telangana,” he alleged, add-

ing that the public has not forgotten these actions.

The Mahabubnagar MLA also targeted the KCR family, stating that whenever one member gains prominence, another is pushed back, leading to internal imbalance. He claimed that the alleged irregularities committed by KCR have begun affecting the next generation as well. Taking a jibe at the party’s direction, Srinivas Reddy said that if KCR wants poetry, he should start a literary forum instead of misleading people through politics. He concluded by alleging that Kavitha is fully aware of how the KCR family allegedly looted the state.

Vivekananda Accuses Govt of Diluting Assembly Traditions

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Assembly BRS Whip K.P. Vivekananda on Wednesday accused the Congress government of violating Assembly rights and parliamentary traditions during the recent Assembly sessions, alleging that the House was run in a partisan and self-glorifying manner. He said the Assembly began without a proper agenda and that 13 Bills were passed in haste without adequate discussion. Despite the BRS demanding a 15-day Assembly session in the Business Advisory Committee (BAC), the government allegedly failed to release the BAC minutes, claiming the meeting itself was tampered with.

Vivekananda pointed out that while the Speaker earlier stated that the duration of the Assembly would be decided by the Chair, Congress leaders had previously termed presentations in the House as “illegal,” but went on



to use PPT presentations after coming to power, exposing double standards. Accusing the government of fearing discussion, he said the Assembly was conducted for five days only to target former Chief Minister KCR. He alleged that when the Speaker allowed a microphone to the BRS, members from the ruling party collectively attempted to attack KCR politically.

The BRS Whip also referred to comments made by Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy regarding the government’s behavior toward the Deputy Chief Minister, urging the government to “open its eyes at least now.” He said Speaker Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy was questioned

in the House over Indiramma housing, while ministers themselves admitted there was a gap between what they say in the Assembly and what they implement outside. Vivekananda alleged that after the BRS boycott, several members were seen sleeping in the House, adding that traditions were diluted and disorder was encouraged. He compared the functioning of the Assembly to being run like Gandhi Bhavan and Jubilee Hills Palace, alleging failure on the part of Minister Sreedhar Babu to conduct proceedings properly. Referring to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s statement that he personally stopped the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation project, Vivekananda said those remarks were later denied by the Andhra Pradesh government. He confirmed that the BRS has submitted a notice alleging violation of Assembly rights against CM Revanth Reddy.

Grand Felicitation for Pankaj Kumar Agrawal in Hyderabad



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A grand felicitation ceremony along with a community feast was organised at Bhandara Chowk, Rikabganj, under the aegis of the Hindu Raksha Samiti and Vyapari Prakoshth–Bhagyanagar, to honour Pankaj Kumar Agrawal, who was recently elected Vice President of the Hyderabad Art Wholesale Art Silk Cloth Merchant Association. The event was held to mark Agrawal’s emphatic victory in the association’s elections, where he secured the post with a large margin of votes. The programme commenced with traditional prayers and worship of Goddess Bhagwati. Following the prayers, Pankaj Kumar Agrawal—an industrialist, strategist, social worker and author—was accorded a warm welcome

with garlands, a shawl and ceremonial honours amid the chanting of Shri Ram bhajans. Addressing the gathering, he said the victory reflected hard work, the trust of traders and the blessings of the Almighty. Local residents and members of the trading community congratulated Agrawal with enthusiastic religious chants and extended their best wishes for his tenure. The event concluded with a grand community feast arranged for the public. Prominent attendees included Surendra Narauli, Abhishek Gupta, Ramesh Agrawal, Anoop Agrawal, Chetan, Sunil Sharma, Srinivas, Govardhan, Nilesh, Raj Kamal Bhattad and others. Newly elected Joint Secretary of the Art Silk Association Sunil Sharma and Treasurer Kamal Ahuja were also felicitated on the occasion.

Uttam Is AICC Observer for Tamil Nadu, Puducherry Assembly Polls

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Congress has appointed irrigation and civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy as the senior AICC observer for the upcoming Assembly elections in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Orders to this effect were issued on Wednesday by AICC general secretary K.C. Venugopal. As senior observer, Uttam Kumar Reddy will play a key role in coordinating with the state party units, reviewing organisational preparedness and assisting in the formulation and execution of campaign strategies ahead of the polls.

Party sources said the observers would work closely with local leadership to mobilise cadres, address internal issues and ensure effective co-



ordination at the district and constituency levels. The focus will be on building a cohesive election machinery capable of mounting a strong challenge in both Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Along with Uttam Kumar Reddy, the Congress has appointed senior leaders Mukul Wasnik and Khazi Mohinuddin Nizamuddin as observers for the two states. The team will hold consultations with party leaders, assess ground-level feedback and guide the campaign in alignment with the party’s broader national vision.

BMEU–GHMC Celebrates New Year with Calendar and Diary Launch Amid Workers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Reaffirming its long-standing commitment to the welfare of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) employees, the Bhagyanagar Municipal GHMC Employees Union (BMEU–GHMC) organized a grand New Year Calendar and Diary Launch event among workers today. Founded under the visionary leadership of late Shankaranna, the union has consistently stood at the forefront in addressing workers’ issues. Continuing this legacy, the programme was held under the leadership of Union President Mr. Varkala Shyam Rao, who emphasized that BMEU–GHMC remains the only union that has been continuously accessible to GHMC employees in times of hardship, irrespective of election outcomes or political gains. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Shyam Rao highlighted the persistent struggles faced by many GHMC workers, particularly regarding retirement benefits, GPA claims, and other entitled financial dues even after completing years of dedicated service. He assured the workers that the union would intensify its efforts in the coming days to serve a larger



number of employees and resolve their long-pending issues. The event witnessed the presence of several prominent union leaders and guests, including President Mohan Das, Working President Prakash, Advisors Pullayya Shankar, Rajender Kumar, and Anjaiah, Vice Presidents Moinuddin and Pentaiah, General Secretary Ashwak, Bhagyanagar District BJP General Secretary Mr. Edla Pandarinath, along with Yanjala Nageshwar, Rajan, Hari Krishna, Baburao, and many others. The programme concluded on a positive note, reflecting unity, hope, and renewed determination to safeguard the rights and welfare of GHMC employees in the days ahead.

Khelo India (Sansad Khel Mahotsav) Is Building a Stronger, Inclusive Nation: Prof. Yuddaveer Katta

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Khelo India campaign, launched under the leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, with Sansad Khel Mahotsav as a key pillar, is emerging as a transformative national movement focused on youth empowerment, fitness, and meritocracy, said Prof. Yuddaveer Katta, Scientist, IIT Madras alumnus, and Convenor of the BJP Intellectual Cell, Telangana.

In a media statement, Prof. Katta emphasized that Khelo India (Sansad Khel Mahotsav) goes far beyond a conventional sports initiative. “It is a strategic nation-building programme that recognizes sports as a powerful instrument for shaping disciplined, resilient, and confident citizens. The Prime Minister’s vision is clear—when India plays, India progresses,” he said.

Highlighting the programme’s inclusive character, Prof. Katta noted that Khelo India has created a structured pathway linking grassroots talent to national platforms. From villages and rural mandals to state capitals and international arenas, the initiative ensures that



merit, discipline, and performance—not socio-economic background—define success. Sports under Khelo India transcend caste, creed, gender, language, and region, thereby reinforcing national unity.

“Khelo India (Sansad Khel Mahotsav) recognizes India’s true strength—its demographic potential,” Prof. Katta stated. “Every playground, village field, and school ground represents untapped human capital. This programme is designed to scientifically identify, nurture, and develop talent, ensuring that opportunity reaches every deserving youth.”

From a scientific and developmental perspective, he

stressed that sports play a vital role in character formation and mental resilience. Discipline, teamwork, perseverance, and emotional balance—values consistently emphasized by the Prime Minister—are natural outcomes of sustained participation in sports. “Investment in sports is an investment in ethical values, social cohesion, and national strength,” he added.

Prof. Katta also pointed to targeted policy interventions such as modern infrastructure, scientific training methods, scholarships, professional coaching, and national exposure, which are transforming raw potential into sustainable excellence. “The message to India’s youth is clear: background does not determine destiny; effort, discipline, and commitment do,” he asserted.

Concluding his remarks, Prof. Katta said that Khelo India (Sansad Khel Mahotsav) represents a long-term investment in a physically strong, mentally agile, and emotionally resilient India, fully aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat. “Every game played strengthens India’s foundation, and every victory belongs to the nation as a whole,” he said.

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 Kandi 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 hand-held 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.

IIT-H Launches India’s First Lung Bioengineering Centre

The centre will develop non-invasive tools and therapies for lung and heart diseases

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Rising air pollution and the increasing burden of respiratory diseases have led to the establishment of India’s first bioengineering-driven centre exclusively focused on lung health at the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IIT-H). The ILH–IITH Bioengineering Centre of Excellence, inaugurated on Wednesday at the IIT Hyderabad campus, marks a significant step toward addressing critical gaps in the diagnosis and treatment of lung-related disorders. The centre has been launched in collaboration with the Institute for Lung Health (ILH), Germany, with the objective of integrating engineering research with clinical science to tackle complex pulmonary and cardiovascular diseases. Researchers associated with the initiative stated that despite advances in medicine, accurate and early assessment of lung and heart function—particularly in chronic and pollution-related illnesses—continues to remain a



major challenge. The new facility will focus on the development of non-invasive diagnostic tools, advanced disease models and innovative therapeutic approaches for respiratory and cardiovascular conditions. These efforts aim to overcome the limitations of existing technologies, which often fail to capture the mechanical and biological complexities of lung function. The centre is jointly led by Renu John of IIT Hyderabad and Soni Savai Pullamsetti of the Institute for Lung Health, Justus Liebig University, Giessen. It draws on IIT Hyderabad’s strengths in biomedical engineering, mechanobiology, bio-

materials, nanobiotechnology and computational biology. The initiative is supported by advanced in-house infrastructure, including animal research facilities, microfluidics laboratories and 3D-printing platforms, enabling translational research from the laboratory to clinical settings. Speaking at the inauguration, Dr D. Nageshwar Reddy, chairman of AIG Hospitals, highlighted the urgency of focused lung health research in India. He noted that deteriorating air quality across urban centres is having a direct and lasting impact on respiratory health, making scientific innovation in this field a national priority.

He emphasized the need for research outcomes to translate effectively into patient care. Werner Seeger, director of the Institute for Lung Health and chair of the German Center for Lung Diseases, said the collaboration aims to bridge the gap between engineering and medicine. He stated that combining expertise from both domains would improve the understanding, diagnosis and treatment of lung and vascular diseases, while also fostering the next generation of researchers through international collaboration. The centre is expected to function as a hub for translational research, connecting laboratory discoveries with clinical applications. The inauguration programme featured plenary sessions and discussions involving clinicians and engineers from pulmonology, cardiology, paediatric cardiology and thoracic surgery, with a focus on engineering-based solutions to lung disease challenges in India and globally.

State Reshuffles IPS Officials in Hyderabad

Vijay Kumar, who is a part of the investigating team for the phone-tapping case, was transferred and posted as joint commissioner of police, special branch, Hyderabad City.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a major bureaucratic reshuffle, the government on Wednesday transferred several IPS officials and gave key postings to women officers in the newly-formed four police commissionerates. Siddipet commissioner S.M. Vijay Kumar, who is a part of the investigating team for the phone-tapping case, was transferred and posted as joint commissioner of police, special branch, Hyderabad City. N. Swetha Reddy, deputy commissioner of police, DD, Hyderabad, was transferred and posted as joint commissioner of police (L&O), north range, which comprises Jubilee Hills, Khairatabad and Secunderabad zones, in Hyderabad City commissionerate. K Shilpavalli, DCP, Central zone, Hyderabad was transferred and posted as DCP, Khairatabad zone in Hyderabad. Ritiraj, DCP, Madhapur was transferred and posted as DCP, Kukatpally zone in the Cyberabad commissionerate. B. Anuradha Reddy, DCP, LB Nagar zone, Rachakonda, was transferred

and posted as DCP, LB Nagar zone in the newly-created Malkajgiri commissionerate. Rakshitha K. Murthy, DCP, CAR Headquarters, Hyderabad was transferred and posted as DCP, Secunderabad zone in Hyderabad commissionerate. Ch. Sishra, SP, intelligence, was transferred and posted as DCP, Shadnagar zone in the newly-created Future City commissionerate. Tafseer Iqbal, joint commissioner of police (L&O), Hyderabad, was transferred and posted as additional commissioner of police (L&O), south range (comprising Shamshabad, Golconda, Rajendranagar and Charminar zones), Hyderabad. N. Koti Reddy, DCP, Medchal zone, was transferred and posted as DCP, Qutubullapur zone in Cyberabad. K. Narayana Reddy, DCP, Maheshwaram zone was transferred and posted as DCP, Maheshwaram zone in Future City. K. Suresh Kumar, DCP, Balanagar was transferred and posted as DCP, Uppal zone in Malkajgiri. Khare Kiran Prabhakar, DCP, south zone, Hyderabad,

was transferred and posted as DCP, Charminar zone in Hyderabad. Yogesh Goutam, DCP, Rajendranagar zone, Cyberabad was transferred and posted as DCP, Chevella zone in Future City. Ch. Srinivas, DCP, West zone, Hyderabad, was transferred and posted as DCP, Serilingampally zone in Cyberabad. Sadhana Rashmi Perumal, DCP, north zone, Hyderabad, was transferred and posted as commissioner of police, Siddipet. Ch. Sridhar, DCP, Malkajgiri, Rachakonda, was transferred and posted as DCP, Malkajgiri zone in Malkajgiri. S. Sreenivas, SP, TG Transco was transferred and posted as DCP, Rajendranagar zone in Hyderabad. G. Chandra Mohan, DCP, South West zone, Hyderabad, was transferred and posted as DCP, Golconda zone in Hyderabad. A. Ramana Reddy, DCP, SOT, Rachakonda was transferred and posted as DCP, Jubilee Hills zone in Hyderabad. B Rajesh, DCP, Rachakonda was transferred and posted as DCP, Shamshabad zone in Hyderabad.

Congress–BJP Colluding Against BRS in Telangana: MLC Dasoju Shravan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

MLC Dasoju Shravan Kumar alleged that the Congress and BJP, despite claiming ideological differences, are secretly colluding in Telangana to weaken the BRS and malign former Chief Minister KCR through coordinated propaganda. Addressing the media, Shravan Kumar said that even “a cat and a mouse can live together, but Congress and BJP cannot,” yet both parties are continuing what he termed an “illegal political relationship” in the state. He accused them of working jointly to spread false narratives against



the BRS. He questioned the role of Maharashtra government advisor Vedire Sriram, asking what contributions he had made to Telangana and why he was speaking in a manner hostile to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the Congress itself, while simultaneously spreading misinformation against KCR. He also questioned Sriram’s presence in the Command Control Room

and the chamber of Uttam Kumar Reddy, alleging a conspiracy involving Revanth Reddy, Uttam Kumar Reddy and Vedire Sriram against KCR. Shravan Kumar alleged that there was no difference in the statements of Revanth Reddy, Uttam Kumar Reddy and Vedire Sriram, and questioned the allocation of 299 TMCs of water to Telangana during the united Andhra Pradesh regime, stating it happened under the Reddy rule. He pointed out that after KCR became Chief Minister, he wrote multiple letters to the Centre seeking justice on Krishna river waters and attended

Apex Council meetings. He accused BJP leaders Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay of remaining silent on Telangana’s water rights, questioning why the Brijesh Kumar Tribunal verdict was still pending. He alleged that the BJP was working to please Chandrababu Naidu and had compromised Telangana’s interests. Recalling past actions, Shravan Kumar said the BRS had raised objections to the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Project as early as 2020 and approached the National Green Tribunal. He stated that KCR wrote several letters to the Centre opposing the project.

AIMIM Door-to-Door Campaign in Nanded Ahead of Civic Polls

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Ahead of the municipal corporation elections, AIMIM intensified its campaign in Nanded with an extensive door-to-door outreach on Tuesday. AIMIM Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin, along with Hyderabad AIMIM corporators and party workers, interacted directly with residents across various localities. During the campaign, the leaders appealed to voters to extend their support to



the AIMIM candidate in the upcoming municipal polls, highlighting the party’s commitment to civic development and minority welfare. Party workers ex-

plained AIMIM’s agenda and urged voters to participate actively in the democratic process. The door-to-door drive is part of AIMIM’s focused strategy to strengthen its presence in Maharashtra ahead of the 2026 municipal elections.

Major Fire Breaks Out At Scrap Godown In Musheerabad

A major accidental fire broke out at a scrap godown in Gulsan Nagar, Bollapur division, on Wednesday night and quickly spread to six adjacent warehouses, triggering panic among residents. The fire erupted around 9.30 pm at Munir’s scrap godown near the Anjuman Function Hall. Thick, dark smoke soon engulfed the area as the flames spread to neighbouring units. Alerted by local residents, the fire department rushed two fire tenders and two Hydra teams to the spot. Firefighters battled the blaze for several hours and managed to bring it under control, preventing it from spreading further into nearby residential areas. As a precaution, the power supply in the locality was immediately cut off, plunging the area into darkness while firefighting and rescue operations were under way. No casualties were reported, police said. Musheerabad Station House Officer Rambabu and Deputy Inspector Nazimuddin rushed to the scene and are collecting details regarding the cause of the fire and assessing the extent of the damage. A case has been registered and an investigation is under way.

Ponguleti Slams KTR, Dismisses BRS 'Semi-Final' Claim

WARANGAL
Wakeup telangana

Warangal district in-charge minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, asserting that the party’s return to power was “nothing but a dream”. Responding to Rama Rao’s remarks made in Khammam district, the minister said that despite repeated defeats in recent elections, the BRS leadership had failed to learn any lessons and was now making baseless claims by projecting the upcoming local body elections as a



“semi-final”. Speaking to reporters, Srinivas Reddy advised Rama Rao to first put his own house in order before dreaming of regaining power. He said the electorate had already rejected the BRS in the general elections and the Jubilee Hills byelection. He also made a veiled reference to ongoing investigations and political developments, remarking that the BRS leadership was aware of the “Diwali

bombs” currently exploding around it. Earlier in the day, the minister, along with panchayat raj minister Seethakka, chaired a review meeting at the Integrated District Offices Complex (IDOC) in Hanamkonda to assess the progress of major development works. The projects reviewed included Mamnoon Airport, the Kakatiya Mega Textile Park, the Super Specialty Hospital and the Inner Ring Road. The meeting also reviewed the status of the underground drainage system and flood-prevention works to ensure preparedness.

SIT Summons CM's Brother Kondal Reddy In Phone Tapping Case

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Wednesday summoned Anumula Kondal Reddy, a brother of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to appear before investigation officer (IO) at Jubilee Hills. The SIT also served notices to two former BRS MLAs Jai-pal Yadav and Chirumuthy Lingaiah directing them to appear at its Jubilee Hills office. The SIT, which is probing the illegal phone tapping and destruction of evidence by the Special Intelligence Bureau (SIB) during the previous Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) regime, has directed



Kondal Reddy to depose at its office by 10 am. A senior police officer disclosed that investigators have unearthed evidence suggesting that Kondal Reddy’s phone was among those illegally intercepted during the previous government’s tenure. The surveillance reportedly intensified when Revanth Reddy

was leading a high-decibel campaign as a prominent opposition leader. Kondal Reddy has been called to record his statement as a victim-witness regarding the alleged breach of privacy, police said. The investigation, spearheaded by Hyderabad police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, has gained momentum in the ‘New Year’ probe is currently zeroing in on the notorious “RR Module” a dedicated surveillance unit allegedly tasked with tracking the movements and communications of Revanth Reddy, and his inner circle. This development follows a series of aggressive moves by the SIT, which

recently questioned BRS MLC Naveen Rao on January 4. Speculation is rife in the Secretariat that the SIT is preparing to serve notices to several BRS heavyweights, including former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and senior leader T. Harish Rao, to determine the “political masters” who authorised the clandestine operations. The SIT is currently scrutinising the technical logistics of the SIB and the large-scale disposal of computer hardware and digital logs that allegedly took place immediately after the 2023 election results were declared, police sources disclosed.

US Seizes Venezuela-Linked, Russian-Flagged Oil Tanker

This appeared to be the first time in recent memory that the U.S. military has seized a Russian-flagged vessel

WASHINGTON
Wakeup telangana

The U.S. seized a Russian-flagged oil tanker that was being shadowed by a Russian submarine on Wednesday, after a more than two-week-long pursuit across the Atlantic as part of a U.S. "blockade" of Venezuelan oil exports, two U.S. officials told Reuters. This appeared to be the first time in recent memory that the U.S. military has seized a Russian-flagged vessel. The operation took place after the tanker, originally known as the Bella-1, slipped through a U.S. maritime blockade of sanctioned tankers in the Caribbean and rebuffed U.S. Coast Guard efforts to board it. The seizure effort was first reported by Reuters. In a post on X, the

U.S. military's European Command said the Trump administration had seized the vessel for violating U.S. sanctions. "The blockade of sanctioned and illicit Venezuelan oil remains in FULL EFFECT — anywhere in the world," U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said in reply to that post. The U.S. officials, who were speaking on condition of anonymity, said Wednesday's operation near Iceland was being carried out by the Coast Guard and U.S. military. The Coast Guard did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The officials said Russian military vessels were in the general vicinity of the operation, including a Russian submarine. It was unclear how close the vessels were to the operation, but there were no indications of



a confrontation between U.S. and Russian military forces. There was no immediate comment from Moscow. However, Russian state media outlet RT published an image of a helicopter hovering near the ship. The seizure took place just days after U.S. special forces swooped into Caracas before dawn on Saturday in a deadly

raid to seize President Nicolas Maduro and take him to the United States. The U.S. military turned him over to federal authorities for prosecution on charges involving alleged drug trafficking. It was unclear where exactly the ship would now go, but sources said it would likely be entering British territorial waters. Britain's Ministry of Defence

declined to comment. The U.S. Coast Guard first attempted to intercept the vessel last month, but it refused to be boarded. Since then, it has registered under a Russian flag and been renamed Marinera. The vessel is the latest tanker targeted by the U.S. Coast Guard since the start of U.S. President Donald Trump's pres-

sure campaign against Venezuela. Separately, the U.S. Coast Guard has also intercepted another Venezuela-linked tanker in Latin American waters, U.S. officials told Reuters on Wednesday, as the U.S. continues enforcing its blockade of sanctioned vessels from Venezuela. Sources told Reuters that the vessel was Panama-flagged supertanker M Sophia, which is under sanctions. It had departed from Venezuelan waters in early January as part of a fleet of ships carrying Venezuelan oil to China in "dark mode" or with its transponder off, according to shipping data and sources. Top Venezuelan officials have called Maduro's capture a kidnapping and have accused the U.S. of trying to steal the country's vast oil re-

serves, estimated to be the largest in the world. In turn, Trump and top U.S. officials have accused Venezuela of stealing U.S. oil, in an apparent reference to the country's nationalization of its energy sector in several waves over the past half-century. Venezuela has millions of barrels of oil loaded on tankers and in storage tanks that it has been unable to ship due to the effective U.S. blockade on exports imposed since mid-December. Trump said on Tuesday that Caracas and Washington have reached a deal to export up to \$2 billion worth of Venezuelan crude to the United States, an agreement that would divert supplies from China while helping Venezuela avoid deeper oil production cuts. Such an agreement would be

a strong sign that the Venezuelan government is responding to Trump's demand that authorities there open up to U.S. oil companies or risk more military intervention. Trump has said he wants interim President Delcy Rodriguez to give the U.S. and private companies "total access" to Venezuela's oil industry. Since the U.S. imposed energy sanctions on Venezuela in 2019, traders and refiners buying Venezuelan oil have resorted to a "shadow fleet" of tankers that disguise their location, or to vessels already sanctioned for transporting Iranian or Russian oil. The shadow fleet is considered exposed to possible punitive measures from the U.S., shipping analysts have said.

Jaishankar Slams Western Double Standards Over Operation Sindoor

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

External affairs minister S. Jaishankar on Wednesday criticised what he described as Western double standards in the international response to conflicts, citing "free advice" offered to India during Operation Sindoor last year and questioning why distant countries express concern without examining levels of violence in their own regions. Addressing members of the Indian community in Luxembourg, Jaishankar said that nations far removed from South Asia often urge India to refrain from actions that might raise tensions, yet



they themselves overlook instability closer to home. He said such reactions frequently reflect self-interest rather than genuine concern. "People sitting far away will say things, sometimes with application of mind, sometimes not, sometimes with self-interest, sometimes carelessly," he remarked, adding that countries tend to act only when it

is of direct benefit to them. Jaishankar also explained that India engages constructively with countries willing to cooperate positively, while it deals differently with nations that do not, alluding to the varied approach India takes with different neighbours. In the same interaction, he reiterated India's evolving part-

nership with Luxembourg and broader co-operation in political, business and technology spheres, and appreciated the role of the Indian diaspora in strengthening bilateral ties. Jaishankar further criticised Pakistan for its longstanding policy of supporting training camps for terrorists and said that such behaviour necessitates a distinct diplomatic approach compared with India's relations with constructive neighbours. He also referenced recent tariff volatility affecting Indian exports, indicating that despite challenges, Indian exports performed better than expected last year.

Govt Asks X For More Details, Specific Action Taken in Grok AI Obscene Content Issue

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 per cent 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.

Encounter Continues in Kathua's Kamadh Nullah Amid Challenging Conditions

SRINAGAR
Wakeup telangana

An intense encounter between security forces and a group of armed militants in the Kamadh Nullah area of Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district continued through Wednesday, with forces maintaining pressure despite unforgiving terrain and deteriorating conditions. The operation, which began early in the day after contact was established, has stretched into the evening as personnel navigate dense vegetation, steep gradients and limited visibility. Officials indicated that while the option of pausing the operation overnight was being considered to prevent collateral damage, the security grid around the area has been further tightened. Additional reinforcements are being deployed to ensure the militants—believed to be



cornered—are denied any escape route from the cordoned-off zone. Inspector General of Police (IGP) Jammu Zone noted in a post on X that the Special Operations Group (SOG) continues to engage the militants relentlessly despite the darkness and treacherous surroundings. He confirmed that Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) teams have also joined the joint operation, strengthening the multi-layered response on the ground. The encounter was triggered after security forces launched a cordon-and-search operation based on

specific intelligence inputs regarding the presence of militants in the region. The situation escalated when the militants opened fire, prompting immediate retaliatory action from the forces. Police sources revealed that around 4 pm, a militant was spotted by local residents near Kamadh Nullah in the Billawar police station jurisdiction. Preliminary assessments suggest it may be the same individual who was reportedly seen earlier in the day in the Dhannu Parole area, indicating possible movement through the forested belt.

FY26 GDP to.....

In US dollar terms, the GDP is likely to be USD 3.97 trillion (1 USD = Rs 90). According to World Bank's China economic update issued in December, the country is estimated to grow at 4.9 per cent in 2025 and 4.4 per cent in 2026. The NSO's GDP estimate for the current fiscal is marginally higher than the Reserve Bank's projection of 7.3 per cent. The real private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) has been estimated to attain a growth rate of 7 per cent during 2025-26. Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) has been estimated to have 7.8 per cent growth rate at constant prices during 2025-26, compared to 7.1 per cent in previous financial year. Despite global headwinds, the Indian economy has been on a steady trajectory, and the government has come out with various reform measures this fiscal, including income tax relief and reduction in GST rates. Commenting on the data, Rahul Agrawal, senior economist, ICRA, said the rating agency does not expect a fiscal slippage over the targeted 4.4 per cent of GDP, as higher-than-budgeted non-tax revenues and

likely expenditure savings would provide a buffer against the expected miss on taxes. Dharmakirti Joshi, Chief Economist Crisil, said growth in real GDP this fiscal will be 7.4 per cent, nearly 100 basis points higher than anticipated at the start of the fiscal year. "India's growth momentum has sustained despite elevated global uncertainty due to tariff tensions, riding on accommodative monetary and fiscal policies, robust corporate balance sheets, and favourable developments such as above-normal monsoons and low crude oil prices," he said. Jahnavi Prabhakar, Economist, Bank of Baroda, said he Indian economy remains resilient on the back of the festive demand and steady improvement in economic activity. Strong festive sales along with GST rationalization 2.0 and income tax cuts are expected to boost the consumption sector. Even the post festive demand has been holding up, Prabhakar said.

SC Warns States.....

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for petitioners seeking modification of the earlier order, argued that capturing all dogs was not the solution and called for adoption of a scientific ap-

proach accepted worldwide. He suggested implementing the CSVR (Capture, Sterilise, Vaccinate and Release) model to manage stray dog populations and reduce human-animal conflict. "Prevention is always better than cure," Justice Nath said, adding that the court had merely directed the removal of stray dogs from institutional areas and had not interfered with existing rules or regulations. The court clarified that it was only seeking strict enforcement of existing rules, guidelines, modules and standard operating procedures by states and civic bodies. "Some states have not responded to our orders or complied with them. We will be very harsh with those states," the Bench warned. When counsels pointed out continuing dog attacks, the court acknowledged that both children and adults were being bitten and losing their lives.

Ruckus Over.....

According to information, the Sarojamma Temple came up while the national highway authorities had been building the road between Anantapur and Chitradurg. Despite complaints against the temple, it remained on the road

due to objections allegedly by devotees. A group of locals then approached the High Court which, three months ago, directed revenue authorities to allot an alternate site and relocate the temple. Authorities issued GO 571 alienating the land at Kakkalapalli village to shift the temple. Anantapur Rural tahsildar also gave advance possession of the land to the temple authorities for shifting. On January 4 morning, the tahsildar and mandal executive magistrate proceeded to the temple premises. The temple committee represented by its treasurer B. Siva Prasad, along with the temple priest, performed poojas and shifted the idol and pooja kalasham to the newly constructed temple in Kakkalapalli village. However, BJP district unit staged a protest over the issue. When the tahsildar had been taking up plans to level the highway at the old temple spot, a group of transgender and others brought back the idol and put it in the old place. Devotees charge that authorities took up the shifting rituals in Sunya Masam, when no holy activities must be performed. Police have posted a picket at the site.

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 Azeez 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

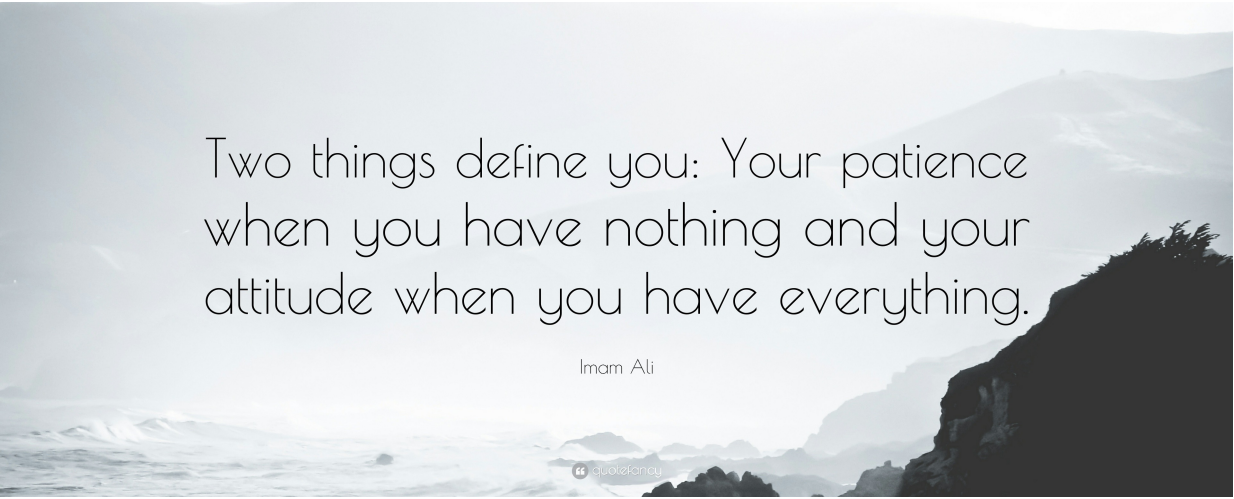


The drowning of a three-year-old boy in a swimming pool at the Vertex Prime gated community in the KPHB Colony limits highlighted safety lapses in gated communities, as no security guard or lifeguard was reportedly present at the pool at the time of the incident. Speaking on pool safety norms followed 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.



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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Sebi Proposes Usage of Price Data With 30 Day Time Lag For Educational Purposes Market

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has issued a consultation paper proposing a uniform 30-day time lag for the sharing and usage of price data in educational and investor awareness activities. The market regulator has invited public comments on the proposal by January 27, 2026.

The move comes after SEBI's landmark December 2, 2025 order against financial influencer Avadhut Sathe, under which approximately ₹546 crore earned through his educational platform, Avadhut Sathe Trading Academy (ASTAPL), was impounded. The case highlighted concerns



about misuse of financial data under the guise of education, prompting SEBI to clarify guidelines for educational use of market information. SEBI has a history of regulating data usage for investor education. A May 24, 2024 circular allowed market infrastructure institutions (MIIs) and intermediaries to share price data with a minimum one-day lag. Meanwhile, a January 29, 2025 circular required educational content to use price data three months old

to avoid crossing into the realm of Investment Advisory (IA) or Research Analyst (RA) activity. Using live data to predict future prices is considered advisory activity, not pure education, SEBI noted. After considering stakeholder feedback and internal assessments, SEBI found that the one-day lag was too short, creating potential for misuse, while a three-month lag was excessively long, reducing the educational relevance of data. To balance

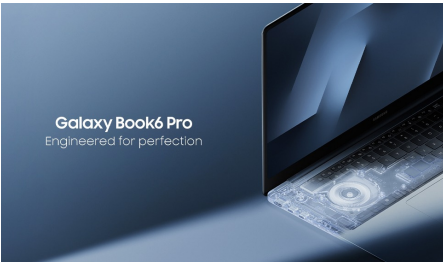
these concerns, SEBI proposed a 30-day lag for both sharing and using price data. The regulator clarified that persons engaged solely in educational activities must continue to follow the prohibited activities outlined in the January 2025 circular, and all other provisions of earlier circulars remain unchanged. Under the proposed framework, MIIs and intermediaries must maintain a minimum one-day technical lag when sharing data, while educational institutes can use 30-day-old data to prepare content for classes or media without being categorized under IA/RA activities. SEBI emphasized that this ensures meaningful educational engagement while preventing

data misuse. Commenting on the proposal, Vijay Sardana, techno-legal and risk management expert, observed, "Regulation should address the gap between education and advisory. If market data is too recent, it risks misuse; if too old, it loses meaning. A balanced time lag allows investors to understand market behavior effectively while staying within legal boundaries." SEBI's initiative is seen as an effort to clarify the grey area between education and advisory, ensuring that investor education remains informative, relevant, and compliant with regulations, while protecting market participants from potential misuse of price data.

Samsung Launches AI-Powered Galaxy Book6 Series at CES 2026

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Samsung Electronics on Wednesday introduced its most advanced PC lineup yet — the Galaxy Book6 Ultra, Galaxy Book6 Pro and Galaxy Book6 — at CES 2026, bringing AI-driven productivity, cutting-edge performance and ultra-slim design together in a premium package. Powered by Intel Core Ultra Series 3 processors built on Intel's 18A architecture, the Galaxy Book6 series delivers high-speed CPU, GPU and NPU performance for seamless multitasking, faster AI processing and enhanced efficiency. The Galaxy Book6 Ultra further raises the bar with NVIDIA GeForce RTX 5070/5060 Laptop GPUs, enabling advanced AI image generation, smooth video editing, immersive gaming and superior creative workflows. Samsung has also focused on thermal efficiency, introducing an optimized cooling system with a redesigned vapor chamber and improved airflow. Notably, this marks the first time the Pro series features a vapor



chamber, ensuring sustained performance with minimal noise. Designed for portability and balance, the Galaxy Book6 series combines powerful hardware with refined craftsmanship in a slim, lightweight form factor suited for everyday productivity. Integrated Galaxy AI enhances both on-device and cloud-based experiences, offering fast, intuitive tools that support all-day work and creativity. Security is strengthened through Samsung Knox's multi-layered protection, alongside Windows 11 Secured-core PC features. The Galaxy Book6 series will be available in Grey and Silver in select markets from late January 2026. An Enterprise Edition tailored for managed IT environments will launch in April 2026.

Marwadi University to Host VGRC 2026, Proposes ₹1,000 Cr Education MoU

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Marwadi University will host the prestigious Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference (VGRC) for the Saurashtra-Kutch region on January 11 and 12, 2026. Organised by the Government of Gujarat, the conference aims to strengthen regional growth and position Gujarat as a global hub for education, innovation, and investment.

As part of the initiative, Marwadi University has submitted a proposal to the Gujarat Government's Education Department seeking to sign a ₹1,000 crore investment Memorandum of Understanding. The proposed investment focuses on strengthening the education ecosystem through the development of advanced academic infrastructure, including new academic blocks with cutting-edge laboratories, modern sports facilities, next-generation hostels, and a dedicated 10,000 sq ft centre for innovation and start-ups. Plans also include a separate academic block for continuing education tailored to working professionals and entrepreneurs. VGRC 2026 will be organised under the theme "Vocal for Local" and conducted across four zones of Gujarat—North, Saurashtra-Kutch, South, and Central Gujarat. The conference is expected to attract global participation from countries such as Japan, South Korea, Viet-

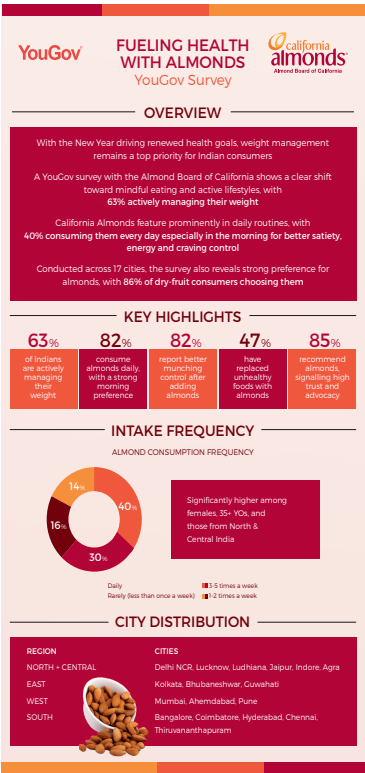


nam, and the Netherlands, along with international organisations including JETRO, ICBC, USISPF, the World Bank, and the Russian Federation. Dhruv Marwadi, Trustee of Marwadi University, said hosting VGRC is a matter of pride and reflects the university's commitment to innovation, industry collaboration, and skill development. Provost R.B. Jadeja noted that the event aligns with the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 by connecting local strengths with global opportunities. The two-day conference will feature seminars, exhibitions, MoU signings, B2B and B2G meetings, buyer-seller meets, and discussions on emerging sectors such as AI, sustainability, circular economy, and precision engineering. With this event, Marwadi University continues to strengthen Gujarat's journey toward inclusive and globally competitive growth.

7 in 10 Indians Say California Almonds Aid Weight Management: YouGov Survey

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Seven in ten Indians believe California Almonds support healthy weight management, according to a YouGov survey conducted in association with the Almond Board of California, highlighting a growing emphasis on mindful eating and balanced nutrition as the New Year begins. The survey, conducted across 16 Indian cities, shows strong health consciousness among consumers, with 92% expressing interest in health and nutrition. About 63% said they are actively trying to manage their weight through regular exercise, increased water intake, and reduced sugar consumption, while 51% reported following an active lifestyle with daily physical activity.



Almonds have become a regular part of daily routines, particularly in the morning. Nearly 40% of respondents consume almonds daily, with 30% eating them first thing in the morning and 22% including them at breakfast. Purchase trends remain steady, with 44% buying almonds weekly or bi-weekly and 43% purchasing them monthly. Among dry-fruit consumers, 86% reported almonds as their preferred choice. Weight management emerged as a key reason for almond consumption. Around 70% of respondents believe almonds support healthy weight goals, while 82% said regular consumption helped improve control over snacking and weight. Nearly half (47%) said they replaced unhealthy snacks with almonds due to their fibre and protein content,

convenience, and availability. Consumers strongly associate almonds with nutrition, with 52% linking them to overall health and wellness, 41% to immunity, and 39% to maintaining protein intake. California Almonds provide 15 essential nutrients, including protein, dietary fibre, healthy fats, magnesium, potassium, and zinc, making them a minimally processed daily food. Nutrition experts say almonds support satiety and sustained energy, helping consumers manage hunger and stay consistent with healthier eating habits. Cultural familiarity and trust in expert guidance continue to reinforce almonds' popularity across Indian households, making them a preferred choice for weight management and everyday wellness.

NH Construction in FY26 to Be Lowest in Eight Years

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India Ratings has projected that national highways construction in FY26 will drop below 10,000 km, the lowest level since FY18, due to a flat capex allocation by the Centre and reduced focus on the Bharatmala project. Construction is expected to range between 9,000–9,500 km in FY26, down 10–15% from 10,660 km in FY25 and 12,349 km in FY24. ICRA data shows that road execution by the Centre has already declined by 12% to 3,468 km during the first seven months of FY26, compared to 3,920 km during the same period of FY25. The slowdown is largely attrib-



uted to a flat capex allocation of ₹2.72 lakh crore for FY26, following just a 3% increase in FY25, marking a sharp slowdown from the 19% CAGR seen during FY21–FY24. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is now focusing on debt reduction, budget-supported capex, and monetisation of assets. Annual project awards have stagnated at around

8,500 km since FY24. Both the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) and NHAI are gradually shifting their emphasis from the Bharatmala project to corridor-based development and access-controlled highways, targeting 11,000 km by FY27 and 15,000 km by FY32. ICRA expects awarding activity to improve in the second half of

FY26 as the Ministry works to resolve land acquisition and environmental clearance issues. NHAI has disclosed clearance status for projects worth ₹1.15 lakh crore where bids have been invited. Additionally, NHAI has raised ₹12,357 crore through Toll-Operate-Transfer (TOT) monetisation in the first nine months of FY26. Monetisation of existing and new assets, including five TOT bundles, could generate proceeds of ₹35,000–40,000 crore during the year. With these measures, highway execution is likely to stabilise, but FY26 is expected to remain a subdued year for national highways construction.

Shyam Steel Appoints Harmanpreet Kaur as Brand Ambassador

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Shyam Steel, a leading producer and manufacturer of primary TMT bars in India, has appointed Harmanpreet Kaur, Captain of the Indian Women's Cricket Team, as its brand ambassador. This collaboration marks a strategic move to reinforce the brand's progressive and inclusive outlook, aligning with one of India's most respected women leaders in sport. The association emphasizes Shyam Steel's belief that strength today goes beyond physical infrastructure. It reflects mindset, responsibility, and the ability to make informed choices. Guided by its core philosophy, "Maksad Toh Hai India Ko Banana Hamesha Ke Liye Strong," Shyam Steel highlights the evolving role of women as influential decision-makers in home building, safety, and



long-term investments. Harmanpreet Kaur embodies leadership, resilience, and sportsmanship, mirroring the brand's focus on strength with purpose, accountability, and commitment. The partnership underscores Shyam Steel's campaign thought: "Strong Woman. Strong Steel. Strong India," emphasizing that responsible choices build strong homes, which in turn contribute to a stronger nation. As part of the collaboration, Harmanpreet will actively promote Shyam

Steel's Apna Ghar App – "Neev Se Pravesh Tak," a one-stop digital solution simplifying the entire home-building process. The platform guides homeowners in planning, material selection, expert advice, and execution support, enabling confident and responsible decisions from foundation to possession. Lalit Beriwal, Director of Shyam Steel, said, "This partnership reflects shared values of discipline, determination, and reliability—qualities that define both Shyam

Steel and Harmanpreet Kaur." Megha Beriwal Gupta, Director, added, "Women are now key decision-makers in building homes and securing family futures. Harmanpreet represents confidence, trust, and leadership, aligning perfectly with our vision of a stronger, inclusive India." Harmanpreet Kaur expressed pride in associating with Shyam Steel and its Apna Ghar initiative, noting the brand's commitment to responsible nation-building resonates with her journey as a sportsperson and leader. With a strong presence across Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, North East, and expanding operations in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, Shyam Steel strengthens its connection with diverse audiences nationwide while reinforcing its mission to make India stronger today and for generations to come.

Harshvardhan Rane Returns to Hyderabad, Embraces Nostalgia and Upcoming Projects

Actress Alia Hyderabad holds a special place in Harshvardhan Rane's heart, the actor said during his latest visit to the city. "Hindi films is college, Telugu films is school," he remarked, summarizing the emotional connection that draws him back. Born in Rajahmundry to a Telugu mother, Rane describes Hyderabad as "like my school," a city whose roots remain inseparable from his identity. Despite a busy schedule that often allows him only brief visits, Rane makes time for familiar pleasures, especially food. "I don't think anybody can come to Hyderabad and not enjoy the deli-



cacies. Marag is my favourite," he said, adding that he tries to focus on proteins and avoid desserts. The actor's visits are usually work-focused, with long-standing ties to brands like Bajaj Electronics. But nos-

talgia persists. Rane fondly recalls his time in Banjara Hills, where he lived in a small room on a terrace near the Cancer Hospital, and continues to cherish friendships formed in Hyderabad through theatre and early film

work. Among his film contacts, he maintains a close bond with Rana Daggu-bati, forged during their second film together. Theatre also shaped Rane's career, especially during periods of low film work. He trained with groups like The Torn Curtains and Dramanon, building lasting friendships while refining his craft. Fitness and diet remain central to his routine. Rane combines cardio, strength training, and mobility exercises to maintain strong muscles, flexible joints, and endurance. His diet is strict, avoiding carbs and sugar, though he acknowledges that temptation is natural. Despite labels like "Gen Z heartthrob,"

Rane emphasizes that his priority lies in delivering profitable films for producers. "Cinema costs money, and as long as producers invest, I feel responsible to give audiences what they want to see," he said. Looking ahead, Rane describes 2026 as "the most interesting curve" of his career, with three films lined up, including two franchises. He said he is determined to honor the legacy they carry and take it forward responsibly. For Harshvardhan Rane, Hyderabad remains more than a stopover—it is a city of memories, relationships, and roots that continue to guide both his personal and professional journey.

Raja Saab: Fan Floored After Meeting Prabhas

Fan shares viral video of meeting the actor ahead of The Raja Saab release, praising his humility and kindness.



CHENNAI Wakeup telangana

Actor Prabhas recently met a group of fans at his Jubilee Hills residence, creating a memorable experience for them ahead of his upcoming film, The Raja Saab. One fan, Srilekha, shared her encounter online, describing the actor's warm and humble demeanor. In a video posted on Instagram, Srilekha can be seen gifting Prabhas a copy of the Bhagavad Gita along with a bag of presents for his pet. Prabhas appeared pleasantly surprised and genuinely happy as he accepted the gifts. He interacted

warmly with her, posed for photographs, and even hugged her before they parted ways. The video quickly went viral, with fans calling Srilekha "lucky" and resharing the clip widely. Sharing her experience, Srilekha wrote, "Meeting Prabhas at his residence was an unforgettable memory as a fan. He welcomed us right from the gate and personally took us inside his house. Such a down-to-earth person and truly a gem." She added, "I gifted him a Bhagavad Gita and small gifts for his pet. Feeling so lucky to meet him so closely and spend time with him. What more can

I ask for?" She also thanked her friend for the surprise, saying, "Thank you @yours_nagraj Anna for this best birthday gift—you always give me the most beautiful surprises." Fans reacting to the video expressed their excitement. One wrote, "My hands were shaking while taking this video. He is such a sweet person," while another commented, "I'm crying; you are the luckiest." Prabhas' personal interaction with his fans highlights his approachable and humble nature, further endearing him to audiences ahead of his next release.

Jana Nayagan Actors' Remuneration: Who Was Paid How Much



MUMBAI Wakeup telangana

Anticipation is building for the upcoming Tamil action drama Jana Nayagan, with star Thalapa-ty Vijay reportedly receiving a staggering Rs 220 crore, making him one of the highest-paid actors in Indian cinema for a single film. The movie, directed by H Vinoth, is mounted on a massive scale and is estimated to have an overall budget of around Rs 380 crore, placing it

among the costliest projects in recent Tamil cinema. Director H Vinoth, known for his action-driven storytelling, is believed to have earned Rs 25 crore for helming the film. Music composer Anirudh Ravichander, whose background score and songs are expected to be pivotal to the film, reportedly received approximately Rs 13 crore. The supporting cast also commands significant fees. Bollywood actor Bobby Deol and actress Pooja Hegde are

each said to have earned close to Rs 3 crore for their roles. Malayalam actress Mamiha Baiju, gaining attention for her recent work, reportedly received around Rs 60 lakh. With its combination of a star-studded cast, high remuneration packages, and technical expenses, Jana Nayagan has emerged as a high-stakes project in Tamil cinema. The film's scale, coupled with the presence of some of the industry's most bankable stars,

has made it one of the most talked-about releases ahead of its expected theatrical debut in 2026. Industry insiders suggest that the film's investment in talent and production underscores the growing trend of mega-budget Tamil films aiming for pan-India appeal. Fans and critics alike are closely watching how the film's box-office performance will measure up to its unprecedented financial outlay.

Arne Slot Says Liverpool Can Still Do 'Special Things'

Slot's men head to the Emirates for Thursday's clash in fourth place in the table, but 14 points adrift of the Gunners

LONDON Wakeup telangana

Liverpool manager Arne Slot insists his reigning English champions can still do "special things" this season as they prepare to face Premier League leaders Arsenal following a faltering start to their title defence. Slot's men head to the Emirates for Thursday's clash in fourth place in the table, but 14 points adrift of the Gunners. However, following on from a run of nine defeats in 12 games in all competitions, Liverpool are unbeaten in their last nine -- although that sequence includes four draws. Those draws include a goalless stalemate against Leeds and a 2-2 share of the spoils with Fulham in



their first two Premier League fixtures of 2026. "It is nine games unbeaten but we have definitely had two draws too many," Slot told a pre-match press conference on Wednesday. The Dutchman, who guided Liverpool to an impressive title triumph in his first season in charge at Anfield after succeeding Jurgen Klopp, added:

"Where are we? I think I've said so many times that the answer to that question is we aren't where we want to be, but I feel we have a very talented squad. "If everyone's available and ready, then I think we can do special things." They certainly gave that impression earlier in the season when Liverpool

beat Arsenal 1-0 at Anfield in August. "I think we've also shown that this season because we've got quite a lot of impressive wins, but we've also had unimpressive draws and losses," said Slot. "We haven't had the consistency but we've already beaten some very good teams, so that tells you the talent is definitely there but the consistency isn't." Those impressive victories included home successes against Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid and a 5-1 romp away to Eintracht Frankfurt in the Champions League. But on the flip side, they have suffered three-goal defeats at home three times this season, against Crystal Palace, Nottingham Forest and PSV Eindhoven.

3rd Youth ODI: Sooryavanshi, George Hit Tons As India Complete 3-0 Whitewash

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

India U-19 completed a dominant three-match series sweep over South Africa with a resounding 233-run victory in the third youth ODI at Willowmoore Park on Wednesday. Sent in to bat, the Indian side posted a mammoth 393 for 7, a total that proved too steep for the hosts, who were bowled out for 160 in 35 overs. This win sealed a commanding 3-0 series triumph for India. The spotlight once again shone on Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, the 14-year-old Bihar prodigy, who delivered a sensational 127 off 74 balls. Displaying his trademark power-hitting, Sooryavanshi smashed 10 sixes and nine boundaries, continuing the momentum from his 24-ball 68 in the previous game. He was ably supported by opener



Aaron George, who struck a fluent 118 off 106 balls. Together, the duo laid a solid foundation with a 227-run opening stand, ensuring India posted a formidable total. Sooryavanshi's consistent brilliance is evident as he has now accumulated 973 runs in 18 Youth ODIs at an average of 54.05 and a strike rate of 164.08, including three centuries and four fifties. Chasing the steep target, South Africa struggled

from the outset, losing three wickets for just 15 runs in the fourth over. Kishan Singh, India's 19-year-old pacer, wreaked havoc at the top, dismissing Jorich Van Schalkwyk (1), Adnaab Lagadien (9), and Lethabo Phahla-mohlaka (0). Singh, who had claimed four wickets in the second ODI as well, once again emerged as the standout bowler. Brief resistance came from Daniel Bosman (40) and Jason Rowles (19), but South

Africa slid to 99 for six in the 23rd over. Late contributions from Paul James (41) and Corne Botha (36 not out) could only delay the inevitable. For the hosts, Ntando Soni (3/61) and Rowles (2/59) shared five wickets between them. Despite individual efforts, South Africa were never in the contest against India's dominant batting and incisive bowling. Earlier in the series, India had won the opening match by 25 runs via the DLS method and the second match by eight wickets, underscoring their superiority throughout the series. With Sooryavanshi's destructive batting and a well-rounded bowling attack led by Singh, India U-19 continues to signal a bright future for the national setup, combining youthful exuberance with professional composure at the international level.

3 Arrested With 1.4 Kg Ganja In Dhoolpet



Two women with multiple Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, cases on their heads and a peddler have been arrested while other three managed to escape during a raid conducted by Special Task Force (STF) at a house in Lower Dhoolpet area in the early hours of Wednesday. “The Marijuana Queens typically refers to female drug peddlers are reportedly associates of Marijuana women dons, Angoori Bai, Kiran Bai and Nagin Bhabi, who are under prosecution,” police disclosed. During the raid, the STF team seized 1.412 kg of ganja. “The female suppliers are identified as Arti Bai, Sabita Bai and the peddler Gautam Singh. While the others Sarika, Avinash Singh and Kailas Singh who live in the same premise managed to flee,” Hyderabad district STF head Anji Reddy said. “The accused along with the seized contraband were handed over to the Dhoolpet Excise Station for further action. We have intimidated the investigation officials that the accused are involved in over 60 cases,” Ajni Reddy added.

EAGLE Busts MDMA Network; 1 Held With Drugs Worth Rs 15 L

In a major crackdown on the burgeoning synthetic drug trade among migrant worker communities, the Cyberabad police and the elite EAGLE (Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement) Force on Wednesday arrested an interstate peddler and seized MDMA and opium worth ₹15 lakh. The accused, identified as 31-year-old Rajender alias Raju Bhakar, an interior designer hailing from Nagaur district in Rajasthan, was caught with 200 grams of MDMA and 60 grams of opium (afem) under the Petbasheerabad police station limits. The seized MDMA is 20 times the threshold of “commercial quantity,” making it a high-stakes recovery, EAGLE director Sandeep Shandilya said. According to the police, Rajender, an eighth-grade dropout who migrated to the city as a carpenter, began procuring drugs from suppliers in Rajasthan, identified as Dhanraj, Anil Gingala and Mukesh Jat to feed his addiction. Realising the high demand among fellow Rajasthanis artisans working in Hyderabad’s construction sector, he turned into a full-time peddler, selling each gram of MDMA for ₹5,000. “The investigation revealed a disturbing trend where artisans mix MDMA and opium with pan masala to work long hours without fatigue. Within six months, many become slaves to the drug, suffering from severe health issues including sexual debility and organ damage,” Sandeep Shandilya explained.

Urologist Loses Rs 20 Lakh To Online Trading Fraud

A city-based urologist was cheated of ₹20 lakh in a fake online investment scam. In his complaint, the doctor, who works at a private hospital in Kondapur, stated that a woman approached him on Facebook in August 2025, offering to help promote his clinic online, as he was advertising his services through Google Business. The woman later introduced herself as a financial adviser associated with a firm named “CMC Global Cs” and allegedly convinced him to invest in online trading. The complainant said the woman later asked him to chat on Telegram, assuring him of guidance for independent trading. He was informed that funds had to be transferred through third-party accounts, with Indian currency converted into US dollars after deducting exchange charges. Believing her representations to be genuine, the doctor deposited money into the platform through individual third-party accounts, as instructed. Some of his professional colleagues were also reportedly induced to invest similarly. Over a period of nearly three months, the platform allegedly reflected regular profits in the trading accounts, making him grow confident about the platform’s legitimacy.

Hyderabad Records Its Best Ever Office Leasing Year

Hyderabad’s office market closed 2025 on a strong footing, combining record leasing volumes, rising rentals and sustained occupier interest.

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad emerged as one of India’s strongest-performing office markets in 2025, recording its highest-ever annual leasing volumes amid sustained demand from Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and technology-led occupiers. According to data from Knight Frank India, the city leased a total of 11.4 million square feet of office space during the year, marking a 10 percent year-on-year growth and placing Hyderabad among the five Indian cities that crossed the 10 million sq ft leasing threshold. The city’s performance reflects Hyderabad’s growing role as a strategic business hub within India’s office ecosystem. GCCs remained the dominant occupier segment, accounting for the largest share of leasing activity in the city. Hyderabad recorded 5.1 million sq ft of leasing by GCCs in 2025, underlining its strength as a preferred destination for global enterprises expanding research, technology and



back-office operations. This sustained uptake signals a shift toward higher-value, long-term occupier commitments rather than short-term cost arbitrage. Office leasing momentum in Hyderabad remained steady across both halves of the year, supported by favourable macroeconomic conditions and strong occupier confidence. While demand remained robust, new office completions in the city stood at 4.3 million sq ft in 2025, representing a sharp year-on-year decline of over 70 percent. This supply-demand imbalance contributed to tightening availability of quality office space across prime micro-markets. As a result of constrained new supply and consistent demand, office rents in Hyderabad strengthened further during the year. The city recorded a 10 percent year-on-year increase in office rentals in 2025, among the highest growth rates across major Indian office markets. Average rents stood at Rs 77 per sq ft per month in the second half of the year, reflecting rising landlord pricing power amid limited Grade A availability. From a sectoral perspective, Hyderabad also saw increased activity from third-party IT services, which benefitted from accelerating global adoption of artificial intelligence and digital transformation. Flexible workspace operators maintained steady absorption as occupiers sought scalable workplace solutions aligned with evolving workforce strategies. Grade A office assets continued to dominate occupier preference in Hyderabad, in line with national trends. High-quality developments with modern infrastructure, sustainability features and operational efficiencies attracted the bulk of leasing, reinforcing the city’s appeal to global and institutional occupiers. Vacancy levels across Hyderabad remained stable despite muted supply additions, supported by strong net absorption throughout the year. This balance helped the city maintain healthy market fundamentals even as demand reached record levels. Overall, Hyderabad’s office market closed 2025 on a strong footing, combining record leasing volumes, rising rentals and sustained occupier interest. With GCC-led demand continuing to anchor the market and limited supply supporting rental growth, Hyderabad is well positioned to remain a key driver of India’s office sector momentum as the market moves into 2026.

Uttam Promises Fair Housing Allotment for Poor

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Irrigation and civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Wednesday announced that the application process for allotment of houses constructed at Ramaswami Gutta in Huzurnagar of Suryapet district will commence on Thursday. He said a transparent and merit-based process would be followed to ensure that homeless families benefit from the housing scheme. Along with revenue minister Ponugleti Srinivas Reddy, Uttam Kumar Reddy inspected the new housing colony located at Ramaswami Gutta on the outskirts of Huzurnagar. Spread over 115 acres, the colony comprises 2,160 houses being constructed by the State government. Addressing a meeting on the occasion, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the housing project would be completed by the end of March and developed as a model housing colony for the entire state. He said construction was being carried out with strict quality standards and without any profit motive, as the houses were meant for the poor. He directed district officials, including collector



Tejas Nandlal Pawar, to ensure complete transparency in the allotment process and warned against any political interference. Engineers were instructed to closely monitor construction quality, with strict action promised in case of lapses. He said the colony would eventually become a self-contained urban settlement with facilities such as a school, anganwadi centre, community hall and sports grounds. Recalling the origins of the project, Uttam Kumar Reddy said it was initiated during his tenure as housing minister in the undivided Andhra Pradesh after acquiring land from the endowments department. He alleged that the previous BRS government had stalled the project for years due to political reasons. With the Congress government now in power, he said the project was being fast-tracked to realise the long-pending vision.

Revanth Unveils Poster for CM's Cup-2025, Tournaments to Begin from Jan. 17

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday unveiled the poster for the second edition of the CM’s Cup-2025, a statewide multi-sport tournament aimed at promoting sports from grassroots to global levels. The launch was attended by Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari, SATG chairman K. Shiva Sena Reddy, Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, CMO Principal Secretary V. Sreenivasa Raju, and SATG Managing Director Sony Bala. The CM’s Cup-2025 will be conducted in multiple phases, beginning at the Gram Panchayat level from January 17 to 22, followed by Mandal and



ULB-level competitions from January 28 to 31. Constituency-level matches are scheduled from February 3 to 7, district-level events from February 10 to 14, and state-level competitions from February 19 to 26. SATG chairman K. Shiva Sena Reddy highlighted that the tournament will feature 44 sports disciplines, spanning competitive, para, and recreational categories. Notable innovations this year include digital registrations, AI-enabled support systems, and the introduction of unique player IDs. For the first time, competitions will also be conducted at the Assembly constituency level, aimed at strengthening grassroots sports development. Revanth Reddy emphasized that the CM’s Cup-2025 is designed to identify and nurture talent from villages and towns, offering a pathway for athletes to progress from local events to national and international platforms.

BJP’s surprise alliances with Congress, AIMIM spark political storm in Maharashtra

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The local unit of the BJP in two Maharashtra municipal councils, in a surprise move, forged a pre-poll alliance with arch rivals Congress and AIMIM, drawing the ire of the state leadership of both – the ruling as well as opposition parties. Left red-faced with the awkward arrangement, the Congress on Wednesday suspended 12 newly-elected councillors in Ambarnath Municipal Council, one of these two local bodies, along with its block president. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis also said such arrangements were not approved by the BJP leadership and violated discipline, while ally Shiv Sena called it a betrayal of “coalition dharma”. Shiv

Sena (UBT) slammed the BJP, saying it reflects the ruling party’s double standards and shows it can do anything to grab power. Following the local polls held on December 20, the BJP joined hands with the Congress, its arch-rival, and the Ajit Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) under the banner of ‘Ambarnath Vikas Aghadi’ to form the Ambarnath Municipal Council leadership, sidelining ally Shiv Sena led by Eknath Shinde. The BJP also struck a similar alliance with the Asaduddin Owaisi-led All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimen (AIMIM) and other parties in the Akot Municipal Council in Akola district. In Ambarnath, the BJP forged a post-poll understanding with the Congress and NCP, securing a

majority of 31 seats, even though the Shiv Sena is the single largest party with 27 members. In the polls to the 60-member council, Shiv Sena won 27 seats, falling just four short of a majority. The BJP secured 14 seats, Congress 12, NCP 4, while 2 independents were also elected. With the support of one independent, the three-party coalition’s strength has risen to 32 councillors, crossing the majority mark of 30. BJP councillor Tejashree Karanjule Patil was elected the council president, defeating Sena’s Manisha Walekar, and took the oath on Wednesday. However, the decision taken at the local level did not go down well with the state leadership of any of the parties involved.

MANUU Students Protest State Govt’s Bid to Resume

Former MANUU Students’ Union president Mateen Ashraf said the proposal ignored pressing campus needs

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Students of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) intensified their protest on Wednesday against the Telangana government’s show-cause notice proposing the resumption of 50 acres of campus land, saying the move threatens future academic growth and student welfare. Protesting under the banner of the MANUU Students Collective, students said

the notice wrongly portrayed long-standing delays as “non-utilisation” while ignoring structural constraints faced by public universities. “This land was allotted keeping future academic needs in mind. It cannot be judged only on what has been built so far,” student leader Talha Mannan said. He said delays were caused by factors beyond the university’s control. “Bureaucratic approvals, lack of timely funding and dependence on



agencies like the Central Public Works Department have slowed development. Penalising the university for this is unfair,” Mannan said, adding that students would continue opposing any reduction in land meant for

expansion. Former MANUU Students’ Union president Mateen Ashraf said the proposal ignored pressing campus needs. “MANUU is already facing a serious hostel shortage, with many students from minority and economically weaker backgrounds struggling for accommodation. This land should be used for hostels and academic facilities, not taken away,” he said. Students also urged the university administration

to take visible steps towards infrastructure expansion to counter claims of non-utilisation. Later, the Students’ Federation of India (SFI) Telangana state committee issued a statement backing the protest, calling the notice an attack on the right to education and reiterating that university land is meant for long-term academic use. Students said the protest would continue until the notice was withdrawn. Former minister Harish

Rao said that in the last two years the government had taken over more than 100 acres from Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University and Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University, damaged over 400 acres of forest land at the University of Hyderabad, and was now moving to resume 50 acres allotted to Maulana Azad National Urdu University, calling it a “systematic assault” on education and research.

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